

# IMGA TEE BOX PREFERENCE

## IMGA POLICY IS THAT ALL PLAYERS CAN CHOICE THEIR OWN TEE BOX

With the implementation of the choose your own tee, IMGA has also implemented rule 3-5 which levels the playing field for golfers that play from different tee boxes.

## HANDICAP ADJUSTMENTS USGA RULE 3-5

Every two weeks we publish course handicaps for all IMGA players. However, per rule 3-5 we must make an adjustment to those handicaps when players compete against one another from different tee boxes. There is a formula for doing this, which is based on the differences between tee box ratings. These adjustments are made automatically by the Tournament Pairings Program that we use from the Arizona Golf Association.

Ironwood's Tee Box Ratings are as follows:

Blue 63.5 White 61.5 Black (Combined) 60.4 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 player's handicaps will be increased by 2 strokes** (63.5-61.5)

**Black(Combined)tee players handicaps will be reduced by 1 stroke** (60.4-61.5)

**Yellow tee players handicaps will be reduced by 2 strokes** (59.2-61.5)

## 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

## TEE BOX CHOICE PROCEDURE

Everyone will have to pick the tee box they wish to play from.

Please email your tee box choice to <mailto:dsmith7018@yahoo.com>.