



11 February 2025

Notice to Manufacturers

Area of Interest - Mechanical Golfer Setup for the Overall Distance Standard

The Overall Distance Standard and Symmetry Test Protocol is administered by R&A Rules Ltd (“The R&A”) and the United States Golf Association (“USGA”). The protocol for this test (rev. 3.0, 9 April 2019) requires the use of a mechanical golfer having a clubhead speed of 120 MPH \pm 0.5 MPH and includes a reference speed for the “USGA/R&A Calibration” control ball of 175 MPH.

The R&A and the USGA are conducting research to determine whether setting a speed for the control ball improves reproducibility of the test. This will necessarily explore how to account for age and condition of the control ball. This research direction aligns with comments received from manufacturers regarding reproducibility.

Manufacturers are invited to offer comments on this research and/or contribute data or other information which may be useful. Please send these communications by 11 March 2025 to Dr Andrew Johnson at equipmentstandards@randa.org