



17 June 2026

Notice to Manufacturers re Distance Insights

This Notice is to advise on the following points:

- 1) There will be no change to the ODS until January 2030.
- 2) The USGA and The R&A will work closely with the PGA TOUR, DP World Tour and other key stakeholders to reconsider alternative approaches that may more materially impact the pace of future distance increases at the elite level.

The R&A and USGA started Distance Insights in 2018 with the goal of better understanding and quantifying the impact of distance in golf and assessing if it was a trend that needed to be addressed. Through a series of formal feedback processes, and numerous stakeholder meetings, the governing bodies announced an across-the-game change to speed and launch conditions for the Overall Distance Standard in December 2023.

In March 2026, the governing bodies requested feedback from the industry, through a Notice and Comment, on a potential change to a single-date implementation (2030) from the two-date phased implementation that was originally announced (2028 and 2030). The feedback indicated that the majority support a single-date implementation. **This Notice confirms that there will be no change to the ODS testing approach until January 2030.**

Further, there have been recent constructive discussions between the governing bodies, PGA TOUR leadership, the PGA TOUR Player Advisory Council (PAC), DP World Tour leadership and other stakeholders which yielded three key outcomes: (a) recognition that distance continues to increase at the elite level; (b) a concern by the Tours that the updated ODS testing approach may not achieve the desired results; (c) a collective willingness to reconsider alternative approaches that may more materially impact the pace of future distance increases, while minimizing disruption to the overall golf market.

In that context, **the governing bodies will issue a joint statement, with support from the PGA TOUR and DP World Tour**, advising that we will work together to assess a range of possible alternatives, including the potential for Model Local Rules, to determine the appropriate path forward.

This work will begin in earnest over the coming weeks, and we will engage with the key stakeholders with a desire to come back to the industry as soon as it is practicable with any outcomes.

Please send any questions relating directly to this Notice to Dr Mark Grattan at The R&A via the email address equipmentstandards@randa.org.