

## Green Speed Can Be Measured With USGA's New Stimpmeter

Distribution of the first shipment of USGA's Stimpmeter should be underway, according to the USGA. The Stimpmeter was developed by USGA to help golf course superintendents assign numerical values to putting green speeds.

Most superintendents are well aware that green speed can vary considerably from hole to hole, but without tools to quantify speeds, making them consistent is difficult. The device made of extruded aluminum, is about 36 inches long and one and three-fourths inches wide, with a V-shaped groove along its length.

Alexander Radko, national director of the USGA Green Section, is quick to point out that the USGA has no desire to standardize green speeds. "The Stimpmeter is your speedometer!" he declared at GCSAA's San Antonio conference. "With it, you can set your green speed at any level that your membership desires."

Clubs that subscribe to the USGA Turf Advisory Service will receive one Stimpmeter as part of compensation for the annual fee. Other USGA member and non-member clubs and members of the Regional Association Liaison Committee may purchase a Stimpmeter for \$15. To order, write to the United States Golf Association, Golf House, Far Hills, N.J. 07931.

## Poor Putters Get Excuse

Tests conducted by the U.S. Golf Association prove that golf shoe spikes with recessed flanges cause for less damage to greens than normal spikes.

The average golf shoe has 12 spikes, and the USGA has computed that a player averages 28 paces per green; 28 paces times 24 spikes means 672 impressions; 672 impressions times 18 greens equals 12,096 impressions per round per player.

Assuming the 200 rounds are played each day on a course, the greens receive 2,419,200 impressions daily—or more than 72 million holes each month.

And you wonder why you can't sink a putt.



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