



## WSGA Handicap Newsletter - Fall 2009

Last Day to Post Scores: November 15th, 2009 - Last Revision Date: November 18th, 2009



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### Special points of interest:

- A big 'thank you' to our 747 WSGA Handicap Chairpersons for their hard work and dedication.
- 74,600 WSGA Members. 175,000 PNGA Members.
- WSGA - The Home Course will be the assisting course to Chambers Bay for the 2010 US Amateur.

### WSGA Membership Dues for 2010

**THERE WILL BE NO DUES INCREASE FOR THE 2010 SEASON.** This is the seventh season that the WSGA has not increased Membership dues. The Regular rate is \$25 per golfer and the Junior rate is \$5 per golfer. Please remember that *Birth Date* and *Golfer Type "J"* must both be entered in the GHIN Handicap Program in order to obtain the \$5 Junior rate.

### 2010 Deletion/Inactivation Deadline

The Deletion/Inactivation Deadline for 2010 will be **April 30, 2010**. We suggest that you perform all of your deletions/inactivations as early as possible in 2010. Credits will not be issued for any member deleted/inactivated from your roster after the April 30, 2010 deadline.

### Off-Season Posting

As in previous years; if your Club would like to use the "Off-Season" (trend handicap only) posting feature in the GHIN Handicap Program, you must contact the WSGA Membership Services Department. By default this feature is disabled. Off-Season posting is available during our "inactive season" which is November 16, 2009 through February 28, 2010. A requirement when participating in this program is that a list of your members "trend" handicap as of February 16, 2010 be forwarded to the WSGA Membership Services Department.

### [www.ghinclub.net](http://www.ghinclub.net)

Through GHINClub.net, authorized club representatives can perform maintenance on their memberships' GHIN® records. Best of all, you can do this any time – any where! All you need is a computer with access to the Internet and a web browser. There is no need to use your club's GHIN computer to perform membership maintenance. If your club would like to use this service you can not be using the default GHIN program 'exit' password of g12345. You can change the 'exit' password in GHIN Management.

### WSGA Handicap Systems

As the golf posting season comes to an end, it is the perfect time to notify the WSGA of any issues or problems with the WSGA Handicap System located at your club. Did you know that the WSGA Handicap System which includes Gateway or Lenovo computer, Planar monitor, the HP LaserJet printer and DYMO labelwriter are provided to WSGA Men's and Women's clubs, not the golf courses or facilities? Since the WSGA Handicap System is the responsibility of the Men's and Women's clubs the WSGA would advise your club to insure the system. Upgrading of the GHIN and Tournament Pairing Program software and memory, on the WSGA Handicap Systems, will be completed before the start of the 2010 golf season. Notices have already started going out to those clubs still in need of the upgrade. Please contact Karen Gibbs if you should have any questions.

### On-line Member Renewal and New Member Signup

Via the WSGA website, and at **no cost** to your club, your club will have the capability to allow new members to join or existing members to renew their membership by credit card on-line. If your club would like to participate in this program, contact the WSGA Membership Services Department..

### eGolfer

At **no cost** to either your club or your members, any member of your club will have the ability to create a profile and login to eGolfer on the [www.ghin.com](http://www.ghin.com) website and keep track of all of their statistics (Fairways hit, Greens in Regulation, Putts, etc.) from their rounds.

### Need Help or Have Questions?

If you should have any questions or would like to participate in any of the services or programs mentioned in this newsletter, please contact the WSGA Membership Services Department at 1-800-643-6410.

### **International Golf Network (IGN)**

The IGN was established to allow individual members of IGN member associations to have scores posted in areas not using the same handicap computational service routed effortlessly back to their home clubs. If a member of your club is also a member of a club in another IGN member association, they can have scores played in each of the areas routed back to the other association. This is done by having information regarding the other

golf association added to their membership record at each of their clubs. Once the golfer's dual membership information has been entered at each club the golfer will only have to post scores one time as they will be forwarded from one club to the other. Should you have questions on how to use this service, please contact the WSGA Membership Services Department.

