



Vintage Hickory Shafted Putter, Coombe Hill Golf Club

Sold



REF: 29600

Height: 87.5 cm (34.4")

Width: 10 cm (3.9")

Depth: 3.3 cm (1.3")

Description

Antique Hickory Golf Club, Putter, Hendry and Bishop.

A nice putter by Hendry and Bishop with hand punched dot face markings and extra weight to the bottom of the rear of the club head. The club has a hickory shaft with a polished leather grip. The club head is marked with the 'Bishop's Mitre' cleek mark of Hendry and Bishop. It is also stamped 'Putter, Arthur Havers, Coombe Hill, Special, Made In Scotland, Warranted Hand Forged'.

The measurements shown are the length of the shaft with hosel and the width and depth of the face.

Arthur G. Havers (10 June 1898 - 27 December 1980) was the professional at Coombe Hill from 1923 to 1929. He was an English professional golfer who won the 1923 Open Championship at Royal Troon and the Glasgow Herald Tournament the following week at Gleneagles, these being the two big successes of his career. He was also a player in the Ryder Cup in 1927, 1931 and 1933. Havers was professional at Moor Park, West Lancashire, Coombe Hill, Sandy Lodge and Frinton.

Hendry and Bishop were originally harness makers in the early 1900's who then went on to become one of the largest manufactures of golf clubs. In 1929 the company was reorganised and began to expand their wholesale business worldwide. They made not only their own clubs but also supplied other makers and retailers. The 'Mitre Brand' clubs were first produced in around 1910 by Hendry and Bishop, Edinburgh and Leith, but the actual words were not added to the stamp until 1926.

Taken from Coombe Hill Golf Club website:-

On 1st of January, 1910 the Coombe Hill Golf Club Syndicate held a statutory meeting chaired by Mr J. F. Abercromby.

Abercromby

John Frederick Abercromby had another vital role to play. Following his contribution to the creation of Worplesdon Golf Club in Surrey, he was appointed course architect at Coombe Hill. For weeks Abercromby walked the ground, measuring distances by eye, allowing his player's intuition free rein as the course took shape in his mind. It is said he hovered over the landscape for hours, in a hot air balloon.

On May 30th, 1911 Coombe Hill Golf Club opened with a game played between Sir Arthur H. Paget K.C.B. and the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour MP. The Surrey Comet reported on the new course:

'Seen in the brilliant sunshine of Tuesday, the opening day, the eye was met by scenes of sylvan beauty on every hand... The rhododendrons, so much a feature of the woods, are everywhere ablaze with colour. And the golf will test the best. There is nothing of the drawing room order about it should be a punishing course for the loose player and the man off his game. But that is only to say that it is such a course as will delight clever golfers.'

Winston Churchill

The Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, then Home Secretary, was an early member of the Club. Herbert Henry Asquith, Prime Minister at the time, occasionally played Churchill, whilst another member of both the House and the Club, David Lloyd George, played Coombe Hill's fairways and greens. As well as prominent writers, such as W. Somerset Maugham and Ian Fleming, the newspaper industry was represented on the Club's rolls by Lords Northcliffe, Beaverbrook and Rothermere. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales - later...