

Handicap Committee Report 2015

Most of our competitions are played using our reported handicaps. The handicap committee was formed to insure our membership is correctly following our handicap procedures. The handicap committee's mandate is to be informative and to help our membership enjoy the game of golf.

Tee Box Policy For Handicap Events

This year the board decided that our members may now play from the Tee Box of their choice for events using handicaps and still be eligible for all weekly awards. The purpose is to ensure that members are all able to compete, to improve their enjoyment of the game, and to maintain the pace of play. Simply put, where some players had challenges with the length of approach shots, the new policy allows all players to use their awesome skills to reach the green in regulation. The new policy seems to be working. The scorers have been provided with charts to compute red or blue tee handicaps. Some members, who perhaps should play from the red tees, are still reluctant to do so. Hopefully, this will change as we see more members play from the reds.

Record Scores Online

We have looked at members' handicap information that they have entered online. We think there may be a few people who:

- Never adjust their scores
- Adjust their scores on the course and do not report full gross scores
- Do not report poor rounds.
- Do not report all their rounds, especially valid winter games.
- Do not report good rounds played outside of West Point rounds

We learned that the inconsistency of member's handicap entries was spread equally over all the flights.

Communication of Concerns

We continued to look for ways to communicate gently without "bugging" our membership. It will take more time to see if folks have changed their behavior. Individual communication seems to be best when done face-to-face. We will send an end of the season reminder regarding how to enter scores in our off-season.

Tournament Input

In addition to a member's handicap, teams are now formed with a consideration of the estimated reliability of a member's handicap.

The Dwyer Tournament was the first trial of this system. Players were assigned a handicap reliability factor of 1 (reliable) - 3 (unreliable). Players were grouped with others having the same factor based on how many rounds were recorded for this season. With the exception of the outlier winning team (four points lead) the next ten teams finished within a four-point spread. This was the first time the handicap committee had any input into the draw.

Entry to the Palcutta was restricted to members who had entered ten or more scores into the handicap system. This seemed to be well accepted by our members.

Away Games

The outing at Squamish was the first time we used members' Handicap Indexes to compute their Course Handicap for the away course. Only 11 of the 39 players had the same Course Handicap as their Home Course handicap. We now have the means to easily provide organizers with an appropriate course handicaps for all participants.

2015 Handicap Committee

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