



USGA Club Licensing Agreement

Term: January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2015

Instructions:

1. Form is to be completed by the Handicap Chair of the golf club.
2. Mail or fax completed agreement to the [Texas Golf Association](http://www.texasgolf.org) for approval.

Agreement to be signed by the TGA and kept on file for USGA auditing purposes. For a complete listing of authorized golf clubs, please visit www.usga.org.

Golf Club Name: _____

Club Code: _____ Number of members: _____ Date Organized: _____

Golf club address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____ Fax: (____) _____ - _____

Email address: _____

Club Web site (If applicable): _____

Handicap Chair's name: _____
(First) (Last)

Handicap Chair's address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____

E-mail address: _____

By submission, I agree to the following:

1. Golf Club meets the definition of a golf club.
2. Golf Club follows the *USGA Handicap System* manual in its entirety.
3. Golf Club meets all items in the club compliance checklist, please refer to Section 8 – page 50 of the *USGA Handicap System* manual.

Signed: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____

To Be Completed By Authorized Golf Association

To the best of our knowledge, we certify all information on this form to be correct.

Authorized golf association: Texas Golf Association

Signature of authorized golf association representative: _____

Date: _____

Eligibility Requirements

In order to complete the licensing process, each club must first meet the definition of a "golf club."

A golf club is an organization of at least ten individual members that operates under by laws with committees (including a Handicap Committee) to supervise golf activities, provide peer review, and maintain the integrity of the USGA Handicap System™ (see Compliance Checklist, Section 8-2m and Decision 2/7). A golf club must be licensed by the USGA to issue a Handicap Index® to its members. A club can obtain a license agreement directly from the USGA® or through its membership in an authorized golf association that is already licensed by the USGA and that has jurisdiction in the geographic area that includes the principal location of the golf club.

Members of a golf club must have a reasonable and regular opportunity to play golf with each other. They must be able to return scores personally. These scores must be readily available for inspection by others, including, but not limited to, fellow members and the club's Handicap Committee.

Each golf club must determine its own type. A golf club is one of three (3) types:

1. It is located at a single specific golf course with a valid USGA Course Rating and Slope Rating where a majority of the club's events are played and where the club's scoring records reside; or
2. Its members are affiliated or known to one another via a business, fraternal, ethnic or social organization. The majority of the club members had an affiliation prior to organizing the club; or
3. The members had no prior affiliation and a majority of the recruiting and sign-up of the membership is done by solicitation to the general public (e.g., Internet, newspaper).

Club Compliance Checklist

Does your golf club comply as follows:

- Meet the USGA® definition of a golf club as defined?
- Have a Handicap Committee composed mostly of members and chaired by a member? (Section 8-1)
- Make it possible for players to record the correct USGA Course Rating™ and USGA Slope Rating® with each posted score from every set of tees? (Sections 5-2 and 8-2b and c)
- Require the posting of all scores made at home and away? (Section 5-1)
- Require use of USGA procedures to adjust hole scores before posting? (Section 4)
- Require that nine-hole scores be combined and posted for handicap purposes? (Section 5-2c and d)
- Insist that the principles of *The Rules of Golf* be followed? (Section 5-1)
- Follow the revision schedule and posting season of the authorized golf association having jurisdiction in the region? (Section 8-3a and c)
- Ensure that all acceptable scores are entered correctly? (Section 5-2)
- Perform computations and adjustments in accordance with the USGA Handicap Formula? (Sections 8-4 and 10)
- Make current scoring records and the Handicap Index® of the members readily available for inspection by others? (Section 6-3)
- Reduce or increase a player's Handicap Index whose handicap does not reflect the player's potential ability? (Section 8-4b)
- Notify an authorized golf association when permanent changes have been made to the golf course so that the association can issue a new USGA Course Rating™ and USGA Slope Rating®? (Section 14-5b)
- Include the letter "L" after local handicaps which exceed the USGA maximum limits of 36.4 for men and 40.4 for women? (Section 3-4)
- Utilize the current USGA Course Rating and Slope Rating issued by an authorized golf association? (Section 14)
- Participation by a representative from the golf club in a USGA Handicap Seminar (whether conducted by the USGA or an authorized golf association) including passing a test exhibiting knowledge about the system?
- Have a signed license agreement in place with a local authorized golf association or the USGA prior to club issuing a USGA Handicap Index? (See Terms of the Agreement)

If the answer to all questions is "yes," the golf club is following the USGA Handicap System™, and may issue a USGA Handicap Index to each of its members.

If any answers are "no," contact the authorized golf association or the USGA to determine necessary action to achieve compliance.

The USGA will provide updated information and training via its Web site located at www.usga.org. It is recommended that the golf club take advantage of this information as often as necessary.

Once approved, the USGA will have an updated listing of licensed golf clubs on the USGA Web site, www.usga.org. A golf club must be licensed in order to utilize the USGA Handicap System™. Annually, the USGA Handicap Department will conduct a random audit of a number of golf clubs to ensure that they meet the requirements of the USGA Handicap System. If at any time a golf club is found to non-comply, it will then lose its privilege to issue a USGA Handicap Index and must apply for reinstatement.