

New Net Post system to be unveiled this summer

Members will need to re-register to post scores via the internet

The SCGA Handicap & Membership Department will unveil a new internet score posting system during the summer. The new *Net Post* system will replace the existing internet posting system and will provide several additional features to the *Net Post* user.

The most visible change will be that all scores posted through the new *Net Post* will be available

Member Alert:

If a member has previously created a Net Post account through the existing Net Post system, the member must re-register as a new user once the new Net Post is unveiled this summer.

within 48 hours of posting on all SCGA clubs' posting computers, as well as the handicap lookup section in the SCGA Web site under "scores current month" section.

The SCGA offers all member golf clubs the ability to authorize the use of internet score posting for members at no fee to the clubs. It is, however, each golf club's decision to authorize *Net Post* for club members. Approximately 65 percent of SCGA member golf clubs currently authorize the use of *Net Post*.

Once clubs authorize the procedure, each club member registers for *Net Post* and creates a password and *Net Post* account for posting. **If a member has previously created a *Net Post* account through the existing *Net Post* system, the member must re-register as a new user once the new *Net Post* is unveiled.**

Handicap 101: Figuring your course handicap, adjusting scores and posting scores

Q I recently joined the SCGA but no one has ever told me how to figure my handicap and post a score. What are the steps?
A First of all, welcome to SCGA membership. You should take the following steps each time you play a round of golf.

DETERMINE YOUR COURSE HANDICAP

Decide which tees you are going to play and use the Slope rating for those tees to determine your course handicap by using a Slope conversion table. These tables are in the back of the *Southern California Directory of Golf* and are usually posted near the handicap computer or at other places at the golf course. For example, if your handicap index is 25.5 and you're playing a set of tees with a 120 Slope rating, your course handicap would be 27. If you don't have an index (you'll get your first index after you've posted five scores), use the maximum allowable: 36.4 for men and 40.4 for women. If you're a 36.4 index playing a 120 Slope-rated set of tees, your course handicap would be 39. Then, tee it up, play quickly and have a good time!

ADJUST YOUR GROSS SCORE

Once you've finished your round, adjust any hole scores that exceed the maximum allowed under *Equitable Stroke Control*. In the above example, if you played to a 27 course handicap, the maximum amount of strokes allowed on any hole would be 8; if you played to a 39 course handicap, the maximum amount of strokes allowed on any hole would be 9 (if your course handicap is 40 or more, the maximum allowed on any hole would be 10). Remember that this score is for handicapping purposes only. If you're playing in a tournament, you enter your total (i.e., nonadjusted) gross or net score, depending on the conditions of the competition.

Once you've made any adjustments necessary, you're ready to . . .

POST YOUR SCORE

There are three ways you can post your score. The easiest way is to post using the handicap computer at the club where you played. These computers use a touch-screen system, not a keyboard. Once you've located the computer:

1. Touch the golf ball in the center of the screen.
2. Enter your six-digit SCGA member number; you do not need to enter the dash. Your name should pop up on the screen; if a different name appears or you get a message saying "invalid number," go back and enter the number again.
3. Post your adjusted gross score and continue to follow the prompts on the screen all the way to the end.
4. Once you've entered all appropriate information, the next-to-final screen allows you to verify and, if necessary, correct any information. Finally, touch "regular post" or "express post." Most people use "regular post" because the following screen will display your last 20 scores (including the one you just posted). The scores in red are the ones used to calculate your index and your trend.

A second way to post is through SCGA *Net Post*, if your club allows that procedure. Locate the *Net Post* listing on the SCGA Web site (www.scga.org/netPost/index.cgi) and follow the instructions. See the story to the left for new details.

A third way to post is to bring a properly completed scorecard to the handicap chairperson at your SCGA home club.

If you have further questions, contact your club's handicap chairperson or the SCGA Handicap & Membership Department at 800/913-7242 or by email: handicap@scga.org.

Paperless handicap reports now available for all SCGA clubs

New report system improves turnaround time and flexibility for clubs' handicap chairpersons

As the SCGA progresses toward a server-based handicap system, the Handicap & Membership Department has developed a new monthly online report handicap system called *Paperless Reports*. These reports may be printed and/or emailed and the information saved on any computer with internet access, thus allowing club handicap committees the flexibility of handling handicap matters at the club or away from it.

Among the most significant advantages to *Paperless Reports* is that they are available online approximately two days prior to the first of each month. The traditional paper handicap reports, which are sent via U.S. Postal Service, are sometimes not received by the golf club until well after the first of the month. Moreover, since *Paperless Reports* are available online, the information can be accessed as many times as necessary throughout the month or in later months.

Paperless Reports are available online through the Handicap Chair Web site and are cataloged online for a three month period.

Currently there are 175 member golf clubs that use *Paperless Reports* as the sole method to obtain the monthly handicap report information. These golf clubs have discontinued receiving the monthly paper handicap reports in the mail. The SCGA's goal is to have all of member golf clubs convert to the Paperless environment by January 1, 2007.

For more information on converting to *Paperless Reports* or to have questions answered, contact the SCGA Handicap & Membership Department at 800/913-7242.

International Golf Network (IGN)

Use IGN to post scores when traveling

If your summer plans involve playing golf outside of Southern California, don't forget to post your scores. The SCGA is a member of the International Golf Network (IGN), which allows individuals to post scores outside of their home association at the golf course computer and have the scores routed back to their home scoring record.

Currently there are 49 associations across North America which are members of the IGN (predominately in the United States). For SCGA members, some of the frequently used IGN computers are in Northern California, Arizona, Southern Nevada, Oregon, Washington State, Chicago District and the Golf Association of Michigan. To view the complete list of IGN member associations prior to traveling, log onto the IGN Web site, www.ign.net.

If the area you are traveling to is a member of the IGN you may post the score at the golf course computer.

On the front posting screen look for the words "IGN posting" or "guest posting." Enter your six-digit SCGA membership number, your score, date, proper course/Slope ratings and, most importantly, select the Southern California Golf Association as the association to have your score routed to. If at any point you do not select the SCGA your score will not reach your file here in Southern California. The steps to post a score may vary slightly with each association.

Once your score has been posted you can track your score on the IGN Web site. On the home page of the Web site select "Member Functions, Individual Member Score Sharing." Enter your six-digit SCGA membership

number and select the month(s) and year (current or prior) which you would like to view scores from. This information will confirm whether or not your score was posted correctly at the golf course and the score was transmitted to the IGN for processing. Keep in mind the SCGA updates handicap Indexes once a month (generally around the 25th of each month) so the score will not become part of your official file until the next revision period.

Another feature of the IGN allows multi-association members the ability to link their score files. The player must be a member of two participating IGN associations. Once linked, the member only needs to post a score locally and a duplicate score will automatically be sent to the other home association. For example, if an SCGA member is also a member of the Washington State Golf Association, IGN would link their SCGA file to their WSGA score file.

When in Southern California the player would post a score to their SCGA file only. A duplicate score will automatically be generated and sent to the Washington State GA to be included in the player's score file at the WSGA. To link score files, please contact Frances Nee at the SCGA at 800/554-7242, ext. 314 or fnee@scga.org.

Please note: if your score files are linked, any scores posted through the new *SCGA Net Post* will automatically be sent to the player's other home association (the current *Net Post* does not automatically link scores).

If you find your scores are not reaching your SCGA file or if you have any questions on the IGN please contact Nee. Safe travels this summer and don't forget to post!

— Frances Nee