

## DURBANVILLE GOLF CLUB



### SCORING AND HANDICAPPING - REGULATIONS

It is the responsibility of the club handicapper to ensure that the spirit of the handicap system is upheld and to thoroughly investigate any perceived manipulation of handicaps and apply suitable disciplinary measures where such cases are proved.

Durbanville Golf Club's Handicap Committee is the custodian of all scores for members, concentrating mainly on club competitions played on Wednesdays and Saturdays as well as Senior Society and Ladies golf. The committee's methodology is for a responsible person in the various divisions to check every competition card, as well as all scores recorded by members on the Handicapping System with a report detailing any offences being presented by the Chair of the Match & Handicap to the Club committee on a monthly basis.

Listed below are examples of the types of errors and problems regularly experienced:

1. Entering a higher score than was shot; e.g. player shoots 74 enters 76.
2. Entering the wrong standard rating for the course; e.g. 70 when it should be 71.
3. No adjustments made in Medal score for handicap purposes; e.g. entering a raw score of 8 on a par 4 and not entering an adjusted score of 6 or 7 according to handicap.
4. Failing to hand in a scorecard.
5. Scorecard has no handicap against name.
6. No membership number on scorecard.
7. Playing 18 holes of stroke play and then entering a No Return.
8. Playing 9 holes of stroke play and not entering a score or entering a No Return.
9. Constantly not recording scores on the HNA system.
10. Not putting a score in, then after the 72 grace period entering a No Return to avoid penalty.
11. Members not entering a score recorded on "away" courses.

#### **Disciplinary Action**

The Match and Handicap Committee have instituted the following procedures:

##### **First Offence:**

A letter to the member pointing out the mistake made. No sanction. The club is responsible for correcting the mistake.

##### **Second Offence:**

An official warning letter detailing the offence with, in the case of items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10, the sanction of a handicap reduction penalty of one stroke.

##### **Third Offence:**

Any member who has received three official warning letters in an unbroken three month period will be asked to appear before the Match and Handicap committee to explain his or her actions, with the possibility of further disciplinary actions being taken. Such action could

include an immediate penalty stroke reduction on handicap or withdrawal of handicap and playing privileges.

## **Handicaps**

The section below is an extract from the **SOUTH AFRICAN GOLF ASSOCIATION HANDICAPPING SYSTEM MANUAL FOR MEN AND WOMEN** and is for information purposes.

### ***Preamble***

Fair handicapping depends upon full, accurate information of a player's ability as reflected by his scores. All golfers interested in fair play should make sure that their scores, good and bad, are recorded. Incomplete records lead to unfair handicaps. Proper handicap records, maintained by the SAGA Handicap System, are essential to the correct computation of an SAGA Handicap. Should a player fail to return a score on the handicap system he shall have a penalty score applied. Should a player persist in this practice, disciplinary measures as should be applied.

### ***Essence of the System***

The aim of a Handicap is to allow golfers of differing abilities to compete against one another. Both the SAGA and WGSA present this Handicap System in the conviction that, when faithfully operated, it results in equitable handicaps no matter where golfers live and play. The System is based on the assumption that every player will endeavour to make the best score they can at each hole in every 18-hole or 9-hole round that they play and that they will report such round for handicap purposes, regardless of where the round is played.

### ***Most Likely score***

A most likely score is the score a player would most likely have achieved if he started the hole but did not complete the hole or if a player is conceded a stroke. This should be calculated as to the number of strokes already taken plus the number of strokes the player was most likely to have achieved more than 50% of the time

### ***Penalty Scores***

Players have 72 hours in which to enter a score after the completion of their round. Any scores returned after this 72 hour period will result in a penalty score being allocated to the player's profile.

### ***Limits for Professional***

Professional Tour players are to play off a +6 handicap when competing with amateurs in a competition where the club concerned has permitted the professional's participation. Where such players are members of clubs and they occasionally play at their home club, the club may apply to the SAGA to have a handicap allocated to such players.

### ***Scores***

Scores should be returned at any SAGA Handicap Terminal every time a player plays more than 9 holes, no matter where it is played, provided such round can be verified by a playing competitor. Where it is not possible to enter a score at an SAGA Handicapping Terminal, alternative means are permissible, which include:

- a. Having the score entered by the player on the terminal provided by the home club.
- b. Entering the score on the [www.handicaps.co.za](http://www.handicaps.co.za) website.

c. Entering the score through a cellular phone application (when available)

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#### ***Nine Hole Score Entry***

9 hole scores are to be entered on the SAGA Handicap System where 9 or more holes have been completed but less than 18.

For incomplete 18 hole rounds, 9 hole scores must be entered if at least 9 holes were completed. If fewer than 9 holes were played before leaving the course the score must be captured as N/R

#### ***Nine Hole Scores and 72 Hour Penalty***

9 hole scores entered on the system are not considered when calculating Exceptional Scores but they will result in a late score entry penalty, if the score is entered more than 72 hours after the 9 holes has been completed.

#### ***Time limit on entering scores***

A score should be returned within 72 hours of the completion of a round. The period of 72 hours is taken from 21:00 on the day of play to 21:00 three days later. Scores not returned during this period, will result in a penalty score, computed as per section 8.7, being entered on the player's behalf. Such scores are not to be deleted or modified by the player's home club, unless exceptional circumstances warrant such action.

#### ***Penalty Scores***

A penalty score is the lowest differential of the player's last 20 recorded scores added to the Standard Rating of the course played, or such penalty as the club handicapper may decide, based on the circumstances around the failure of the player to enter the score. Where the late entered score is equal to or lower than the players lowest of their last 20 differentials, the system will allocate 1 penalty stroke for handicaps below 4, and 20% of the players handicap for handicaps above 4 to a maximum of 4 strokes, and email the details to the club for the handicapper to review and adjust where necessary.

#### ***Arbitrary Penalty***

A handicap must be earned. No player has an inherent right to a handicap without providing full evidence of his or her ability. A handicap may be arbitrarily reduced or increased if the player does not submit all his scores or otherwise does not observe the spirit of the Handicap System. The Committee in charge should be empowered to determine the amount of adjustment. In an extreme case of a player's non-cooperation, withdrawal of the handicap is suggested. The SAGA Handicap System will display the allowable choice of handicaps for a given player should the club need to invoke the "Freeze" function.

Handicapping committees may, in their discretion, arbitrarily reduce or increase the handicaps of players who do not return all their scores or otherwise do not observe the spirit of the Handicap System. In exceptional circumstances, the Handicapping Committee may, after following due process, withdraw the handicap of a player for a period not to exceed 3

months.

***Manual Intervention***

Where players are deemed to be playing off an incorrect handicap by the club handicap committee, the appropriate change to the player's handicap shall be made to the player's handicap on the SAGA handicap system through the administration interface. This can be done by making use of the "Freeze" handicap function. The player should then be informed of their revised handicap.

John Ekermans  
Chair Match & Handicap Committee