



Set of Horace Fulford Golf Clubs.
Fulford

Sold



Description

Set of Hickory Golf Clubs.

A good set of six hickory shafted golf clubs by W. Horace Fulford, Moortown, Leeds. The set of six clubs are all stamped with Fulford details and comprises of a Scared Head Driver, Scared Head Brassie, Mid Iron, Sammy Mashie, Swilcan Niblick and Accurate Putter. The clubs are in excellent original condition, circa 1910.

W. Horace Fulford was the first professional at Moortown Golf Club, Leeds. He was there from 1909 until 1925 and would have undoubtedly been at the opening exhibition match between the Open Champion James Braid and the legendary Harry Vardon. Fulford had previously been at Howley Hall GC from 1905 until 1907, then at Bridlington GC until 1909 when he went to Moortown GC. After Moortown he went on to Northwood GC for about a year.

The 1929 Ryder Cup was the second such competition and Moortown Golf Club, Leeds, held the very first Ryder Cup on English soil. The weather was very cold, with hail and at one point and heavy snow on the greens. In late 1928, it was announced that a selection committee of five professional golfers would choose the Great Britain team for the 1929 Ryder Cup. The committee consisted of James Braid, Sandy Herd and J.H. Taylor together with James Batley and Bob McKenzie. In January 1929 the team was selected with George Duncan being the captain. The rest of the team consisted of Stewart Burns, Abe Mitchell, Fred Robson, Ernie Whitcombe, Percy Alliss, Henry Cotton, Archie Crompton, Aubrey Boomer and it was the first time in Ryder Cup competition where two brothers, Charles and Ernest Whitcombe, competed together. It was originally planned that, as in 1927, only eight players should be used by each team. However, the American captain (Walter Hagen) elected to let all his players have at least one match, whilst Duncan only played eight, having Percy Alliss and Stewart Burns on the sidelines. The U.S. Team were Joe Turnesa, Al Watrous, Horton Smith, Ed. Dudley, Jonny Farrell, Johnny Golden, Gene Sarazen, Al Espinossa, Leo Diegel and Walter Hagen. At the start of the competition there was controversy about the American equipment. Although legal in the United States, steel shafted golf clubs were still a year away from acceptability in Britain according to the R & A's rules. Duncan was swift to point this out and refused to allow the United States to compete using their cutting edge equipment, meaning hickory shafted clubs were used by all. The Americans' Horton Smith played one singles match and played with hickories for the first time.

America gained a narrow lead in the opening-day foursomes 2 ½ to 1 ½. The matches being:-

1st match. C A Whitcombe & A Compston verses J Farrell & J Turnesa, match halved.

2nd match. A Boomer & G Duncan verses L Diegel & A Espinosa, America won 7 & 5.

3rd match. A Mitchell & F Robson verses G Sarazen & E Dudley, Britain won 2 & 1.

4th match. E R Whitcombe & T H Cotton verses J Golden & W Hagen, America won 2 holes.

However the singles matches swung the game in Great Britain's favour and in particular Duncan's victory over Hagen. By all accounts Hagen had suggested that Duncan an...