

July 20, 2021

Response to the concern that the cup setting tool was, on extraction, raising the edge of the hole to the point where it was deflecting a golf ball

For anyone not familiar with how the process works, the cup is started into the newly created hole by hand. The setting tool is then inserted into the cup and pressed down to where the collar meets the green surface. ***It is meant to ensure that the cup is inserted to a uniform depth and the surface around the cup is flat.*** You can see how it is done in this video, as presented by the United States Golf Association. You will notice no “plate” is used when placing the cup into a new hole.

<https://youtu.be/BCTK9yrlHyc?t=69>

To say that the setting tool raises the edge of the hole is counter-intuitive to its purpose.

On the morning of Tuesday, July 20th, I examined 9 random holes using an 18” - 1” x 2” piece of wood with a milled edge and a 4’ steel rule. I placed each gauge centred on the hole from back to front and left to right. In all cases, there was no evidence that the edges were raised on any of the holes. You can see the findings in the images on the following pages.

Photos were taken at 90’ to each other to show that each hole examined had no raised edge in any direction.

One practice that is abused regularly and should be addressed is the proximity of a golfer’s feet to the edge of the hole when they are retrieving their ball from the hole. Next time you play watch how players routinely place their feet within 3” to 5” from the edge of the cup when reaching down into the hole. This action has the tendency to compact the area underfoot, which in turn may promote the convex nature which is being reported.

One should place their lead foot at least 12” to 15” away from the edge of the hole and then reach down, being very careful not to touch the interior of the hole as one removes the ball.

The next time you watch a PGA Tour event on TV, observe how careful the players are when around the hole, especially when removing their ball. They also take extreme care not to step on another player’s line at any time. This point of

etiquette is something that all players at Beverly should religiously observe, but sadly, one that is greatly lacking.

#2



#4



#9



#10



#11



#13



#15



#16



#17

