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I visited Torrey Pines this week and you'll be shocked at the players' reaction to the rough if the USGA doesn't fix it. The length isn't the problem, since the 15-foot width of primary rough is only 2 1/4 inches. But since Torrey Pines is by the Pacific Ocean, the rough is a combination of Kikuyu, over-seeded rye and poa annua. We had a chance to speak with who is in charge of setting up the course. He started out with this statement: "It's almost beyond belief," said Mike Davis, senior director of rules and competitions, as we walked the course late Monday afternoon. Davis said he dropped about 250 balls in the rough to check the conditions. Some of the balls sank deep in the grass, some went halfway and some sat right on top of the grass as if they were placed on a tee.

"We've never had rough this short, but we've never had Kikuyu in the mix," he said. "My gosh, you could drop two balls only three inches from each other, and one disappears and the other stays right up on top. It's hard to believe. Is this the U.S. Open or the World Junior Championship?" Apparently they are going to try a special cutting technique to correct the problem.

At 7,643 yards Torrey Pines is going to be the longest course in U.S. Open history by nearly 400 yards.

Kenny Perry won last week at the Memorial and then decided to skip the 36-hole qualifier for the U.S. Open. Perry does not like Torrey Pines that much and really wants to concentrate on making Captain Paul Azinger's Ryder Cup Team. The Ryder Cup will be played in Perry's home state of Kentucky this year at Valhalla. He's currently fifth on the points list and apparently only wants to concentrate on certain events he can do well in that will help guarantee a team spot.

Here are some of the featured pairings for the U.S. Open this week, and they are fantastic if you like head-to-head rivalry golf action. Tiger Woods will play alongside Phil Mickelson and Adam Scott. Defending champion Angel Cabrera and British Open champion Pádraig Harrington will be paired with Davis Love III. Masters champion Trevor Immelman tees off with last year's Masters champion Zach Johnson and Canadian Mike Weir. Both Johnson and Weir have asked to SST PURE their clubs.

Can you believe it's been 10 years since Lee Janzen beat Payne Stewart at the U.S. Open at the Olympic Club? Winners of the U.S. Open receive a 10-year exemption to keep playing in the national championship but Janzen didn't need it because of his 13th position finish in last year's Open.

After the flu earlier this year Angel Cabrera gave up smoking and the only problem is he really hasn't played well since then. They used to call him "Senor Smoke" on Tour.



PUREd Players Surge Into U.S. Open

Once again SST PURE dominated the weekend results at the Stanford St. Jude Championship. Robert Allenby made it to the playoff and finished second. Pádraig Harrington, the defending British Open champion, likes to play three events leading up to a major and landed in fourth, in perfect shape for this week's U.S. Open.

Other players with a history of playing with PUREd clubs who finished in the top 20 were: Boo Weekly, who won earlier this year at Hilton Head, Scott Verplank, Gavin Coles, V.J. Singh, Bob Estes, Camilo Villegas, Dan Forsman and Tim Clark.

So far in 2008 players with SST PUREd clubs have won 15 times and earned more than \$63 million. This is positive testimony to the effectiveness of how SST PURE analyzes a shaft to locate its one and only most stable position.

Harrington told me last year, **"If I can improve my game without having to do anything, I'd be foolish not to PURE my clubs."** That's the way most of the 200-plus Tour players feel about PUREing their clubs.

Now the spotlight shifts to Torrey Pines for the U.S. Open Championship. Angel Cabrera is the defending champion with a history of asking SST to PURE his clubs. As mentioned, British Open Champion Pádraig Harrington is in top form as are many other players with PUREd clubs. It should be an interesting test of golf where accuracy will be essential and that's exactly what SST PURE delivers.

Every shaft that's manufactured has irregularities. Only SST PURE analyzes each shaft individually and locates its one and only most stable position that eliminates harmful oscillations during the golf swing.

SST PUREs shafts for the players and the manufacturers on Tour in their own SST PURE Shaft Alignment Lab. You can have your shafts PUREd using the very same equipment and programs at your local SST PURE licensee. They're located throughout the United States and also in Canada, Great Britain and Australia.

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