



Notice to Manufacturers

Communication of New Evaluation Method



Title	Furrows in or Runners on the Head that Extend into the Face	Notice #	C2014-002
Supersedes Notice #	N/A	Effective Date	January 1, 2014
Relevant Rule	Appendix II, 4a (Plain in Shape)		

Relevant Rule Language

"The clubhead must be generally plain in shape....features that are deemed to be in breach of this requirement and are therefore not permitted include, but are not limited to:....furrows in or runners on the head that extend into the face (some exceptions may be made for putters)".

Background / Reason for Communication

Though the application of this Rule is fairly straightforward in most cases, certain woods and hybrids have a smooth transition between the face and the rest of the body which can sometimes make it difficult to determine, in a repeatable and reproducible manner, whether features "extend into" or intersect the face.

Revised Interpretation

Where the transition between the body and the face is not clearly defined, i.e., the face does not meet the body at a sharp edge or chamfer, the *point of intersection* shall be defined as the point where a line inclined at 45° from the *reference plane* is tangent to a *cross-section* (see Figure 1).

- A *reference plane* is defined as the plane tangent to the face at the center of the impact area.
- A *cross-section* is created by establishing a plane perpendicular to the *reference plane*, usually running through the center of the face and the area of interest (i.e., furrow or runner).

Projecting the points of intersection so defined onto the reference plane may be used to define a profile (see Figure 2).

Any substantial concavities in said profile is considered sufficient evidence that a runner or furrow extends into the face and thus, does not conform with Appendix II, 4a(i).

Where the transition between the body and face is clearly defined by a chamfer of at least 45° with respect to the face, furrows and/or runners are permitted to intersect the chamfered surface, provided the feature does not intersect the face itself (see Figure 3).

Figures

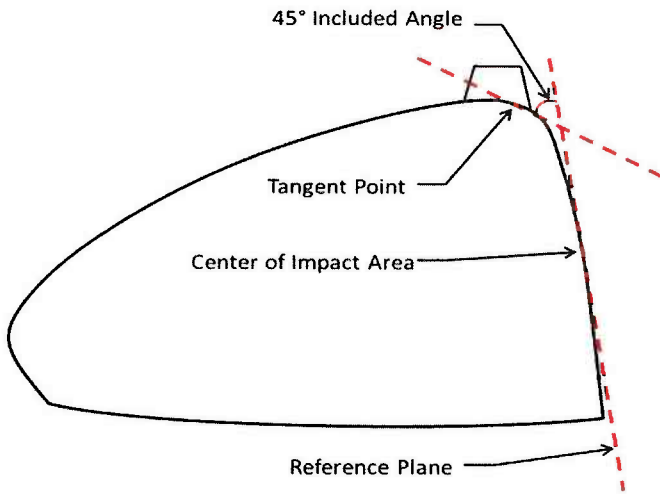


Figure 1: Example clubhead illustrating a tangent point defining the intersection between the face and body.

Figure 2: Profile generated by connecting tangent points identified using the method illustrated in Figure 1. The club in this figure is non-conforming due to the substantial concavity.

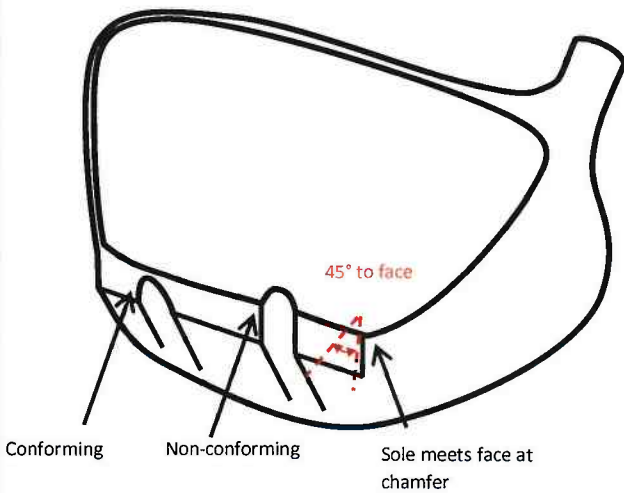
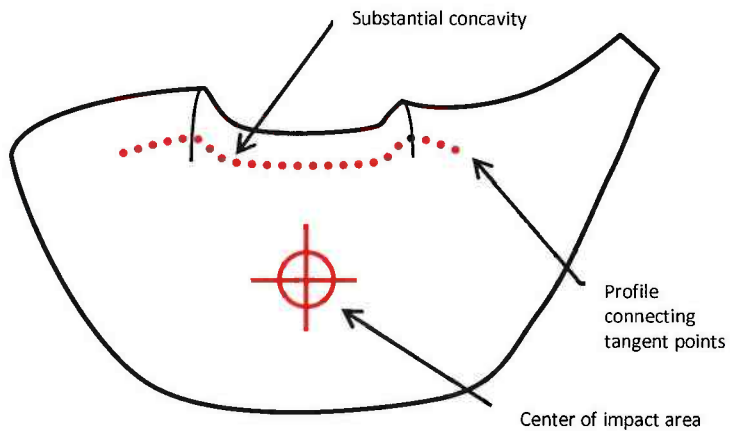


Figure 3: Conforming and non-conforming furrows, where the transition between the face and the body of the clubhead is defined by a chamfer of angle not less than 45°.