

United States
Golf Association



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USGA

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NOTICE TO MANUFACTURERS

There are two items being brought to your attention at this time.

Item I: SINGLE GRIP

The USGA proposes to modify the grip rule, effective in 1992, without a grace period.

The word "continuous" would be added to the second sentence in Rule 4-1c GRIP to read as follows:

"The grip shall be continuous, substantially straight and plain in form and shall not be molded for any part of the hands."

This would render as non conforming any club with two or more grips. The principal reason for this proposal is that two grips which may by themselves conform can be oriented on a shaft in a manner which would violate the spirit of the grip rule.

Item II: GROOVES

The following paragraphs are intended to clear up any misunderstanding which may exist with respect to the USGA's position regarding clubs with a non conforming groove spacing manufactured prior to March 31, 1990:

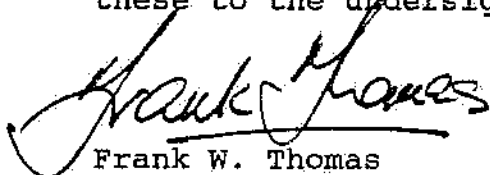
The USGA decided in February that PING EYE-2 iron clubs manufactured before March 31, 1990 shall be treated as conforming to the Rules of Golf, even though, using the 30-degree method of measuring the width of the groove, these clubs may not meet the requirement that the distance between adjacent grooves must be at least three times the width of a groove. This does not apply to PING EYE-2 irons manufactured after March 31, 1990.

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If an iron club made by any other manufacturer before March 31, 1990 has a land area to groove ratio of not less than 2.5 to 1, measured by the 30-degree method, that club will also be treated as conforming. It is up to the player to provide proof as to the date on which the club was manufactured.

If you have any comments about the above, please address these to the undersigned.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Frank Thomas", written over a horizontal line.

Frank W. Thomas
Technical Director

/jmk

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