

EWGA CLUB RULES

Purpose: Promote good fellowship amongst members and perpetuate the game of golf according to the established USGA standards. Promote competitive golf for all golfers that are members of the EWGA.

RULES

As a member you are obligated to follow these rules and uphold a positive image with the City of Brooklyn Park, Edinburgh USA and the Minnesota Golf Community.

1. Establish a handicap. All scores played in Minnesota from April 1 to October 31 must be posted. Offseason and out of state scores should be posted if you are playing during the active season for the location you're playing. After three 18-hole rounds or six 9-hole rounds, you will have a handicap. Once you have established this handicap, you are required to adjust each score before posting it in accordance with the [World Handicap System™](#) (see HANDICAPS section below).

If you have any questions contact the EWGA board at ewgamn@gmail.com.

2. Learn and follow the [USGA Rules of Golf](#) and Etiquette. If you do not know a rule, please ask or refer to the rules online. Be responsible for keeping all aspects of the game honorable and honest.
3. Arrive at least 30 minutes before your tee time and play in the time allowed:
 - 9-holes should be played within 2 to 2 ¼ hours
 - 18-holes should be played in 4 to 4 ½ hours
4. Always play ready golf and play as quickly as possible. Discourage slow play. You should not be any further than ¾ of a hole behind the group in front of you.
5. Replace divots, rake bunkers, and repair ball and spike marks before leaving the greens.
6. When keeping score during league, have one player enter scores in the Golf Genius app and a different player keep scores on a paper scorecard. Verify that scores in Golf Genius match the paper scorecard. Accurate scoring is everyone's responsibility. *(Posting scores, see Section titled HANDICAPS below)*
7. Know the event and format rules before teeing off. **Record your actual gross score in the Golf Genius App AND on a scorecard. Event results will be posted on the Golf Genius Portal.** Players without an established handicap will be assumed to have a handicap of zero.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT ENTER EWGA SCORES ELSEWHERE or duplications in GHIN will occur.

8. CHITS (Pro Shop Certificates) are awarded each event. Check the Golf Genius portal to see if you have won chits. Chits can be spent in the Pro Shop throughout the year. Please try to spend all of your CHITS by the end of the calendar year as the ProShop will not carry any balances forward into the next year.
9. Comply with the golf course regulations; follow the club dress code, refrain from using foul language and each player must have their own set of clubs.

10. Procedures for making tee times

- Tee time sign-up will be done through Golf Genius. The process is different between Thursday and Saturday league.
- Thursday league
 - Tee time sign-up will be available 3 days prior to Thursday league events (i.e., tee sheet opens on 5/1 for a 5/4 event).
 - Tee sheet is locked at 8:00 AM the day of the event
- Saturday league
 - Sign up for events will open 30 days prior to the event. (i.e., An Email to sign up for an 5/13 event will be sent out on 4/13. Event closes 7 days prior to the event, and the Tee Sheet will be submitted to the Pro Shop on Wednesday the week of the event).
- **Any additions or cancellations after the tee sheet is locked or registration has closed must be called into the Pro Shop at 763-315-8550 AND reported to EWGA (ewgamn@gmail.com).**

Saturday Members: Please remember to purchase your Patron Cards for the season prior to your first round of golf.

11. Cancellations must be made 24 hours in advance of your tee time. Call the Pro Shop at **763-315-8550 AND email EWGA (ewgamn@gmail.com)**. If you cancel less than 24 hours prior to your tee time, the pro shop has the right to charge your credit card on file for the cost of that tee time.
12. **Two strike rule:** For each instance you fail to give a one-day cancellation notice (notice should be reported to BOTH the Pro Shop and EWGA) or do not show for your tee time, you will be given a strike. After two strikes, you will no longer be able to sign up in advance for your tee time but are encouraged to call the day of the event to see if open tee times are available.
13. If there are open tee times within the league times, the coordinator may move tee times forward so there are no gaps in play.
14. Rainouts during league play are valid only if they are authorized by the Pro Shop or if the event chair person decides to cancel a league event.
15. Be an active member and help on committees/special events, i.e. day trip, member/guest day, member appreciation.
16. If you change your street address, or email address, phone number, etc. please let us know so we can update.

17. Local Rules

Flower areas – free drop no closer to the hole.

Out of bounds – marked by white stakes; penalty is one stroke and distance; declare/play a provisional ball if unclear the first ball is out of bounds.

Lateral hazards – marked by red stakes; penalty is one stroke, drop ball 2 club lengths.

Water hazards – marked by yellow stakes; penalty is one stroke, drop ball 2 club lengths.

Ground under repair – free drop no closer to the hole.

Hole #17 –

from the tee box : if the ball is hit into the water, proceed to the drop area on the island with a penalty of one stroke. Or, if the ball is hit into the water beyond the island, either go back to the drop area or two club lengths, no closer to the hole, both options are with a one-stroke penalty.

from the island: if the ball is hit into the water on the approach to the green, the drop area is behind the green with a penalty of one stroke.

LOCAL RULE- Hole #17 The three clubs at Edinburgh USA have instituted a “local rule” for all club events. If a player hits the ball into the lateral water hazard to the left of the 17th fairway, he/she may skip the step that requires the player to first drop the ball onto the cart path and may proceed directly to the right of the path taking stance and swing relief, plus one club length.

Rocks on the ponds – considered part of the hazard; lift ball and drop two club lengths, no closer to the hole with a one-stroke penalty.

