

Claremont Women's Golf Club Handicapping Policies & Procedures - Notice to Members: April 1, 2026

The Handicap Committee, appointed by officers of our golf club, is responsible for all aspects of the USGA Handicap System. Our Committee includes a Handicap Chair who has been certified by the Oregon Golf Association. We are obligated and committed to ensure the integrity of each Handicap Index we issue. In the interest of fairness, and because we are compelled by our license with the OGA / USGA, we will provide education as well as uphold the rules of the Handicap System. While this sounds very serious, these regulations are required so our club can assure equity in our games. More equity = more fun!

Our Committee is: Helen Pruitt and Susanna Lyon (co-chairs), Chris Ciciretto, and Anthony Wik.

The Committee has adopted these policies & procedures for all members carrying USGA Handicap Indexes:

- Each player will try to make the best score at every hole in every round, regardless of where the round is played.
- All acceptable rounds must be posted for peer review, including 9-hole scores.
- Scores should be posted on the same day of play and must be posted within 24 hours of the round being played. Scores must be adjusted properly for handicap purposes - for scores based on net double bogey of the new World Handicap System, for holes not played, and for holes that are started but not finished.
- The principles of the Rules of Golf must be followed.

All acceptable scores must be posted using the following method(s): Random audits will be performed.

- Posting computer at our golf course
- Posting computer at any golf course when playing away
- www.ghin.com or on the GHIN app
- Returned to the Claremont Golf Shop staff or CWGC Handicap Committee / Chairs for posting

Preferred Lies / Winter Rules and Adverse Course Conditions

The Committee has implemented a temporary Local Rule, in accordance with the guidelines provided in the OGA position paper, to address adverse course conditions. During the active season, scores must still be posted even when Preferred Lies are in effect.

The adopted Local Rule is as follows:

Relief for Embedded Ball

A ball embedded in the general area may be lifted, cleaned, and dropped without penalty, as near as possible to the spot where it lay, but not nearer the hole. The ball, when dropped, must first strike a part of the general area.

Definition of an Embedded Ball

A ball is considered embedded when it is in its own pitch-mark, and part of the ball is below the level of the ground.

Exceptions:

- Relief under this Local Rule is not permitted if the ball is embedded in sand within a part of the general area that is not closely mown.
- Relief is not allowed if interference from any other condition, not covered by this Local Rule, makes the stroke clearly impracticable.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule:

- *Stroke Play:* Two strokes

Players are required to earn a Handicap Index. No player has an inherent right to a Handicap Index without providing full evidence of ability to our club's Handicap Committee. The Committee has the ultimate authority and obligation to adjust or withdraw a Handicap Index if it deems it necessary to do so. To maintain the integrity of the game, the Handicap Chairs will spot check that members are accurately posting their scores.

The Tournament Committee has determined that the following event will be posted as Tournament Scores:

Club Tournament (August 18, 21 & 25, 2026)

OGA Season Dates, Handicap Revisions, Active / Inactive Season:

Handicap Indexes will be updated at the end of every day a score is posted to GHIN, as per the new World Handicap System. OGA active handicapping season begins March 1st. Last day to post a score is November 30th. Last official Handicap Index update of the season is December 1st. No local scores can be posted during the off-season, which is December 1st through the last day of February. Rounds played anywhere that has a year-round posting season (for example the sun belt states, Arizona, Hawaii) must be posted in a timely fashion throughout the year.