

# BAGG NEWSLETTER

## February Edition

### Split Tee FAQs

**Q: Slope already takes into account the difficulty for different tees. Then why does one player get extra strokes playing from a more difficult tee?**

A: Think of it this way: two scratch players A and B are playing from Poppy 1 (66.0/125) and Poppy 4 (73/140) tees. Since they're scratch players their course adjusted handicaps are also 0. If both score 72, are they really tied when Player A played from a much easier tee? No. Player B should get strokes for playing from a more difficult tee. The number of strokes Player B gets is the difference of Course Rating i.e.  $73 - 66 = 7$ .

Similarly for a non-scratch player C, the slope rating aims to give strokes to turn him into a scratch player from that tee. Now for player C to compete against another player playing different tees, same adjustment needs to be made using Course Rating as required for 2 scratch players playing from different tees.

**Q: What's the super duper secret formula anyway for calculating strokes from different tees?**

A: There is no secret formula. Procedure for calculating strokes from different set of tees is



### “BAGG Doubles”

We concluded "BAGG Doubles" tournament at San Juan Oaks. Congratulations to *Hassan Firzok/ Ghufuran Ahmad* team for winning the tournament with a 10 shot margin. The teams were made using low handicap / high handicap through random selection on Valentine's Day. This match-up seems like was made in heaven - both players were firing on all cylinders and complimenting each other very well. With 2 net eagles (including a net hole-in-one on 12th hole), 5 net birdies, they left the competition far behind in their dust! Ghufuran attributes his recent improvement in game to a simple 5-step routine, which when followed result in great shots. More pictures from tournament have been uploaded on the website under the “Memories” section.

*Some highlights from the tournament:*

**USGA Based Alternate and Best Ball:** Both Alternate and Best Ball formats were played using USGA rules with no BAGG local rules. This required a change in strategy on planning the tee off order for the players.

provided in USGA's handicapping manual. In a nutshell, course adjusted handicaps for all players are calculated. The lowest set of tees that any player is playing from becomes the base, and any player playing from a higher tee get additional strokes based on the difference of course rating.

Additional Strokes = Course Rating of Player's Tees - Course Rating of Lowest Tees being Played

Final Handicap = Player's Course Adjusted Handicap + Additional Strokes

**Q: I understand all that, but I want real references and want to dig into more details!**

A: We recommend the following additional resources to check out:

*Handicapping FAQs - Players Competing From a Different Course Rating™ or Tees:*

[https://www.usga.org/HandicapFAQ/handicap\\_answer.asp?FAQidx=6](https://www.usga.org/HandicapFAQ/handicap_answer.asp?FAQidx=6)

*Setting the Proper Course For a Two-Tee Match*

<http://www.usga.org/articles/2014/11/setting-the-proper-course-for-a-twotee-match-21474873956.html>

*Competing From Different Sets of Tees*

<http://ncga.org/handicap/competing-different-sets-tees/>

**Simplified Rules Document:** We were able to achieve our goal to reduce the goal of simplifying tournament rules document to just 1 page. Big thanks to RC for their hard work on updating the BAGG handbook to include details on various formats along with other changes.

**Saving Private Chairman:** A life threatening situation ensued at this tournament. If it was not for Atif's heroic efforts, we may have lost an important member to quicksand mud. After deciding to take a mishit shot that landed in mud, Chairman found himself being sucked in. On hearing Chairman's shouts for help, Atif sped in his rescue cart (with specs of 0-60 in never!) to save Chairman. Only point of regret in this entire episode was that Atif failed to capture this moment with his camera to share with others.... maybe next time :)

### *Updated DRAFT BAGG Handbook Published:*

Thanks to the collaborative effort between Rules Committee and BC, a DRAFT version of BAGG Handbook was published for BAGG members to review and provide comments on. We've received valuable feedback from BAGG members and will be incorporating in the final 2017 version to be released soon.

### *March - 1st Major Tournament*



**"Masters" Tournament:** Registration for Masters is complete. We have 16 members registered to play BAGG's first major of 2017. This tournament is being played at NCGA's home course, the picturesque Poppy Hills. This is a fairly challenging course and to make it enjoyable for all levels of players, it will be played using split tees. Each player has a recommended set of tees based on handicap index. They can however choose a different tees, if they want.