

## Plumas Pines Men's Club, Inc.

### 2023 Club Handicap Policy

The World Handicap System (WHS) went into effect in 2020. The USGA and the R&A developed a single set of handicapping rules that apply to all golfers.

A Handicap Index is widely recognized in as a reliable measure of a player's potential ability. A player's Handicap Index is used for conversion to a Course Handicap, which indicates the number of strokes a player receives from a specific set of tees. The club Handicap Committee has been established to ensure fair and equitable competition by providing resources that know the WHS, communicate the System to the players and faithfully apply the System at our club. The members of the club Handicap Committee for 2023 are Rich Barnes (Chairman), Steve Munsen, and Paul Jeglum.

**Handicap Committee Responsibilities** The club Handicap Committee will meet on an as needed basis to verify complete and accurate posting of player scores. The Committee will audit posted scores, enter or correct missing data, and advise players if problems are found. The Committee also has the power to enter penalty scores to adjust player handicaps if the player does not post all acceptable scores or otherwise does not observe the spirit of the WHS. In the case of a player's repeated failure to comply with the WHS, the Committee may withdraw the player's Handicap Index. Before a penalty is assessed the player will have received oral or written warnings. The Committee must invite a response from the player prior to adjustment per WHS guidelines. Our goal is fair competition for our member events.

Under the following circumstances it may become necessary for the Handicap Committee to make adjustments to the player's Handicap Index:

Player is improving faster than the system can react

Numerous scores away changes Handicap Index

Temporary disability

Failure to post

Player manipulates round

**Player Responsibilities** Act with integrity following the Rules of Handicapping and to refrain from using, or circumventing, the Rules of Handicapping for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage

Attempt to make the best score possible at each hole

Submit acceptable scores for handicap purposes as soon as possible after the round is completed and before midnight local time

Submit acceptable scores to provide reasonable evidence of their demonstrated ability

Play by the Rules of Golf, and certify the scores of fellow players

Know if an adjusted score is acceptable for posting

Know how to post an adjusted score for all acceptable rounds including tournament rounds

Know how to post an 'away' round

**Adjustment of hole scores** Before a handicap index is established the maximum score for each hole is limited to par + 5 strokes. After a handicap index is established the maximum score for each hole is net double bogey.

**Definition of Net Double Bogey score** Net double bogey is par + 2 + any handicap strokes the player receives on that hole.

**Adjustment of hole scores for handicap purposes** For a player with a handicap index the max score for each hole is limited to net double bogey. For example, a player with a 20 Course Handicap who makes an 9 or greater, or picks up, on a par 4 rated as the number 1 handicap hole would post  $4 + 2 + 2 = 8$  on that hole.

**Modifications for 'Exceptional Performance'** An exceptional score is a score differential which is at least 7.0 strokes better than the players Handicap Index. When an exceptional score is posted to a player's scoring record the Handicap Index will be reduced in accordance with the following:

Number of strokes the score differential is lower than a player's Handicap Index:	Exceptional score reduction
7.0 to 9.9	-1.0
10.0 or more	-2.0

#### **Acceptability of Scores: To Post Or Not To Post**

**The following are acceptable scores and must be posted for handicapping purposes:**

- Post scores when at least 7 holes are played (7-13 holes are posted as a 9 hole score; 14 or more holes are posted as an 18 hole score). Holes not played are posted as par plus any handicap strokes to which the player is entitled.
- Post scores made in an area observing an active season.
- Post scores made under the Rules of Golf.
- Post scores on all courses with a valid USGA Course Rating and Slope Rating.
- Post scores in all forms of competition: match play, stroke play and team competitions where players play their own ball. The Tournament Director will advise if a score is to be posted as a competition (C) score.

- Post scores played under the local rule of 'preferred lies'.
- Post scores when a player is disqualified from a competition but still has an acceptable score for handicap purposes (e.g. failure to sign a scorecard).
- GPS and Laser devices may be used providing that the slope correction feature (if available) must be disabled.
- Match play.

**The following are unacceptable scores for handicap posting purposes:**

- Do not post 9 hole scores when fewer than 7 holes are played.
- Do not post 18 hole scores when fewer than 14 holes are played.
- Do not post scores made on a course during an inactive season.
- Do not post scores made when a majority of the holes are not played in accordance with the Rules of golf.
- Do not post scores when the course is less than 3,000 yards for 18 holes (or 1,500 yards for 9 holes)
- Do not post scores 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 only allows irons.
- Do not post scores when scores are made on a course with no USGA Course Rating or Slope Rating.
- Do not post scores when a player carries or uses non-conforming clubs or uses non-conforming balls or tees.
- Do not post scores when artificial devices are used during the execution of a stroke.
- Do not post scores when a player ignores one or more Rules of Golf and fails to post an adjusted hole score as required or fails to record the appropriate penalty for breach of the 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.
- Do not post scores made while playing alone.

**Posting Scores for Holes Not Finished:** The player must record his 'most likely' score. The most likely score consists of the number of strokes already taken plus, in the player's best judgment, the number of strokes that the player would need to complete the hole. Most likely score guidelines are as follows:

- If the ball lies on the putting green and is no more than 5 feet from the hole: Add one additional stroke.
- If the ball lies between 5 feet and 20 yards from the hole: Add 2 or 3 additional strokes depending on the position of the ball, the difficulty of the green and the ability of the player.

- The most likely score cannot exceed net double bogey for handicap purposes.

**Posting Winter Golf Scores** A quick reminder to those playing golf this winter. Though Plumas Pines is closed during the winter season you must post all scores played on an active course with a USGA Course Rating and Slope. You can post any missing scores on-line at [www.ghin.com](http://www.ghin.com) or contact a member of the club Handicap Committee for help.