

Modified Knuth Tournament Point System

While it is true that some competitors do play better in competition than they do in everyday casual play, it is the opinion of many that most competitors seem to not score as well in competition as they do in their casual rounds. There are competitors that finish near the top quite often, yet they never seem to play well enough to have their handicap reduced under Section 10-3.

In reviewing tournament results and addressing concerns, the indication is that Section 10-3 may not be doing enough to insure that all competitors are competing on any equal basis. If we assume that all golfers are abiding by the score posting guidelines established by the USGA Handicap System, then each competitor should have the same chance as the next to win in tournaments. For example, if you played in 100 tournaments of 100 players, each of you should win but once.

The system to be implemented is based on assigning points to Amateurs finishing in the top 3 places of the competition. The points will be assessed to all Amateurs finishing in the top 3 places of the competition. The handicap reduction will be calculated on an ongoing basis (two (2) year rolling points list.) When the most recent tournament is entered into the list, then the oldest tournament will be deleted and a new point total will be calculated.

Modified Knuth Tournament Point System Summary:

Players that finish in the top 3 places in the competition will be awarded the appropriate number of points as listed on the table below. When an individual reaches 8 points his handicap for the next tournament will be reduced by 2 strokes. The Knuth Point System, or KPS, is designed for tournaments of 50-100 players over a two year period.

If a player accumulates 8 points over a two-year period, their handicap will be reduced by two shots. Each four additional points earned by the player in this two-year period would result in an additional strokes being subtracted from their handicap. Note that the USGA Handicap Index is not reduced, only the handicap that is assigned to the player for that event.

In team competitions, all members of the team should receive the same number of points. Any member of a winning team is sharing in the winning experience, and Point System is designed to spread the "wealth" (winning) around to other teams over time. If a clever sandbagger is hiding his individual scores inside the team scores, he and his partner should be assigned points. Scores don't matter. The only thing that matters is the finishing position. If there is an innocent partner who also gets the points, nothing happens to his handicap until he has three or more high finishes. It is in keeping with the USGA's longtime philosophy that everyone can have one great round--you just can't have two great rounds without consequences. An "innocent" partner isn't so innocent if he repeatedly teams with a bagger who gives him a high finish. Let someone else win for a while.

Finish	
1st Place	3 points
2nd Place	2 points
3rd Place	1 point
Reduction	Point total
Reduction by 2	8-11
Reduction by 4	12-15
Reduction by 6	16-19
Reduction by 8	20
Reduction by 1 there after	21+

For more information on Dean Knuth and the Knuth Tournament Point System, visit www.popeofslope.com