

## Dents and Dimples

When the game of golf was first invented and played, the golf balls they used were perfectly round and smooth and made from leather. However, each time the ball was used it would get little dents in it from being hit with the iron clubs. The dents didn't look very good, and probably were thought of as damaging at first. But it didn't take long for the golfers to realize that the MORE DENTS the golf ball had, the FARTHER and STRAIGHTER it would fly. Soon after this was discovered the use of dented, dimpled and scratched was the mainstay. From this, manufacturers took these golf balls as a model, and began making golf balls with the dents and dimples already in them. Thus the golf balls we have today will fly much farther and straighter if properly hit than any of the first golf balls first used.

Now, you are probably asking yourself what the heck golf balls have to do with Scouting and my Scoutmasters minute. Well, let me tell you...when you start to think about it, Scouting is a LOT like a golf ball. Each time we learn a new skill, earn a merit badge, or even when we try to learn something and don't succeed the first time, it's like adding another dent or dimple to our golf ball. The more skills we learn, the more experience we gain, even if we fail sometimes, the more dented and dimpled our golf ball becomes; the farther and straighter we are able to soar down the course of our lives. It is up to you whether or not you chose to take the chance to get a dimple or dent.

Maybe that's why most Eagle Scouts seem to soar farther and straighter than others. I certainly don't believe that it is the rank itself, but moreover it is all the little dimples and dents they experienced working up to it, that taught them how to fly farther and straighter.