### **Active-Inactive Seasons**

It is the prerogative of each golf association to determine the period in which their members may post scores for handicap purposes. It is the policy of the WSGA that scores from rounds played in the jurisdiction of the WSGA are only acceptable for handicapping purposes when played between Mar. 1st and Nov. 15th each year (Active season). Rounds played between Nov. 16th and the last day of Feb. each year (Inactive season) in the same area are **never acceptable** for handicap purposes. Any time that a member of your club plays a round in an area that is still in an active score posting season, they must post the score even if their home association is observing an inactive season. When a member of your club plays in one of these areas, they can post their scores in several ways. They can post as a guest at the course where the round is played, post scores on the Internet at [www.ghin.com](http://www.ghin.com) if your club allows Internet score posting or if none of these options are available they can arrange to fax, mail or e-mail the scores to a designated representative of your club's Handicap Committee.

### **eClubhouse Renewal and Billing Dates**

To set up your Club's renewal and billing dates for the 2010 season in eClubhouse, login to your eClubhouse website as Club Administrator. Once logged in, click on Admin and then click on Billing. Click on the Edit link next to the 2010 season and edit the Renewal Date field. Next you will want to review your Club's Membership fees and

make any necessary changes. You are now ready to Manage your Membership Renewal process by clicking on Members and then Member Billing. **A document describing this Process is available; contact Karen at [karen@thewsga.org](mailto:karen@thewsga.org) or John at [johns@thewsga.org](mailto:johns@thewsga.org) or by calling 1-800-643-6410.**

### **Club Licensing and Audits**

Any club wishing to issue USGA Handicaps to its members must be licensed to do so. In order to become licensed, a club must meet all of the requirements listed on Page 54 of the USGA Handicap System Manual. While all WSGA Member Clubs are currently in compliance and licensed to issue USGA Handicap Indexes, the WSGA will randomly audit Member and Non-Member clubs each year.

**In order to ensure that the WSGA has accurate and complete information regarding your club, we are asking that your club forward the following items to our offices no later than February 15, 2010: A copy of your clubs By-Laws, a list of your clubs Handicap Committee members including their phone numbers and a copy of your clubs 2010 tournament schedule.**

The purpose of the USGA Club Licensing Program is to ensure that the integrity of the USGA Handicap System is being maintained. Should your club question whether a club is licensed to issue USGA Handicap Indexes, please contact a member of the WSGA Membership Services Department at 1-800-643-6410 or by visiting the following link on the USGA website [USGA Club Licensing](http://www.usga.org/USGA_Club_Licensing).

### **Preseason Packet Information Available on the WSGA Website**

During 2009, as Handicap Chairperson, you were asked to complete our Handicap Chairperson Information and Pre-Season Packet Distribution Form. One of the options on the form, asked if you would be interested in 'downloading' the pre-season

packet from our website. Many of you responded with "yes". Beginning in February of 2010, the pre-season packet will be available on our website [www.thewsga.org](http://www.thewsga.org). You will be required to login to a secure page. Login information will be distributed before February 1, 2010.



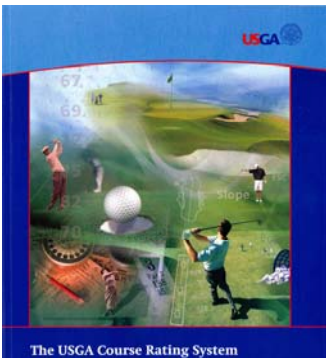
**Did you know?** The WSGA is the governing body in Washington State for administering the USGA Handicap System and ensuring the integrity of our handicaps in all local, regional and national competitions.



The WSGA has announced that Ben Grinspan has been elected its new president. The announcement was made October 31 at the WSGA Annual Meeting held at Tacoma Country & Golf Club. Grinspan has been a WSGA board member since 1992, serving as vice president of District 1, which encompasses the north end of the Puget Sound region and is the most populous of the five WSGA districts. He will serve a two-year term as president.



**Did you know?** Since 1996 the WSGA has contributed over \$437,594 to Northwest Turfgrass Research, which directly benefits the maintenance of all golf courses in Washington.



**Did you know?** The WSGA is the only entity in our state licensed by the USGA to rate golf courses and issue their USGA Course and Slope Ratings. This service is provided at no charge to our Member Clubs.

**Did you know?** The WSGA provides and supports all their member clubs with computers and other hardware necessary to administer the USGA GHIN Handicap Network.



### Mailing and E-Mail Addresses

As the inactive season approaches, it is a great time for all of our Member Clubs to review the mailing and e-mail addresses of each of their members. The WSGA does pledge that we will not sell or give any of this information to any third party or entity. Should you want this pledge in writing, we will do so if requested.

