

SHWGC HOLE HANDICAP PROJECT

EXPLANATION OF THE PROCESS

With the reversal of the Front and Back Nine Holes of the Shadow Hills South Course, the SHWGC decided it would be a good time to review and, if indicated, update our Hole Handicap Allocations.

The committee (Sue Weiss and Karla Fuller) handled the data entry, mathematical evaluation and the preliminary hole handicapping. Oversight review and recommendations were provided by Grace Hutchings. The committee was guided by the **USGA Handicap System Manual** suggestions for *Allocation of Handicap Strokes*.

FROM THE USGA HANDICAP SYSTEM MANUAL:

The basic principle of allocating handicap strokes is to equalize the abilities of players at different handicap levels. *A handicap stroke should be an equalizer rather than a winning stroke and should be available on a hole where it most likely will be needed by the higher-handicapped player to obtain a half in singles or four-ball match play. The Handicap Committee should use good judgment when reviewing the course hole-by-hole. **Difficulty in making par on a hole is not an effective indicator of the need for a stroke.***

OUR PROCESS:

1. Scorecards for golfers who played from the gold tees were collected from the 2016-2017 SHWGC season. (The manual recommends that the evaluation be done on the most commonly used set of tees).
 - a. 956 sets of scores were used to do the analysis.
 - b. Over 298 lines of data were included for each of three handicap groups: 0-18, 19-25, 26-41).
 - c. The 0-18 handicaps were used to represent the Low Handicap Group for the two comparison methods (which compare results from a "Low Handicap Group" and a "High Handicap" group). The 0-18 handicaps represented over 25% of our cards, which the 0-16 group were only represented in 18% of our cards. We also felt that this 0-18 range is a good representation of the lower handicaps in our Club. The table below shows the percentage of cards from the handicap ranges.

Range	Count	%Total
0-18	299	31%
19-25	335	35%
26-41	322	34%
All	956	100%

(0-16=174; 17-18=125)

2. The data was evaluated using the three USGA recommended methods: Regression Method, Comparison Method, Relation to Par Method.
3. In addition to assessing the course using the USGA methods, several "common sense" and "course knowledge" techniques were used, especially for holes which were close:
 - a. Standard Deviation.
 - b. Length (distance) of hole and distance/stroke.
 - c. Number of times the score for a hole was >7 for each of the three groups of players.
4. The committee also took the recommendation from the USGA that the odd numbered Handicap Allocation should be assigned to the Front Nine.

Here is the resulting Hole Handicap Allocation recommended by the committee:

HOLE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
PAR	4	4	5	4	3	5	3	4	4	4	5	3	5	4	4	3	3	4
CURRENT ALLOCATION	6	8	4	14	16	2	18	12	10	11	9	15	5	3	13	17	7	1
Current Allocation Adjusted for odd/even	5	7	3	13	15	1	17	11	9	12	10	16	6	4	14	18	8	2
PROPOSED 2017 ALLOCATION	11	5	7	13	15	1	17	9	3	8	6	16	12	4	18	14	10	2