



## Windyke Golf Association

Dear Members,

The USGA states that “Policies of a *golf club* or an *authorized golf association* must be consistent with "The Rules of Golf" and "The USGA Handicap System." An essential element is the requirement that each *golf club* must have a *Handicap Committee* to ensure the integrity of the *USGA Handicap System*.”

The purpose of the *USGA Handicap System* is to make the game of golf more enjoyable by enabling players of differing abilities to compete on an equitable basis. The System provides a fair *Course Handicap* for each player, regardless of ability, and adjusts a player's *Handicap Index* up or down as the player's game changes. At the same time, the System disregards high scores that bear little relation to the player's potential ability and promotes continuity by making a *Handicap Index* continuous from one playing season or year to the next.

“Two basic premises underlie the *USGA Handicap System*, namely that each player will try to make the best score at every hole in every round, regardless of where the round is played, and that the player will post every acceptable round for *peer review*. The player and the player's *Handicap Committee* have joint responsibility for adhering to these premises.”

The Windyke Handicap Committee exists to support and uphold the above statements and ensure the integrity of the handicaps system at Windyke. Our goal is to maintain the Integrity of all Members' handicaps and increase the number of participants in Windyke Tournaments. The handicap committee reviews players periodically to see if

1. 100% of all postable rounds should be posted to qualify to participate in Windyke Sponsored Tournament's.
2. Tournament rounds are posted correctly
3. Winning percentages are higher than the USGA says is achievable
4. Any irregularities in posting patterns and trends.

The Windyke Golf Association Board of Directors has approved a *warning procedure* for Windyke members that states:

1. The *first incident* of irregularities with a players handicap will result in a phone call to notify the Member of the issue and a modification, if required, of his/her Handicap by the Pro Shop for that Tournament;

2. The **second incident** of irregularities with a player's handicap will result in the Member losing up to 50% of his/her handicap, a reduction of up to 50% of the player's point totals for season long point races and a tournament only index as defined in the USGA handicap system will be implemented.
3. The **third incident** of irregularities with a player's handicap will result in the Member competing as a scratch handicap, and a forfeiture of all points in all tournament races. Extension of the tournament only handicap index.
4. The **fourth incident** of irregularities with a player's handicap will result in a banning of all tournament participation.

If you have any questions about posting scores when you don't complete a hole because of the type of match your group is playing please ask any Golf Professional or any Member of the Handicap Committee on the proper method to score. You can also check out the [www.USGA.ORG](http://www.USGA.ORG) web page under handicap for information or order a USGA booklet "The USGA Handicap System".

Regards,

Windyke Golf Association Handicap Committee