18. Some reminders to help with speed of play

- keep up with the group in front of you; don't lose sight of them!
- play ready golf
- play a provisional if a ball is (or may be) out of bounds or lost
- find the line of your putt as you wait for your turn to putt
- continue putting out rather than marking the ball each time
- "Circle of Friendship"- if the putt is within the grip of your putter, ask the members of your group if you can pick it up at no penalty (does not apply for tournaments) AND, you DO count that last putt not taken towards your hole score.
- go to the next tee box to record your scores
- if you need to stop at the turn, please be quick!

GOLF BASICS

1. If you are uncertain about a rule, ask:
 - A fellow player
 - Golf professional or qualified staff in the pro shop
 - Refer to [USGA Rules of Golf](#).
 - Summer rules are in effect unless otherwise posted and when conditions dictate.
2. In unusual circumstances and when in need of a ruling, play another ball and keep score for both. Upon completion of your round and before you sign your scorecard, ask one of the above sources what the ruling is.
3. Count all strokes including whiffs, penalties and putts. If you sign your card when there is an incorrect score posted, you will be disqualified from the event. Do not attest a player's score if you know and/or another player reported an incorrect score. Corrections must be made before playing the next hole.
4. There are no “mulligans”.
5. You have 3 minutes to look for a lost ball. If you cannot find it, you go back to the approximate location you hit it from and play another ball. You count both strokes plus add a penalty stroke (stroke plus distance).
6. Play without delay between the green and the next tee. A player should not unduly delay play. Stroke play penalty is 2 strokes. Repeated offense is disqualification.
7. You may play honors; however, EWGA members usually play ready golf off the tee and farthest ball from the green first on the rest of the hole. Go ahead to your ball when it is safe to do so and be ready to hit when it is your turn.

HOW TO PLAY READY GOLF

1. When your group arrives at the tee box all members should be on the tee box at the same time with the only exception being the score keeper. Take the initiative to step up to the tee box immediately and hit your ball. Do not wait at your golf bag and go up one at a time.
2. Be at your ball and ready to hit when it is your turn.
3. Think about club selection before reaching your ball.
4. Limit yourself to one practice swing.
5. Walk to your own ball and prepare to hit while others go to their ball and prepare to hit.
6. Mark your ball's flight with a background object.
7. Note distance, yardage, wind and obstruction before reaching your ball.
8. If there is a chance your ball is lost or out of play, hit a provisional ball before searching.
9. If your ball is lost, only one other person should help you look while the other players go to their ball and hit.
10. Do not mark your ball on the green if it is not necessary.
11. Study the line for putting while others are preparing to putt.
12. Putt out when possible.
13. If your group falls behind, the first two people to putt out should go to the next hole and tee off.
14. Invite others to play through when a backup develops or a hole opens up.

HANDICAPS

Our goal is to enjoy the game of golf in a competitive yet fun atmosphere while preserving the integrity of golf at all skill levels. By understanding some basic guidelines we hope to promote respect and adherence to the rules of golf. These objectives are not easily met without your help. Please take a few minutes to understand this process.

- How do we record weekly events? (see rule #7 above)
- How do we adjust our scores for course handicap purposes? (see rule A below)
- How do we post our scores for the USGA Handicap Index? (see rule B below)
- How do we claim our chits (Pro Shop Certificates)? (see rule #8 above)
- What do we do with our scorecards when done? (see rule #6 above)

A. COURSE HANDICAPS & SCORE ADJUSTMENTS

The USGA uses the [World Handicap System™](#) which provides the best method to enjoy a fair game by enabling all players with differing abilities to compete on an equitable basis. This is based on two basic premises:

1. Each player will try to make the best score at every hole in every round, regardless of where the round is played.
2. Each player will post every acceptable round for peer review.

The player and the player's Handicap Committee have joint responsibility for adhering to these premises. Therefore, all scores need to be adjusted in accordance with the [World Handicap System™](#) and posted in accordance with the [Rules of Handicapping](#).

Golfers whose handicap has been established (three 18-hole rounds or six 9-hole rounds – see rule #1) are required to reduce all higher than normal scores on a hole-by-hole basis before posting that score into the computer. The maximum score on any hole is **Net Double Bogey**.

Net Double Bogey = Par + 2 + any handicap strokes you receive

Example of score adjustment: You are playing at a course where your playing handicap is 36. This means you get 2 handicap strokes per hole. If you score a 10 on a par 4, you can only count an 8 on that hole (4 (par) + 2 (Double Bogey) + 2).

To avoid having to do these calculations, enter your score hole-by-hole into GHIN. Then, GHIN will adjust the scores for you.

Golfers WITHOUT an established handicap can only score par+5 for any given hole.

B. POSTING SCORES FOR USGA HANDICAP INDEX

It is each member's responsibility to post scores accurately, using the actual date that the round was played and the correct slope and rating. Even unfinished rounds must be posted if at least 14 holes were completed (or 7 holes for a 9-hole round). The score to post for the remaining holes is determined by "Par plus strokes as they fall." In match play, if putts are conceded, you are required to post a score that you would have reasonably gotten for that hole.

THREE WAYS TO POST YOUR SCORE

1. The Event Committee will post all event scores. Do not post these individually or there will be duplicates in GHIN.
2. Using the internet website at www.ghin.com: Log into GHIN using your GHIN # or your email address (create an account if you don't have one) Click "Post Score". There is also a mobile GHIN app that you can load on your phone.

NOTE: When posting just one 9-hole score you will not see that posted score until the second 9-hole score posted is added to your first 9-hole score. The internet GHIN system only adds two 9-hole scores to achieve an 18-hole score.

If you are unable to post your score online, please try posting your score in the Pro Shop's computer at a later time. If it's at a different course, remember to select that course. The GHIN site and app have a Handicap Calculator available to convert your USGA Handicap Index to a course handicap for any course.

If you have any questions or problems regarding your handicap, contact the EWGA board at ewgamn@gmail.com.