

SHWGC  
TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES  
2017-2018

**TIE GUIDELINES**

- The USGA recommends settling ties with a **playoff** of at least three holes for stroke play. If the competition is still tied, a hole-by-hole (sudden death) playoff may be used.
  - if the play-off is less than 18 holes, the percentage of 18 holes played should be applied to the players' handicaps to determine their play-off handicaps. Handicap stroke fractions of one half stroke or more should count as a full stroke and any lesser fraction should be disregarded.
- **If a play-off of any type is not feasible, matching score cards is recommended.** An acceptable method of matching cards is to determine the winner on the basis of the best score for the last nine holes. If the tying players have the same score for the last nine, determine the winner on the basis of the last six holes, last three holes and finally the 18th hole. If this method is used in a competition with a multiple tee start, it is recommended that the "last nine holes, last six holes, etc." is considered to be holes 10-18, 13-18, etc.

Compare...

Gross score for last 9 holes minus one-half handicap; if still tied  
continue

Gross score for last 6 holes minus one-third handicap; if still tied  
continue

Gross score for last 3 holes minus one-sixth handicap; if still tied  
continue

Gross score for 18th hole minus one-eighteenth handicap

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Page 160, USGA Rules of Golf states:

10. How to Decide Ties

In both match play and stroke play, a tie can be an acceptable result. However, when it is desired to have a sole winner, the Committee has the authority, under Rule 33-6, to determine how and when a tie is decided. The decision should be published in advance.

The USGA recommends:

Stroke Play

(a) In the event of a tie in a scratch stroke-play competition, a play-off is recommended. The play-off may be over 18 holes or a smaller number of holes as specified by the Committee. If that is not feasible or there is still a

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tie, a hole-by-hole play-off is recommended.

(c) If a play-off of any type is not feasible, matching score cards is recommended. The method of matching cards should be announced in advance and should also provide what will happen if this procedure does not produce a winner. An acceptable method of matching cards is to determine the winner on the basis of the best score for the last nine holes. If the tying players have the same score for the last nine, determine the winner on the basis of the last six holes, last three holes and finally the 18<sup>th</sup> hole. If this method is used in a competition with a multiple tee start, it is recommended that the "last nine holes, last six holes, etc." is considered to be holes 10-18, 13-18, etc.

Tie breaker methodology will be included on the weekly game sheet.