



## The Zodiac Golf Ball

Sold



REF: 30067

Diameter: 4.1 cm (1.6")

## Description

Martins 'Zodiac' Rubber Core Golf Ball.

A good example of a 'Zodiac' rubber core golf ball with an unusual pattern. The pattern consists of raised studs within circles, 'Moon Pattern'. The golf ball is in fair condition and is manufactured by Martins-Birmingham, Granville Street, Birmingham, England. The ball is clearly marked 'Zodiac Patents' on one pole and 'Martins England' on the other. Martins from Birmingham (England) were founded in early 1900's by Patrick Alphonsus Martin and they were one of the first ball companies to make a seamless golf ball.

The ball is approximately 4.1 cm in diameter.

The rubber core ball (the ancestor of the modern ball) began its life in the late 1890's. The first mass produced rubber core ball was by Coburn Haskell of Cleveland, Ohio. The first core balls were hand wound with elastic thread with a Gutta-percha cover, moulded with the raised square mesh pattern of their predecessor. The slight irregularities in the early wound balls made them quite lively, it was not until the invention of the automatic winding machine by John Gammeter (an engineer at Goodrich) and the change of pattern from mesh to bramble that the balls became more consistent and predictable.