

2017



Members Manual

Members Manual

Welcome to Mabuhay Golf Club! You have joined a group of people who enjoy playing golf together at different courses in the Bay Area and beyond. Mabuhay Golf Club was started in 1967 and today membership exceeds 85 members.

I would like to give you information about how to go about getting information regarding MGC events. First and foremost your e-mail address has been added to our Yahoo Groups email network where you will receive communication regarding all events pertaining to MGC, such as announcements for tournament sign-ups and other events. You can respond to our club email address at mabuhaygc@yahoogroups.com and it will be distributed to all members to see and read. Secondly, our Club's website is www.mabuhaygc.com. There are a lot of information pertaining to the Club like the list of the Executive Board Members, information for upcoming tournaments, past tournament winners, history of MGC Club Champions, Match Play Champions and Players of the Year. In addition, you can download the Club's By-Laws, Members Manual and other useful information. You may view the pictures from our past Club tournaments and activities and you may also post your non-MGC tournament scores using the NCGA link by simply clicking on the icon. The website has been designed for ease of use and to provide useful information. If you still have any questions, do not hesitate to use the Club's e-mail address to contact the Board or other members.

MGC tournaments are scheduled monthly from March to November; however our golfing season runs from November to October. The monthly tournaments are sponsored by some of our members whose sponsorship fees go towards the cost of the trophies. In each tournament there are three flights or groups based on handicaps of all the member participants. The total number of participants is divided by 3 and each player is assigned to either Group A, B or C, depending on his/her handicap. Winners are determined for the two low-net scores of each flight. Trophies are awarded to 1st and 2nd low-net scores, points given to all participants, and bonus points awarded to the two winners in each flight. At the end of our golfing season, points are tallied and the member who garnered the most points is declared Player of the Year. All members who have participated in at least 3 MGC tournaments during the golfing year are eligible to play in the Club Championship in October. MGC's Handicap Committee makes sure our club tournaments have a level playing field by regularly reviewing each member's handicaps every month and strictly enforcing the USGA/NCGA Handicap Rules. Within the monthly tournaments, MGC has a Match Play tournament that begins in March and usually ends in October along with the Club Championship. We call this the Rey Singson Memorial Match Play Championship, in memory of one of our long time member. The Player of the Year, the Club Champion, and the Match Play Champion are presented a trophy during our annual Christmas party and Executive Board installation dinner and dance.

MGC members will also participate in NCGA tournaments during the year. The VP of Tournaments will announce which tournaments are qualifying rounds for NCGA tournaments. The Club pays all tournament fees for these events.

Hopefully I've given you an idea how your membership dues are being spent. Let me assure you that the Executive Board works diligently on the Club's budget and spends its money wisely.

Also in this Members Manual is information regarding "Local Rules". This document will give you more specific information that governs our monthly tournaments and internal handicapping rules. Additionally, I have included a "Contact List" for your reference on who you need to contact with questions or concerns.

Welcome and Mabuhay!
Greg Roja
President, 2014-2015
Mabuhay Golf Club

Mabuhay Golf Club
Local Rules Manual
2017 Edition

1. General

This Manual incorporates all the rules that the Mabuhay Golf Club has developed and adopted to govern its tournaments and golfing activities. These are called Local Rules because they grew over the years out of tradition, practices and decisions of its Executive Board, officers and Committees. In most cases, they are consistent with the USGA Rules of Golf and NCGA Rules. In cases where the Club's Manual is silent, we will follow the USGA Rules of Golf, the NCGA Rules, the rules implemented by the Club's Tournament Committee, and the Golf Course local rules. These Rules are unique to the Mabuhay Golf Club and continues to grow with time, the advancement of the game of golf and its technology. It is recommended that every member obtain a copy of the USGA Rules of Golf for reference to resolve any issue not covered by this Manual.

