WOMEN'S METROPOLITAN GOLF ASSOCIATION
Posting Scores in 2026

The 2026 WMGA Tournament Schedule Book (TSB) states "All scores from WMGA tournaments, including Team Matches, must be posted into the USGA Handicap System."

For Team Matches, the Team Captains should require each player to post their scores after each match. **Team Match scores should not be posted as "C" scores.**

Scores from some WMGA stroke play tournaments will be posted as "C" scores by the Committee as noted in the Notice to Player. The WMGA will post the following Stroke Play events as C scores: Met Am Championship, Match Play A & B Championship Qualifying Round, Stroke Play A and B Championships (2 days), Seniors A and B Championships (2 days for Class A and 1 day for Class B), One Day Stroke Play A & B (3 days), Maureen Orcutt Championship (2 days), Junior Open Championship.

It is the responsibility of the player to post "C" scores such for the Match Play A & B Championship matches, Golf Illustrated, Myra D. Paterson, Griscom Cup, Enos Cup and Senior Intercity.

Shown below are some guidelines from the USGA that will help a player better understand "how to" post a score. Please adhere to these guidelines, plus you can always ask your PGA club professional, visit USGA.org, or call the WMGA office for assistance. The entire **Rules of Handicapping - Effective 2024** can be found here:

https://www.usga.org/handicapping/roh/rules-of-handicapping.html

Guidelines on How to Post a Score[1]

Rule 2 - Scores Acceptable for Handicap Purposes

Rule 2.1 Acceptability of Scores
A score is acceptable for handicap purposes if the round has been played:

- In an *authorized format of play* (see Rule 2.1a Played in an Authorized Format of Play) over at least the minimum number of holes required for either a 9-hole or an 18-hole score to be acceptable (see Rule 2.2 Minimum Number of Holes Played for Score to be Acceptable),
- In the company of at least one other person, who may also act as a marker (subject to satisfying any other requirements of the *Rules of Golf*),
- By the *Rules of Golf* (see Rule 2.1b Played by the Rules of Golf),
- On a *golf course* with a current *Course Rating* and *Slope Rating*, where length and normal playing difficulty is maintained at a consistent level,
- On a *golf course* during its *active season*.

In addition, the player's score must always be certified in accordance with the Rules of Handicapping. If one or more of the requirements set out above is not met, the score is not acceptable for handicap purposes.

Rule 2.1b Played by the Rules of Golf
A round must be played by the Rules of Golf to be acceptable for handicap purposes, subject to the following:

1. Organized Competitions
    - In a situation where a player is disqualified from a competition for a breach of the Rules of Golf, but no significant scoring advantage has been gained, the score should remain acceptable for handicap purposes.
    - If a player is disqualified from a competition for any other breach of the Rules of Golf, the score is not acceptable for handicap purposes.
    - The final determination is at the discretion of the Committee, based on the circumstances.

[1] Rules as noted in USGA Rules of Handicapping, effective January 2024

2. General Play.
    - When an organized competition is not being contested, a score is not acceptable for handicap purposes if the player:
        i. Breaches the Rules of Golf and the correct penalty is not applied under the Rules of Golf, or
        ii. Deliberately ignores a Rule of Golf.

Note: Where a player follows the provisions set down in a Model Local Rule, even when the Committee in charge of the course has not adopted that Model Local Rule, the score may still be acceptable for handicap purposes. The same situation applies where a player is in breach of a Model Local Rule that has been adopted by the Committee.

Rule 2.2 Minimum Number of Holes Played for Score to be Acceptable

Rule 2.2a For an 18-hole Score *REVISED in 2024*
For an 18-hole score to be acceptable for handicap purposes, a minimum of 10 holes must be played.

Rule 2.2b For a 9-hole Score *REVISED in 2024*
For a 9-hole score to be acceptable for handicap purposes, all 9 holes must be played. If a player has not played at least 9 holes, the score is not acceptable for handicap purposes.

Note: An acceptable 9-hole score must be played over 9-holes with a current Course Rating and Slope Rating (see Rule 2.1).

<u>Rule 3 - Adjustment of Hole Scores</u>

Rule 3.1b After a Handicap Index Has Been Established
For a player with an established Handicap Index, the maximum score for each hole played is limited to a net double bogey, calculated as follows:

Par of the hole	**+**	**2 strokes**	**+**	**Any handicap stroke(s) that the player receives on that hole***

(*or minus any handicap stroke(s) that a plus handicap player gives back on that hole.)

Rule 3.2 When a Hole is Not Played

Rule 3.2a. Reasons for Not Playing One or More Holes
There are various circumstances why a round is not completed or one or more holes are not played during a round. Valid reasons might include:

- Fading light or weather preventing the continuation of play,
- Player injury or illness,
- A match finishing before the final hole
- The course being played has fewer than 9 or 18-holes because:
    - A hole (or holes has been declared out of play by the Committee for maintenance or reconstruction purposes, or
    - The Committee has organized a competition over a non-standard number of holes, for example during the winter months.
- Any other situations considered reasonable by the Committee

Note: If it is determined that the player does not complete a round or does not play one or more holes….for the purpose of gaining an unfair scoring advantage, the Committee may consider posting a penalty score to the player's scoring record.

Rule 3.3 When a Hole is Started But Player Does Not Hole Out
There are various circumstances that might result in a player starting a hole but not holing out. For example, when:

- The result of the hole has already been decided,
- A hole has been conceded in match play,
- A player's partner has already posted a better score in a Four-Ball format and the player picks up, or
- A player has already reached their net double bogey limit on a specific hole.

When a player starts a hole but does not hole out for a valid reason, subject to other provisions set out within the Rules of Handicapping, the player must record their most likely score or net double bogey, whichever is lower, as appropriate for the situation and depending on the format of play.

The most likely score is:

- The number of strokes already taken to reach a position on a hole, plus
- The number of strokes the player would most likely require to complete the hole from that position, plus
- Any penalty strokes incurred during play of the hole.

Most likely scores should be determined on any hole in accordance with the following guidelines:

Position of the Ball	Strokes to be Added
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.
If the ball lies more than 20 yards from the hole:	Add 3 or 4 additional strokes, depending on the position of the ball, the difficulty of the green and the ability of the player.

Rule 4 – Submitting a Score

Rule 4.3 Time Frame for Submitting a Score
A player should submit their score as soon as possible on the day of play, after completion of their round, and before midnight (local time).

If a player does not submit their score on the day of play:
- Their Handicap Index will not be updated in time for the next day, and
- Their score will not be included in the daily playing conditions calculation (PCC).
    - Note: When a score is posted to the player's scoring record after the day of play and the PCC for the day the round was played has already been performed, the PCC adjustment should still be applied to the player's Score Differential calculation even though the player's score was not included in the PCC.

If a score is submitted out of sequence:
- The score should be added to the player's scoring record in the correct chronological order.
- The published PCC adjustment for the golf course played, on the day the round was played, should be applied to the Score Differential calculation.
- The player's Handicap Index should be recalculated.
    - Note: The Handicap Committee will investigate any repeated occurrence of a player failing to submit a score in a timely manner. If there is no evidence that the player has acted for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage, all scores submitted in the intervening period should stand for handicap purposes.

Rule 4.4 Certification of a Score
A score submitted for handicap purposes must be made available for peer review as soon as possible after completion of the round. To facilitate the process of peer review:
- A player, or someone authorized by the player, must submit their score as soon as possible after completion of the round, and
- The Handicap Committee should ensure a submitted score is posted to the player's scoring record as soon as possible.