

**Arrowhead Women's Golf Association
Handicapping Policies & Procedures
Notice to Members Effective March 1, 2024**

The Handicap Committee, appointed by officers of our golf club, is responsible for all aspects of the World Handicap System. Our Committee includes a Handicap Chair who has been certified by the Oregon Golf Association. We are obligated and committed to ensure the integrity of each Handicap Index we issue. In the interest of fairness, and because we are compelled by our license with the OGA/USGA, we will provide education as well as uphold the R&A USGA Rules of Golf and the World Handicap System. While this sounds very serious, these regulations are required so our club can assure equity in our games. More equity equals more fun!

The Handicap Committee has set forth the following policies and procedures, per OGA/USGA guidelines, for all members carrying USGA Handicap Indexes:

- Each player will try to make the best score at every hole in every round, regardless of where the round is played.
- All acceptable rounds must be posted for peer review.
- Scores must be posted on the day of play.
- The principles of the Rules of Golf must be followed.
- Each individual is responsible for posting her own score, unless the holder of an event assumes responsibility for posting scores.
- The committee will conduct a random audit of tee sheets against GHIN postings and monitor that scores are being posted on the day of play. If a score did not get posted, the Committee will email the player to verify if the individual played and remind her to post the score.

*All *acceptable scores must be posted using one of the following methods:* (Random audits will be performed) • Posting computer at our golf course

- Posting computer at any golf course when playing away
- **www.ghin.com**
- GHIN mobile app
- Returned to the Handicap Committee/Chair for posting

**Unacceptable Scores Include:*

- When fewer than nine holes are played; (changed in 2024)
- When made on a golf course in an area in which an inactive season established by the authorized golf association is in effect;
- When the length of the course is less than 1,500 yards for 18 holes (or less than 750 yards for 9 holes);
- When, as a condition of the competition, the maximum number of clubs allowed is less than 14, or types of clubs are limited as, for example, in a competition that allows only iron clubs;
- When scores are made on a course with no USGA Course Rating or Slope Rating;
- When a player uses non-conforming clubs, non-conforming balls, or non-conforming tees;
- With respect to Rule 4-3 (RA & USGA Rules of Golf), when an artificial device or piece of unusual equipment is used during the execution of a stroke or when equipment is used in an unusual manner during the execution of a stroke;
- When a player plays alone;
- When a player ignores one or more Rules of Golf and fails to post an adjusted hole score as required under World Handicap System Rule 4-1 and 4-2, or fails to record the appropriate penalty for a breach of rule. For example, if a player anchored the club while making a stroke during a

round and did not record a penalty for doing so (RA & USGA Rule 10-1b), the score would not have been played under the Rules of Golf and, therefore, would not be acceptable for handicap purposes

Disciplinary Actions for Failure to Post or Player Manipulating Their Handicap Index:

1. First failure to post or manipulation of player's score will result in the Committee notifying player if no (or manipulated) score was posted and request her to post, if she played.
2. Second failure will result in a written warning.
3. Third failure will result in the appropriate penalty round issued for scores not posted or manipulated.
4. After player's fourth failure to post a score or continued manipulation of scores, further disciplinary action will be taken as the Handicap Chair/Committee deems fair and equitable.

A player must earn a Handicap Index. No player has an inherent right to a Handicap Index without providing full evidence of ability to our club's Handicap Committee. The Committee has the ultimate authority and obligation to adjust or withdraw a Handicap Index if it deems it necessary to do so. Rule 7.1a of the World Handicap System allows for handicap modification due to temporary disability (e.g., recent surgery). To qualify, players must contact the Handicap Committee for consideration.

OGA Season Dates, Handicap Revisions, Active/Inactive Season:

- Handicap Index revisions will be updated daily, as per the World Handicap System rules.
- OGA active handicapping season begins March 1. Last day to post a score is November 30.
- Last official Handicap Index update of the season is December 1.
- No local scores can be posted during the off-season, which is December 1 through the last day of February. Rounds played in sun-belt states **must** be posted on the day of play.

The Competition Committee has determined that the following events will be posted as Competitions:

- June 27, 2024 AWGA Invitational
- August 24 & 25, 2024 Women's Club Championship

Our Committee has adopted the following Local Rules:

Preferred Lies - "When the ball is in the fairway or rough, mark the spot, lift, clean and replace the ball within 6 inches of the original location no nearer the hole before striking it. The player must mark its position before lifting the ball. If the player fails to do this, she incurs a 1 stroke penalty. May not be done in a penalty area or tree wells." When we are in active season, scores still must be posted when Arrowhead invokes Preferred Lies.

Covid Guidelines - Determined by the Pro Shop

Please do not hesitate to direct any questions or concerns to the auditing/handicap committee:

- Marla Duffield, Chair b.duffield@comcast.net (971) 275-7606
- Karen Govier, Co-Chair kgov@pm.me (503) 871-1703
- Sheryl Brower creativeribbon@msn.com (503) 658-4473
- Linda Ignowski mignowski@comcast.net (503) 658-8353
- Helen Morgan morgqanhr1947@gmail.com (503) 635-8138
- Chris Oviatt oviattc@msn.com (503) 887-9967
- Holli Sword h.joy.sword@gmail.com (503) 910-9317

We encourage any and all member feedback. This is effective March 1, 2024 until changed in writing to the membership.