Purpose

As stated in its By-laws, "the general purpose of the Club is the promotion of a cordial camaraderie among the members to assure full enjoyment in playing golf." Knowing the Club's Local Rules and abiding by them will help ensure the attainment of that purpose.

Code of Conduct and Etiquette

The Club's By-laws provides that any member who deliberately and maliciously dishonors the Club, or any of its officers or members can be suspended or expelled from the Club. (MGC By-Laws, Article 2, Section 2.09) In this regard, harassment, intimidation, or physical violence to fellow members, officers, and golf course employees are grounds for disciplinary action mentioned above. All players should conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship at all times, irrespective of how competitive they may be. (USGA Section 1)

2. Tournaments

Traditionally, the Mabuhay Golf Club holds nine (9) regularly scheduled monthly Stroke Play tournaments per season and ten (10) rounds beginning in November and ending in October of the following year with the Club Championship. A Match Play Competition is also scheduled every year, which is played simultaneously with the Stroke Play tournaments.

Tournament Committee

The Tournament Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President for tournaments as Director and shall include 2 members appointed by the President. The Tournament Committee shall be responsible for the management and administration of all regular tournaments which includes among others, scheduling, implementing rules, selection of marshals, awards and prizes. The Match Play Tournament Director will manage the Match Play competition.

Participants

Competition in the Club's tournaments is limited to members only. Guests may participate however, in case of limited tee times reserved, members shall be given first priority and guests will be on the waiting list until a spot is open.

Pairings, Flights and Course Handicaps

The Tournament Director shall be responsible for pairings or assigning the players in each group, and designating a Marshal for each group.

The Vice President for Handicaps will be responsible for converting each player's Handicap Index to the appropriate Course Handicap based on the golf course rating and slope. Three Flights will be created with approximately the same number of players and range of Course Handicaps in each flight.

USGA/NCGA Handicap Index

In order to compete in the Club's tournaments, a player must have an established USGA/NCGA Handicap Index. However, a new member with established USGA/NCGA Handicap Index from another club must play two MGC tournaments within one year as a member to be eligible to participate in monthly tournaments and to qualify for the Club Championship and Match Play Championship. Returning members with no current NCGA Handicap Index will play with no handicap, NH. The USGA Handicap System provides Course Handicaps for players regardless of ability, and adjusts a player's Handicap Index up or down as one's game changes. NCGA Handicap Manual Section 1-1) A Handicap Index is converted to a Course Handicap for competition from a particular set of tees using a Course Handicap Table. The Table is posted on the wall near the computer terminal of every area golf course.

It is the Club's policy to limit the maximum course handicap to 28 for any player competing in the Club's tournaments. New members may be allowed to participate in Club tournaments but are not eligible to win until they have played in their 3rd MGC tournament. Those not eligible to compete for a trophy are eligible for "closest to the pin" prizes. The MGC Handicap Committee will assign new members with no official handicap index a temporary handicap based on the members' two previously played MGC tournament rounds.

Entry Fees - The Board of Directors will decide the entry fees for each tournament. The entry fees must be reasonable and not a burden to the members.

Speed of Play - It is the responsibility of each player to keep up the pace of play. Each group is expected to complete a round in 4 1/2 to 5 hours. To achieve this goal, each group must keep up with the group in front of it. The golf course marshals may ask the group to speed up, pick up and go to the next tee, or leave the golf course. Each golf course has its own policy.

Provisional Ball - If a player believes his ball may be lost or is out of bounds, he should play a provisional ball after declaring his intention to the other players. Player shall identify second ball (brand & number) played so that there is no confusion if both balls are near each other, etc. Failure to declare clearly will result in treating any ball found inbounds as the provisional ball.

Lost Ball -The maximum time permitted for searching a lost ball is five minutes.

Play Ready Golf - For our tournaments, the policy is "Ready Golf." This means simply that whoever is ready must play his/her shot first, provided there is no risk of physical injury to other players.

