

IMGA TEE BOX PREFERENCE

TEE BOX CHOICE PROCEDURE

Everyone has the choice to pick the tee box they wish to play from. You can change your tee box choice at any time of year.

Certain special tournaments such as member/guest, Ironwood Cup, Club Championship may necessitate the suspension of the “select your tee” option for those tournaments. No tee changes can be made after noon Friday for the Tuesday tournament.

Please email your tee box choice change to dsmith7018@yahoo.com.

COMPETITION

At IMGA, players have always competed, and been flighted, solely based upon their handicap index, not based on their assigned tee box, and that policy will continue with the new “select your tee” policy. For example, a current Blue tee player that elects to play the White tees, will continue to compete against the Blue tee players, based upon their handicap index.

HANDICAP ADJUSTMENTS USGA RULE 3-5

USGA rule 3-5 says that when players compete against one another from different tee boxes, a further handicap adjustment must be made. There is a formula for doing this, which is based on the differences between tee box ratings.

Ironwood’s Tee Box Ratings are as follows:

Blue 63.4 White 61.3 Black(Combined) 60.1 Yellow 59.2

WHAT IS MY RULE 3.5 HANDICAP ADJUSTMENT

We will be using the White tees as our baseline. Therefore White tee course handicaps are not adjusted, but all other tees are adjusted to the White tee baseline.

White tee players – no adjustment

Blue tee players handicaps will be increased by 2 strokes (63.4-61.3)

Black(Combined)tee players handicaps will be reduced by 1 stroke (60.1-61.3)

Yellow tee players handicaps will be reduced by 2 strokes (59.2-61.3)

HOW IT WOULD WORK

Typically, the difference between the Blue and White tees in course handicap at Ironwood is one stroke. Rule 3-5 would add an additional 2 strokes. So the difference between Blue and White tees would be 3 strokes for players of the same handicap indexes.

Our Arizona Golf Association's Tournament Pairings Program will automatically adjust everyone's course handicap each week for rule 3-5.

Based on our analysis of players moving to a less difficult tee box, the player who has elected to play White tees should record lower scores which will eventually lower his handicap index. Arguably we've estimated this to be at least two strokes. (see example charts)

EXAMPLE CHART BLUE/WHITE TEES

	BLUE TEE PLAYER STAYING ON BLUE TEE	BLUE TEE PLAYER MOVING TO WHITE TEE
Current handicap index	10	10
Current course handicap	10	9
Course handicap with 3-5	12	9
Lower scores-lower handicap	12	7

As an example, two Blue tee players who currently have a handicap index of 10, one picks Blue tees, one picks White tees. The Blue tee players course handicap becomes 12, the White tee players course handicap is a 9. After a period of recording lower scores, the White tee players index is now an 8 and his course handicap is a 7. The difference between White and Blue tees has grown to 5 strokes.

EXAMPLE CHART WHITE/BLACK(COMBINED) TEES

	WHITE TEE PLAYER STAYING ON WHITE TEE	WHITE TEE PLAYER MOVING UP TO BLACK TEE
Current handicap index	24	24
Current course handicap	21	20
Course handicap with 3-5	21	19
Lower scores-lower handicap	21	17