

UNDERSTANDING THE GROOVE AND PUNCH MARK MODEL LOCAL RULE G-2

WHAT'S THE LOCAL RULE?

Model Local Rule G-2 may be in effect for your competition requiring that your clubs conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the Equipment Rules that became effective from January 1, 2010 (see Part 2, Sections 5c(i) and (ii) of the Equipment Rules).

WHICH CLUBS DO I NEED TO CHECK?



IS MODEL LOCAL RULE G-2 IN EFFECT FOR MY COMPETITION?

It's in effect for all USGA championships, including qualifying rounds. For other competitions:



Look at the entry form.



Ask the committee in charge of the competition.



Look at the posted Model Local Rules for your specific competition.

RULES SUMMARY

What changed?

In addition to the principal requirements regarding width, depth, spacing, symmetry and consistency, among other things, the following new requirements became effective Jan. 1, 2010:

- A maximum groove volume for the clubface which applies to all clubs as previously noted, regardless of loft (measured as the area of a groove's cross-section divided by pitch).
- A limitation on how sharp the grooves' edges can be, which applies to all clubs as previously noted with lofts of 25° or more (effective minimum edge radius).
- A plain groove shape requirement.



HOW CAN I TELL IF MY CLUBS CONFORM?



Check the Informational Club Database:
www.usga.org/InfoClubsDB/intro.html



Call the USGA Test Center at 908.234.2300.



If after checking the database and calling the Test Center you are still unable to determine the conformance status of your clubs, send your clubs to the USGA for testing:
www.usga.org/equipment/testing/InviteForOpenClubTesting/

Visit our Groove Resource Center for more information:
usga.org/grooves/