Hole All Putts, No "Gimme" - All Club tournaments must be played with no "gimme" putts. A two- stroke penalty will be assessed for not putting out per USGA Rules.

No practice putting is allowed at anytime during tournament rounds.

Play the Ball “As it Lies,” or “Summer Rules” – All Club tournaments are played in accordance with “Summer Rules,” unless the Tournament Director decides in advance that “Winter Rules” apply.

Marshals - The Tournament Director assigns a Marshal to each group who is responsible for ensuring speed of play, enforcing tournament rules, resolving disputes and submitting accurately tallied and properly signed scorecards.

Disputes - In case of a dispute during a round, the Marshal assigned to the group must try to resolve the dispute before the next tee. If no agreement is reached the players involved in the dispute must be advised by the Marshal to stop arguments, and continue to play. The Marshal will mark the hole and report the dispute to the Tournament officials at the score table for resolution prior to submitting the official scorecard. The decision of the Tournament Committee shall be final. There are no appeals permitted.

How to decide Ties - The Mabuhay Golf Club has adopted the following rules to decide ties. Stroke Play - (USGA Section 9-5). Matching scorecards will be used to determine the winner. A playoff with Course Handicaps is used. The playoff starts on the LAST NINE HOLES using 50% of the each player’s Course Handicap. 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. One- half, one- third, one-sixth, etc of the Course Handicaps should be deducted from the score for those holes. Fractions of one-half stroke or more should count as a full stroke. Any lesser fractions should be disregarded. If the score is still tied, determine the winner on the basis of the FIRST NINE HOLES, first six holes, first 3 holes and the first hole with Course Handicaps following the same procedures above. If none of the above procedure produces a winner a COIN TOSS by any member of the Tournament Committee or designee will decide the tie.

Match Play- If the match is tied after the 18th hole, a count back will be applied to determine the winner, starting from the easiest handicap hole which is the 18th handicap hole (i.e., player 1 scores a bogey and player 2 scores a par on the 18th handicap hole, player 2 wins the hole assuming player 1 does not get a stroke on the 18th handicap hole). In the event where both players net scores are tied on the 18th handicap hole, the tie breaker will be decided on the 17th handicap hole, and so on.

3. Tournament Awards/Prizes

Champion and First Runner-up Trophy- Each Flight will have two winners, a Champion and a first Runner-up. A trophy or plaque is awarded to each winner at the completion of each regular tournament. In addition, the champion earns 10 points and the first runner-up earns 6 points. Others can earn more than 2 points as described below under “Points”.

Club Champion Trophy - A Club Championship Tournament is usually scheduled in the month of October to determine the Club Champion and the winner of the Player of the Year Title. The winners of the Club Championship will not be eligible to win awards for the tournament within the Club Championship Tournament.

Player of the Year Trophy- A player who garners the most number of points during the year through the Club Championship tournament will be awarded Player of the Year Trophy.

If two or more players end up with the same number of points after the final day of the Championship, the POY will be determined based on the order of the tie-break rules as set forth below:

Rule 1 - Most participation in MGC tournaments: There are 10 rounds of tournament play each golfing year. For example, if player A played in all 10 rounds vs. player B as having played only 9 rounds, player A will be the POY.

Rule 2 - Most First Place wins in MGC tournaments: If there is still a tie after Rule 1, whoever has the most first place wins will be the POY.

Rule 3 - Most Second Place wins in MGC tournaments: If there is still a tie after both rules above were applied, whoever has the most second place wins will be the POY.

Rule 4 - Lowest Average Net Scores: If there is still a tie after the three rules above were applied, the lowest average tournament net scores played during the year by each player will determine the POY.

Match Play Champion Trophy - Each year the Rey Singson Memorial Trophy is awarded to the Champion of the Match Play Tournament.

Cash Prizes - In addition to the trophy, cash prizes may be awarded.

Annual NCGA Tournaments - After winning the qualifying round, two to four players will represent the Club in the various NCGA tournaments held throughout the year.

