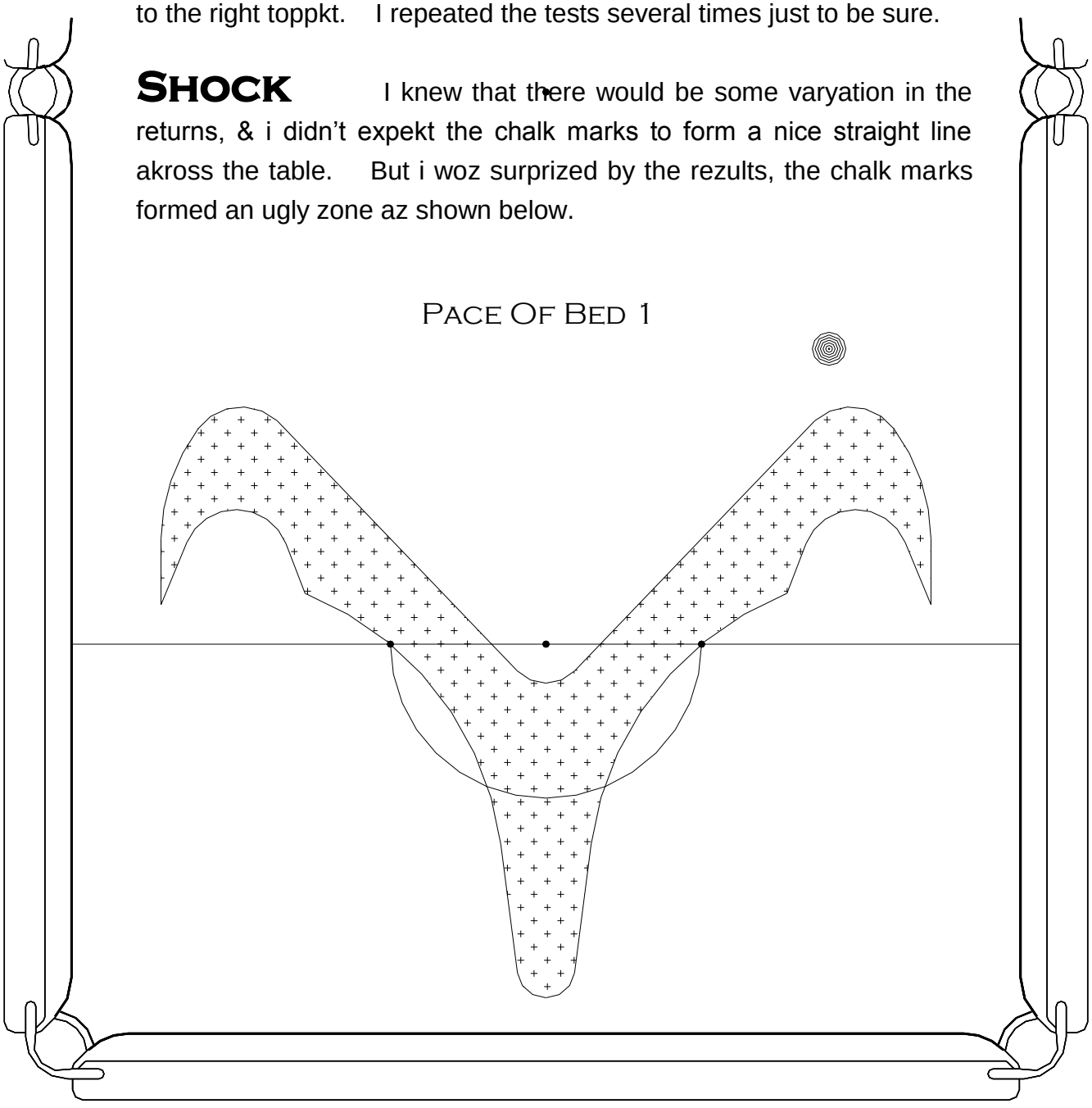
Pace of Bed & Cush

Midloozers I woz rolling midloozerz nicely on the Cheltenham No1 table, the red rolling up the table & back. But a few times the red went into baulk with zero warning. I thort that praps i woz getting tired, but i had a theory.

Ramp Next morning i returned with one of my home-made ball-ramps. I placed the end of the ramp on the baulkline, & i rolled the red down the ramp to the top-cush, the red rebounding back to near baulk, & i drew a chalk mark where it stopped. I repeated this roll test about 30 times, eech time mooving the ramp about 50mm along the baulk-line, & marking where the red stopped. This way, i checked the table roll & cushion rebound along 30 parallel lines, from the left toppkt to the right toppkt. I repeated the tests several times just to be sure.

Shock I knew that there would be some varyation in the returns, & i didn't expekt the chalk marks to form a nice straight line akross the table. But i woz surprized by the rezults, the chalk marks formed an ugly zone az shown below.



CenterLine Rolling up & down the centerline, the red travels over the most worn & smoothest areas of the bed. Allso, the center of the top-cushion (direktly behind theSpot) iz more worn & haz a higher friktion & a bigger rebound. Hencely the red's rebound allmost reeched the baulk-cush. But, az kan be seen, the red's roll allso varyd greatly, for some tests it barely made it into baulk. Here i am talking about the centerline only.

Off Center Nearer the side cushions, the red hazta travel over areas ruffed up by player's hands, hencely the shorter returns. And here the top-cushion aint az worn, hencely less rebound & a shorter return allso.

Table 1 The bed-cloth woz not new but not old, about 12 months. And the cush-kloth woz over 3 years old i guess. Obviously u wouldn't get such a large varyation in rebound if u had a new bed-cloth & new cushion-cloth.

I should add that i didn't brush or pad or iron the table before the tests, it woz az iz from the previous day's play. I suspekt that ironing a table before play would remoov the hand marks, & reduce the varyation somewhat.

Old Cloths So, it appearz that an old kushion iz more worn & haz greater rebound just behind The Spot, & next to the pockets. And an old bed iz faster near the centerline & slower near the side kushions. But i suspekt that a very very old bed etc would suffer less varyation.

New Cloths A new bed & new cushions might suffer say plus or minus 100mm in the red's return at any time (I havnt tested), but this iz better than the plus or minus 600mm on Table 1.

Ironing The red irons its own little path, i noticed that if it iz rolled exaktly down the same line it goze say 200mm further.

Warming Also, the red warms up the cushion-rubber with eech impakt, the energy loss hazta go somewhere, & i noticed that warmer rubber sends the red say 100mm further.

Black Dot The black dot shows one especially bad roll. Here it woz obvious from the sight & sound of the red's cushion impakt that it woz bad news, there woz a duller thud & the red woz thrown off-line & with some sidespin.

Trapping I reckon that the red sank under the cushion, u get this sort of trapping with new cushkloths, but u don't expekt it with old cushkloths.

Throw U karnt see sidespin on a redball, but i know about the sidespin koz i hav seen this sort of thing many times in the past when uzing a pool ball (which haz a stripe). The sidespin & sideways-throw kums from the nap on the cushion-cloth. Iit duznt happen very often, but something triggers it. The cushkloth looked & felt ok at that spot.

Anyhow, with midloozers on older cushkloths, be wary of the cushion just behind theSpot.

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