

2021 MAVGA Handicap and Tournament Rules

I. General Rules

The USGA and R&A established the World Handicap System to promote fair competition between players having different abilities. The golf handicap system is based on the assumptions that players play their best every hole in every round and that they only record meaningful scores into GHIN. Golf is a game of integrity and honesty. We encourage our members to adhere to the rules and recommendations below so that our tournaments will be more competitive yet remain fun, friendly and fair.

1. Play golf frequently. At least two rounds per month are recommended.
2. Record your rounds but disregard any abnormally high rounds.
3. MAVGA tournament scores must be correctly posted.
4. When entering scores into GHIN, there are two options:
 - a. Enter hole by hole scores using the GHIN app. GHIN will automatically adjust the score for you based on the “Net Double Bogey” rule that took effect in 2020.
 - b. Understand the “Net Double Bogey” rule and enter your scores accordingly. See Appendix 1 for an explanation of the Net Double Bogey rule.
5. Post scores within a timely fashion (preferable within 24 hours if possible so GHIN can apply the “playing conditions” calculations).

II. Tournament Formats

1. Players will be divided into 3 Flights based on their Tournament Handicap Indices (HI) – no longer a separate flight for women.
 - a. Flight Championship A: HCP 9.9 and below
 - b. Flight B: HCP between 10.0 and 19.9
 - c. Flight C: HCP above 20
 - i. Tournament handicaps are capped at 29
2. Each Flight will compete among themselves. Separate prizes will be awarded for each Flight.

III. Tournament Scoring

1. The Low Handicap Index as reported by the GHIN system will be used as a basis for calculating the Tournament Handicap. In the following example, 14.3 is the Low H.I. and therefore that value would be used (not 15.4).



2. Tournament Handicap = Low Handicap Index x (Slope Rating / 113) + (Course Rating – par) x 95%. The 95% is USGA recommended Handicap Allowance.
<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home->

[page/handicapping/roh/Content/rules/Appendix%20C%20Handicap%20Allowances.htm](https://www.usga.org/content/dam/usga/images/handicapping/roh/Content/rules/Appendix%20C%20Handicap%20Allowances.htm)

3. Minimum Net Score or Cap-Out Rules (Minimum Net Score is the lowest Net score allowed for a tournament participant)
 - a. A Minimum Net Score of -1 is applied for Flight A.
 - b. A Minimum Net Score of -2 is applied for Flight B.
 - c. A Minimum Net Score of -3 is applied for Flight C.
 - d. Players without an established HI in the GHIN system will have a minimum net score of +2.
 - e. Members who have not been posting their rounds into GHIN (which affects the integrity of their HI) will have a minimum net score of 0 (even par).
4. The Tournament Handicap will be capped at 29 for all players.
5. Procedure for Submitting Authenticated Tournament Scorecards

Recording scores honestly and correctly is the responsibility of each player. To assist the scorekeepers, we require each group follow these rules:

 1. Submit one scorecard (paper or electronic via app) from each group to the scorekeepers.
 2. Scorecards must have the total round score for each player. Incomplete and incorrect scorecards (e.g. not added or incorrectly added) will be rejected.
 3. Each player must verify his/her scores and each scorecard must have at least one signature from a player whose name is in the scorecard.

IV. Tiebreaker Calculation

It is not uncommon for ties to occur during tournaments when multiple players reach the minimum NET score. The winner of the tiebreaker will be determined in this order:

1. Lowest combined gross score of holes 16, 17, and 18.
2. Lowest gross score of hole 15.
3. Lowest gross score of hole 14.
4. Keep going back each hole until there are no more ties.

V. Off-Season Score Posting

Members must post all scores throughout the year. If a local area course observes an off-season policy, which is established by the authorized golf association, the GHIN System will automatically announce message "scores cannot be posted on a course observing the off-season".

APPENDIX 1. Net Double Bogey

From:

<https://www.usga.org/content/dam/usga/images/handicapping/Net%20Double%20Bogey%20is%20the%20new%20Max%20Hole%20Score.pdf>

Net Double Bogey is the maximum hole score under the World Handicap System

What is Net Double Bogey?

Net Double Bogey is the maximum allowable hole score for handicap purposes.

The procedure is typically applied after the round and before a score is posted. However, when the format of play allows, or when playing a recreational round, you can pick up once you've reached your Net Double Bogey limit.

Net Double Bogey prevents the occasional bad hole from impacting your Handicap Index too severely.

How is Net Double Bogey calculated?

Net Double Bogey =

Double Bogey +/- any handicap strokes received on a hole (minus applies to plus-handicap players)

If you post hole-by-hole scores, the Net Double Bogey adjustment should be applied automatically.

Can I see an example?

A player with a Course Handicap of 10 can post a maximum hole score of **Double Bogey +1** on holes allocated 1 through 10 on the scorecard (denoted with red ·). The max score on all other holes is Double Bogey.

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT
Yardage	393	133	375	490	333	378	155	416	357	3030
Par	4	3	4	5	4	4	3	4	4	35
Stroke Index	5 ·	17	9 ·	1 ·	11	7 ·	15	3 ·	13	
Player A	4	4	5	6	4	5	3	4	4	39

Front 9	39
Back 9	44
Total	83

-1

Adjusted Score	82
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Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN
Yardage	341	152	360	131	471	323	314	375	340	2807
Par	4	3	4	3	5	4	4	4	4	35
Stroke Index	8 ·	16	6 ·	18	2 ·	10 ·	14	4 ·	12	
Player A	4	4	8	4	6	4	4	5	5	44

The player's score of 8 on the 12th hole would be reduced to a 7 for handicap purposes. This is because their Net Double Bogey maximum was **Double Bogey +1**, which on a Par 4 = 7. The score for the competition is 83, but the score for handicap purposes is 82.

What if my Course Handicap is above 18?

If your Course Handicap is between 19 and 36:

Triple Bogey is your baseline - post up to **Triple Bogey +1** on holes with stroke index values less than or equal to your **Course Handicap - 18**.

If your Course Handicap is between 37 and 54:

Quadruple Bogey is your baseline - post up to **Quadruple Bogey +1** on holes with stroke index values less than or equal to your **Course Handicap - 36**.

For more information or to learn more about the WHS, visit usga.org/whs