Hole-in-One - In honor of the Club's tradition, any member who scores a "hole in one" during a Club's tournament shall be entitled to 50% (with a maximum of \$150) of his expenses for cocktails reimbursed by the Club.

Points -

- Flight A, B, C Champions = 10 points
- Flight A, B, C Runner-ups = 6 points
- Flight A, B, C Ties with Runner-ups (lost on count back) = 6 points
- Net score of par or better (non-champion, non-runner-up, and non-tie) = 4 points
- Any tournament played but none of the above = 2 points

Closest to the Pin - Every participant in the Club's Tournaments including guests are eligible to win the "closest to the pin" prize.

Tournament No Show

A player who has signed up for a tournament but later finds out that he/she cannot play must notify the Tournament Director via email message or telephone call at least two days prior to the scheduled tournament or he/she will be considered a "no show" and will be held responsible for payment of green fees. The same is true for players who do not show up on the day of the tournament. The Tournament committee shall have the final decision on the player's "no show" status if such player offers an explanation or excuse.

In cases where the Club has paid the golf course in advance for a specific number of players, any player who wishes to cancel must find a replacement to avoid being responsible for payment of green fees.

Handicap Committee

It is the policy of the Mabuhay Golf Club to maintain an equal level playing field at all Club tournaments by ensuring the integrity of the members' Handicap Index through its Handicap Committee. Recently, the Handicap Committee reviewed all membership posted golf scores for Calendar Year 2010 and during the first few months of 2011. The majority of members have consistently posted their adjusted non-tournament scores. However, there are still a small number of members that have not posted any non-tournament scores or have posted very few scores based upon their continued play. A basic premise underlies the USGA Handicap System, namely that every player will try to make the best score at each hole in every round, regardless of where the round is played, and that the player will post every acceptable round for peer review.

The purpose of the Handicap System is to make the game of golf more enjoyable by enabling golfers of differing abilities to compete on an equitable basis. Thus, it is the Handicap Committee's responsibility to monitor the voluntary postings and tournament scores of all our members especially those whose tournament scores are below their voluntary postings. All of us are capable of playing well and scoring well and the Executive Board would like to remind everyone that the Handicap Index is an indication of your potential ability to play and score your best. The Handicap Committee realizes that there may be a myriad of factors delaying posting your golf scores. Such as:

- Medical – Sick / Injures
- Vacation (out of the country)
- Personal Issues / Family / Finances
- Unfamiliarity with the NCGA posting database
- Unable to recall your GHIN number, etc.

As a friendly reminder, we ask that you post your adjusted scores voluntarily each time you go out and play golf. The Handicap Committee also encourages every member to make sure that every player in the group also posts his/her adjusted scores. Needless to say, it is every member of our golf club's duty to preserve the integrity of the game. Please feel free to contact the VP of Handicaps if you have any problems posting your non-tournament adjusted scores.

Adjustment of Non-Tournament Scores

Are you aware that you have to adjust your score according to your current Handicap Index before posting? The USGA has rules on how to adjust your score before posting. On the Mabuhay Golf Club website home page, there is a table entitled, "Equitable Stroke Control" (ESC) that you should follow when posting your scores, depending on your current Handicap Index. The (ESC) is the downward adjustment of individual hole scores for handicap purposes in order to make handicaps more representative of a player's potential ability. The (ESC) sets a maximum number that a player can post on any hole depending on the player's course handicap. Equitable Stroke Control is used only when a player's actual score exceeds his/her maximum number based on the table below:

9 or Less:	Cannot post more than a double bogey on any hole
10 – 19:	Cannot post more than a (7) on any hole
20 – 29:	Cannot post more than a (8) on any hole
30 – 39:	Cannot post more than a (9) on any hole
40 or more:	Cannot post more than a (10) on any hole

No course handicap adjustment will be granted to members who do not voluntarily post their adjusted non-tournament scores as shown by the NCGA database. These members will play to their NCGA / USGA Handicap Index regardless of the golf course Slope Rating where the specific MGC tournament is held. The Handicap Committee will give particular attention to a player's Handicap Index followed by a modifier "R". The "R" means the player's index has been automatically "Reduced" by the NCGA / USGA GHIN System Program and is used by the NCGA to alert the member's club of its action.

