

# ***SILVERBELL GOLF CLUB***

## **HANDICAP POLICY**

In accordance with the USGA Handicap System Guidelines, the Handicap Committee of Silverbell Golf Club has established a Handicap Policy. It is the responsibility of the Handicap Committee to stress to members the importance of reporting all acceptable scores and to insure the integrity of the Handicap Indexes issued.

It is the responsibility of the player that all eligible scores are posted in a timely manner through the Arizona Golf Association (AGA) Handicap Network. Scores may be posted on the computer in the Pro Shop. Silverbell Golf Club has authorized internet posting, so you may also post via your home computer through [www.azgolf.org](http://www.azgolf.org) Scores may also be posted on computers at other golf courses.

Silverbell Golf Club members are required to post every score played both with the SGC and outside SGC and maintain their handicap with Silverbell Golf Club through the AGA posting system. All players have only one AGA member number in the Arizona Handicap System. If you belong to more than one club, you may have several local numbers.

Eligible scores that must be posted

- 18 hole rounds at all courses with a USGA slope and rating and are longer than 3,000 yards.
- Unfinished rounds where at least 13 holes have been completed. When posting a round of less than 18 holes but more than 13, the score for unplayed holes shall be recorded as par plus any handicap strokes that the player is entitled to receive on the unplayed holes.
- 9 hole rounds (the system will combine 9 hole scores).
- If 7 to 10 holes are played, the player shall post a 9 hole score.

Scores should be adjusted before posting using the Equitable Stroke Control system. Please review the information posted regarding equitable stroke control.

You may contact any member of the Pro Shop or SGC board for clarification on how to post. Information is also available online through the AGA or USGA.

Scores should be posted as soon as possible following play. Handicap Indexes are updated on the 15<sup>th</sup> and the last day of each month. You may print out a card with the record of your last 20 games and handicap index in the Pro Shop computer.

If you have a handicap through the USGA GHIN system or another state system, your Arizona Handicap Network records must be updated so that your last 20 scores are included in your Arizona Handicap records.

The Tournament Director will post, on our website, all tournament scores for tournament events when the format allows. It is the players' responsibility to be sure to post all tournament scores including (outside club play) tournament scores with a "T" designation.

All eligible away scores must be posted with an "A" designation. If the away course does not appear in the Arizona Handicap Network, you should still post the score and enter the course slope, rating and appropriate tees.

Failure to properly post may result in adjustments by the Handicap Committee. The Committee may also adjust handicaps for a variety of reasons, including for a rapidly improving player or a player with a temporary disability.

If a player manipulates his scores to influence his USGA Handicap Index, the Handicap Committee may adjust or withdraw his USGA Handicap Index, depending on the severity of the offense. Examples of manipulating scores include:

- Posting erroneous scores;
- Stopping play before 7 holes to avoid posting scores;
- Repeatedly playing more than one ball to avoid posting scores;
- Deliberately reporting more or fewer strokes than actually scored;
- Not adjusting hole scores.

A player wishing to appeal an adjustment made by the Handicap Committee may do so in writing to the Handicap Committee c/o Silverbell Golf Club or by email at [silverbellgolfclub.com](mailto:silverbellgolfclub.com)

It is the player's responsibility to make sure his or her handicap or handicap index is correct, USGA Rule 6-2.

While the handicap system may seem complicated, it is designed to insure that all players can compete on an even field that is fairly and properly managed. In order to be fair to all competitors, it is important to have policies. There is much more to the USGA Handicap System than can be outlined in this document. We encourage anyone to review the USG Publication "The USGA Handicap System". This manual can be read on-line at [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org). The publication explains in great detail about handicaps, equitable stroke control, penalties, course ratings and other decisions.

It is the intent of the Handicap Committee to insure that competitions at Silverbell Golf Club are fair and enjoyable for all participants and to avoid errors made purposely or accidentally by providing a policy and communicating about handicap issues.