It is important to not only the WSGA, but, also your club that you pay particular attention to the mailing address of each of your members. You can run a mailing labels report in the Report Section of GHIN Management to find out what each of your members has listed as their mailing address at GHIN. Incomplete or fictitious addresses will cause issues of the *Pacific Northwest Golfer* magazine to be returned to our office at each mailing. It is our best estimate, not including staff time that to correct mailing addresses for returned issues, the WSGA pays more than \$10,000 for

undelivered *Pacific Northwest Golfer* magazines each year. Your assistance with this matter is appreciated.

In addition to the mailing address report, you also have the ability to print a list of e-mail addresses for each of your members. Should you do so, please make any corrections or changes, as an accurate e-mail address will not only allow your member to receive the bi-weekly eRevision, but it will also provide you with a very easy way of contacting your members when needed.

### Six Southern California Golf Associations to Join GHIN in 2010 - Northwest golfers to benefit from additions to handicap service

In a move that will have an impact on Northwest golfers who travel and play golf in other parts of the country, the United States Golf Association (USGA) has announced that six Southern California golf associations will shift to receiving support for their handicap operations to the Golf Handicap and Information Network® (GHIN) beginning Jan. 1, 2010. GHIN is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the USGA and provides handicapping services for more than two million golfers in 42 states and 69 golf associations, as well as two international golf associations. The Oregon, Idaho and Washington State Golf Associations, which consist of over 135,000 Northwest golfers, are among those who utilize GHIN in providing

their golfers with handicapping services.

Northwest golfers carrying a USGA Handicap Index through a club and association that utilize the GHIN service can effortlessly post and maintain one scoring record throughout those 42 states and 69 golf associations. With a large percentage of Northwest golfers who visit Southern California, particularly during the winter months, this ease of score posting is one of the many conveniences provided by the GHIN service.

In Southern California, the Desert Women's Golf Association (DWGA), Public Links Golf Association of Southern California (PLGASC), San Diego County Women's Golf Association (SDCWGA), Southern California Golf Association (SCGA), Women's Public Links Golf Association of Southern California (WPLGASC) and Women's

Southern California Golf Association (WSCGA) represent a combined 230,000 golfers. Southern California will be the largest region of clubs and golfers in GHIN's stable. During the past year, all six associations individually undertook detailed analyses of several handicap computation vendors before choosing GHIN.

**"With tens of thousands of IGA, OGA, and WSGA members wintering each year in Southern California, our associations welcome this change," said WSGA Executive Director, John Bodenhamer. "Golfers up and down the entire West Coast will benefit from enhanced communications, tournament administration, and the sharing of information throughout the year as a result."**

### Changes to the 2010 Handicap Revision Schedule

The WSGA will begin implementation of the 1st and 15th revision dates on April 15, 2010. The final revision on the every other Wednesday revision cycle that we have observed the last two years will occur on March 24, 2010. Once that revision has occurred, the next revision will not occur until 22 days later on April 15, 2010. The change will mean that the WSGA will have 23 handicap revisions in 2010 versus the 26 that we have had each of the last two years. In each subsequent year, we will have 24 revisions. See page 4 for the 2010 Handicap Revision Schedule.

**Please contact us at any time during the year to answer any questions that you may have. Our normal business hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.**

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**Did you know?** The WSGA uses the GHIN Handicap Network which is utilized by over 75% of golfers throughout the United States.

**GHIN**  
a USGA service

## 2010 Handicap Revision Schedule

Revision	Transmit By 8:45 PM	Revision Effective
Off Season	January 12	January 13
Off Season	January 26	January 27
Off Season	February 9	February 10
Off Season	February 23	February 24
5	March 9	March 10
6	March 23	March 24
7	April 14	April 15
<b>**INACTIVATION/DELETION DEADLINE – April 30, 2010**</b>		
8	April 30	May 1
9	May 14	May 15
10	May 31	June 1
11	June 14	June 15
12	June 30	July 1
13	July 14	July 15
14	July 31	August 1
15	August 14	August 15
16	August 31	September 1
17	September 14	September 15
18	September 30	October 1
19	October 14	October 15
20	October 31	November 1
21	November 14	November 15
Off Season	November 30	December 1
Off Season	December 14	December 15