Posting of Scores

All scores must be posted except the following: [NCGA Handicap Manual Section 5](#)

- When fewer than 7 holes are played
- When a majority of the holes are not played in accordance with the principles of the Rules of Golf
- When the length of the golf course is less than 3,000 yards for 18 holes
- When, as a condition of the competition, the maximum number of clubs allowed is less than 14, or types of clubs are limited as for example, in a competition that allows only iron clubs
- When scores are made on a course with no USGA course or slope rating. Example: Some courses in the Philippines and foreign countries (check the scorecard or pro shop)
- The Handicap VP posts the Mabuhay Golf Club Tournament scores in the Club's computer database as a tournament "T" score

If 13 or more holes are played, the member shall post an 18-hole score. If 7 to 12 holes are played; the member shall post a nine-hole score.

Posting Nine-Hole Scores:

Nine-hole scores must meet the following conditions:

- The course must have a nine-hole USGA Course & Slope Rating
- Nine-hole scores shall not be designated as "T" scores
- Two nine-hole scores combined to create an 18-hole score should be designated with the letter "C"

10.3 Reduction of Handicap Index Based on Exceptional Tournament Scores:

The following procedure must be used as an alternate calculation of a Handicap Index for players with two or more eligible tournament scores. A player's Handicap Index may be reduced under this procedure when a player has a minimum of two eligible tournament score differentials that are at least 3.0 better than the player's Handicap Index calculated under Section 10.2. The Handicap Committee must apply the following steps to determine if there is a reduction in Handicap Index calculated under Section 10.2

Example: A player with a Handicap Index of 17.3 has three eligible tournament scores, an 82T, 83T & 85T within one year. Two of these eligible tournament scores, and 82T & 83T, produce the lowest tournament score differentials. They were made on a course with a USGA Course Rating of 70.6 & a Slope Rating of 130.

Step 1: Calculate tournament score differentials by subtracting the USGA Course Rating from each eligible tournament score; multiply the result by 113, and divide by the Slope Rating for each course played. Select the two lowest eligible tournament score differentials.

$$82T - (82 - 70.6) \times 113 / 130 = 9.9$$

$$83T - (83 - 70.6) \times 113 / 130 = 10.8$$

$$85T - (85 - 70.6) \times 113 / 130 = 12.5$$

Step 2: Subtract the second lowest differential from the Handicap Index under Section 10.2. Continue with the next step if the result is 3.0 or greater.

$$17.3 - 10.8 = 6.5$$

Step 3: Average the two lowest tournament score differentials.

$$(9.9 + 10.8) / 2 = 10.35$$

Step 4: Subtract that average from the player's Handicap Index.

$$17.3 - 10.35 = 6.95 \text{ (rounded to 7.0)}$$

Step 5: Using the number (rounded to the nearest tenths place – 7.0) from Step 4 and the total number of tournament scores in the player's record (3), use the Handicap Reduction Table to determine the amount the player's Handicap Index is to be reduced.

Step 6: Subtract the table value from the player's Handicap Index. The result of that subtraction will be the player's reduced Handicap Index, provided that it is at least 1.0 less than the Handicap Index based on the formula in Section 10.2. The reduced Handicap Index is to be identified with the letter R when displayed in handicap reports or on the computer screen, e.g., 12.3R.

$$17.3 - 5.0 = 12.3R$$

The Handicap Committee will notify the player involved verbally or in writing if a manual adjustment is made.

