

## **Riverside Golf Course Handicap Policies and Procedures**

The Handicap Committee of Riverside Golf Course is responsible for ensuring compliance with the obligations under the World Handicap System in accordance with the Rules of Handicapping and the USGA. As a Committee, we will verify that acceptable scores are posted for handicap purposes and made available for peer review. The Handicap Committee will perform regular and random score posting audits throughout the season.

The Handicap Committee has set forth the following policies and procedures for all members wishing to establish and maintain a Handicap Index with Riverside Golf Course.

### **The Handicap Committee Member Seats and Role**

**Handicap Chair** - facilitate meetings, maintain and update record logs throughout the season on violations of members, apply any penalties or modifications, contact members as needed, assist in members reviews, participate in voting on decisions, additional work as needed.

**Vice Chair** - maintain and update record logs throughout the season on violations of members, apply any penalties or modifications, contact members as needed, members reviews, run meetings when Chair is not able to attend, participate in voting on decisions, additional work as needed.

**Board Member (up to 4 Members)** - will assist in member reviews, bring any complaints or situations to the board members, participate in voting on decisions, additional work as needed.

**Golf Course Manager** - will run meetings when Chair and Vice Chair are not able to attend, assist in maintaining and updating record logs, apply any penalties or modifications, contact members as needed, assist in members reviews, participate in voting on decisions, additional work as needed.

- \* Handicap Committee votes will be majority rules with a minimum of 3 members voting.
- \* If a vote is requested and a board member does not vote before the deadline, their vote will not be counted. Board members who cast a vote will be counted.
- \* The Handicap Committee has the discretion of what incidents that are reported should be investigated and which ones should take action.
- \* The Handicap Chair or Vice Chair is not recommended to be an employee of Riverside Golf Course.

### **Eligible Players To Hold A Ghin Handicap At Riverside Golf Course**

- Member of Riverside Golf Course
- In an established league that plays and is recognized at Riverside
- Purchase a 15 Play Pass

### **Active Golf Season**

The USGA and Maine Golf establish the active season during which scores made in Maine will be acceptable for handicap purposes. The Active season in Maine is April 15 to October 31 of each year.

Inactive season posting. When a player's home course is outside their Active Season, players are still responsible for posting scores if the course they are playing is in their Active Season. (Example: a golfer from Maine plays golf in Florida in January, the player needs to post their score). Any rounds played on a course other than the home course should receive an Away or "A" score-type when posting the score.

### **Ghin Handicap Benefits**

- Allows you to compete in Member Tournaments throughout the season
  - For those who are Riverside Golf Course Members
- Tracks your progress and reflects your potential
- Easy Score Posting - post scores on ghin.com, the GHIN Mobile App, and access to the GHIN kiosk in the North Proshop

## **Reasons To Establish A Ghin Handicap**

- Enables golfers of different abilities to play and compete on a fair and equal basis, in any format, on any course, anywhere around the world
- Whether you are playing match play, stroke play, Stableford or Four-Ball, your Handicap Index allows players of differing abilities to compete on an equitable basis.
- Many Tournaments/Outings require a handicap – In many different tournaments and events held at clubs, players are required to provide an official GHIN Handicap. This is often done to ensure that events are competed in a fair manner.
- Eligibility for local, state and national events

## **Handicap Committee Purpose**

- Ensure fair and equitable play for sweeps and member tournaments
- Handicap rule education
- Validate and enforce handicap rules and policies
- Communicate violations and adjustments
- Provide visibility and transparency

## **Handicap Committee Target Audience**

- Regular sweeps and member tournament participants
- Occasional sweeps and member tournament participants
- All members
- Review cases that are brought to the attention of the Handicap Committee

## **Players Responsibility**

- All rounds are to be played in accordance with the principles of the USGA Rules of Golf, Rules of Handicapping and state/local rules.
  - Rule 1 - The Game, Player Conduct and the Rules
    - Purpose of Rule: Rule 1 introduces these central principles of the game:
    - Play the course as you find it and play your ball as it lies.
    - Play by the Rules and in the spirit of the game.
    - You are responsible for applying your own penalties if you breach a Rule, so that you cannot gain any potential advantage

over your opponent in match play or other players in stroke play.

- **When To Post A Score:**

- Players are responsible to post all rounds played, including 9-hole and 18-hole rounds on the same day of play. Each player will try to make the best score at every hole in every round, regardless of where the round is played.
- If a player plays 7 - 12 holes, a 9-hole score is required to be posted.
- If a player plays 14 holes - 18-holes round, an 18-hole score is required to be posted.
- In Match Play Events: If you pick up you enter the score you think it would have taken you to finish the hole.
- When players are given putts during a round; enter the score you think it would have taken you to make the putt.

- **When Not To Post A Score:** There are 3 instances where players are not to post a score:

- Players playing in a scramble
- Play less than the number of hole needed
  - play 6 holes or less, do not post
  - Play 7 - 13 holes, post a 9-hole score
  - play 14 - 18 holes, post an 18-hole score
- Players play by themselves

### **Player Violations**

- Not posting a 9 or 18 hole score
- Not posting a 9 or 18 hole score on the same day of play
- Posting a late 9 or 18 hole score

### **Disciplinary Actions For Failure To Post A Score:**

All notifications will be made from the Handicap Committee. Disciplinary actions are outlined below. The status of violations will be reset at the start of every season.

1. First (1st) Violation - Verbal warning followed up with an email
2. Second (2nd) Violation - Written warning followed up with an email
3. Third (3rd) Violation - Index stroke adjustment to reduce your Course Handicap by one (1) stroke. Penalty to last 7 days from notification.
4. Fourth (4th) Violation - Index stroke adjustment to reduce your Course Handicap by two (2) strokes. Penalty to last 14 days from notification.
5. Fifth (5th) Violation - Index stroke adjustment to reduce your Course Handicap by three (3) strokes. Penalty to last 21 days from notification.
6. Sixth(6th) Violation - Index stroke adjustment to reduce your Course Handicap by four (4) strokes. Penalty to last 21 days from notification.
7. Seventh (7th) Violation and beyond - will continue adding an additional stroke and additional 7 days to the previous penalty received
8. At any time, additional disciplinary action may be applied by the Handicap Committee.

### **Handicap Committee Communication To Members:**

- The violation - date of violation and type of violation
- The next violation will result in a handicap adjustment
- The handicap adjustment
- The handicap adjustment length of time

### **Appeal Process:**

Members have the right to appeal a dispensary action to any Handicap Committee Member. The Committee Member will then report to the committee and the committee will review and make a decision on the appeal.

**\*\*\*\*During the 2023 season, the golf course will be posting players scores if playing in member tournaments or weekend sweeps. Please post all scores that fall within the requirements of posting, except Member Tournaments and Weekend Sweeps.**

Thank you  
Riverside Golf Course Handicap Committee