



United States Golf Association

Golf House
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**March 7, 2014
Notice to Manufacturers
Informational Club Database**

Since adoption of the additional groove and punch mark specifications effective January 1, 2010, the USGA has received numerous inquiries from golfers wishing to know whether or not their clubs meet the specifications when the Condition of Competition requiring that the player's clubs conform to the Rules of Golf effective from January 1, 2010 is in effect (the "Condition").

As you may know, the USGA has adopted the Condition for its amateur championships conducted in 2014 and beyond. The USGA has also recommended the Condition for use in professional competition and at the highest levels of amateur competition. In an effort to provide critical information to our championship entrants and officials, as well as entrants and officials of other competitions adopting the Condition, the USGA, in partnership with The R&A, has decided to temporarily expand the Informational Club Database to also include models of clubs submitted by manufacturers for conformance evaluation since January 1, 2010 (the "Database").

The purpose of the Database remains to assist golfers in determining whether their irons, hybrids and fairway woods comply with the Condition. To that end, the Database is a searchable reference tool of irons, wedges, fairway woods with lofts of 25 degrees or higher, and hybrids with lofts of 25 degrees or higher, submitted to the USGA and/or The R&A for evaluation of conformance to the Rules of Golf. The Database will continue to display the conformance status of the listed clubs in relation to the Rules of Golf in effect both prior to and after January 1, 2010.

We plan to update the Database to include the additional models by March 14, 2014. Once published, we hope that we can rely on your assistance in checking that the information listed under your company is accurate. We would also ask you to consider submitting samples of models that are not included – especially for models of clubs that are regularly being used at the elite level. The expansion of the Database will remain in place until the USGA and The R&A determine that it is no longer necessary.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please feel free to contact Carter Rich, Director, Equipment Rules and Conformance, at (908) 234-2300 or jcrich@usga.org.