Handicap Reduction Table

	Number of Eligible Tournament Scores							
	2	3	4	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	> 40
3.0 to 3.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
3.5 to 3.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4.0 to 4.4	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4.5 to 4.9	1.8	1	*	*	*	*	*	*
5.0 to 5.4	2.6	1.9	1	*	*	*	*	*
5.5 to 5.9	3.4	2.7	1.9	1	*	*	*	*
6.0 to 6.4	4.1	3.5	2.8	1.9	1	*	*	*
6.5 to 6.9	4.8	4.3	3.7	2.9	2	1	*	*
7.0 to 7.4	5.5	5.0	4.5	3.8	3	2.1	1	*
7.5 to 7.9	6.2	5.7	5.3	4.7	3.9	3.1	2.2	1
8.0 to 8.4	6.8	6.4	6	5.5	4.8	4.1	3.2	2.2
8.5 to 8.9	7.4	7.1	6.7	6.2	5.7	5	4.2	3.3
9.0 to 9.4	8.1	7.8	7.4	7	6.5	5.9	5.2	4.4
9.5 to 9.9	8.7	8.4	8.1	7.7	7.3	6.7	6.1	5.4
10.0 to 10.4	9.2	9.0	8.8	8.4	8	7.6	7	6.4
10.5 to 10.9	9.8	9.5	9.4	9.1	8.7	8.3	7.8	7.2
11.0 to 11.4	10.	10.	10	9.7	9.4	9.1	8.6	8.1
11.5 to 11.9	11.	10.	10.	10.	10.1	9.8	9.4	8.9
12.0 to 12.4	11.	11.	11.	11	10.7	10.5	10.1	9.7
12.5 to 12.9	12.	11.	11.	11.	11.4	11.1	10.8	10.
13.0 to 13.4	12.	12.	12.	12.	12	11.8	11.5	11.
13.5 to 13.9	13.	13.	12.	12.	12.6	12.4	12.2	11.
14.0 to 14.4	13.	13.	13.	13.	13.2	13.0	12.8	12.6

Handicap Index Formula

Handicap Index formula is based on the best Handicap Differential(s) in a player’s scoring record. If a player’s scoring contains 20 scores, the best 10 Handicap Differential(s) of the most recent scores are used to calculate the Handicap Index. As the number of scores in the scoring record decreases, the percentage of scores used in a scoring record decreases from the maximum of the best 50 percent. If the scoring record contains 9 or 10 scores, only the best three scores (30 to 33 percent) in the scoring record will be used. Thus, the accuracy of a player’s Handicap Index is directly proportional to the number of acceptable scores posted. A Handicap Index must not be issued to a player who has returned fewer than five acceptable scores.

The procedure for calculating a Handicap Index is as follows:

Use the table below to determine the number of Handicap Differential(s) to use:

Number of Acceptable Scores	Differential(s) To Be Used
5 or 6	Lowest 1
7 or 8	Lowest 2
9 or 10	Lowest 3
11 or 12	Lowest 4
13 or 14	Lowest 5
15 or 16	Lowest 6
17	Lowest 7
18	Lowest 8
19	Lowest 9
20	Lowest 10

Conclusion

During the upcoming months of 2011 the Handicap Committee will (once again) begin publishing the NCGA Scores Posted Report, which shows all the non-tournament adjusted scores posted by each player. The report will also indicate players that have not posted any non-tournament scores. This will allow every member of our club to perform peer review. I urge members to take particular attention to the scores posted by individuals that you play with on a regular basis. The Handicap Committee urges any member who has proof of any irregularity in posted scores to bring this to the attention to any member of the Handicap Committee so that appropriate action may be enforced. Refer to Mabuhay Golf Club Members Manual for additional information.

The Handicap Committee thanks all of you and may you continue to honor the USGA Handicap System for the good of our game and our outstanding golf club.

Sincerely,

John Warren
V.P. Handicaps
Mabuhay Golf Club