

Colorado PGA
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 net tournament results and addressing concerns from our members, 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.

We have found this to be true in Colorado PGA Pro-Am events concerning Section 10-3. Our goal is to ensure that Colorado PGA Pro-Am team competitions are equitable and every team has a chance to win. Therefore, the Tournament Committee recommended and the Board of Directors approved the Modified Knuth Tournament Points System to be implemented in the 2017 season.

The system to be implemented is based on assigning points to Amateurs finishing in the top 5 places of the team competition, including ties in Colorado PGA Pro-Am events (excluding shamble formats.) The points will be assessed to all Amateurs finishing in the top 5 places of the team 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. The points list will be updated to the membership on the first of every month (April-October.)

Modified Knuth Tournament Point System Summary:

It is based upon awarding points to NET finishers in Colorado PGA Pro-Am competitions. Teams that finish in the top 5 places in the team competition of a Pro-Am will be awarded the appropriate number of points as listed on the table below. When an individual reaches 7 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 7 points over a two-year period, their handicap for a Colorado PGA Pro-Am will be reduced by two shots. Each two additional points earned by the player in this two-year period would result in an additional strokes being subtracted from their handicap for Pro-Ams. 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.

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Points Assignment Table				
<i>Total Players in the Field</i>				
Finish	Up to 20	21-49	50-99	100+
First Place	1.5 Points	2 Points	2.5 Points	3 Points
Second Place	1 Points	1.5 Points	2 Points	2 Points
Third Place	0.5 Points	1 Points	1.5 Points	1.5 Points
Fourth Place	0 Points	0.5 Points	1 Points	1 Points
Fifth Place	0 Points	0 Points	0.5 Points	0.5 Points

Then, depending on the number of events entered, the reduction should vary:

Net Tournaments Played in Two Years				
# of Events	8 or less	9-15	16-22	23+
Reduction	<i>Total Points Earned</i>			
Reduction by two	7	10	13	15
Reduction by three	9	12	15	17
Reduction by four	11	14	17	19
Reduction by five	13	16	19	21
Reduction by six	15	18	21	23
Reduction by seven	17	20	23	25
Reduction by eight	18	21	24	26

Events eligible for Knuth Points:

2015 Pro-Ams	2016 Events	2017 Events
Fox Hill Club	Valley C.C.	Valley C.C.
Valley C.C.	Ridge @ C.P. North	Blackstone C.C.
Todd Creek G.C.	Ptarmigan C.C.	Lakewood C.C.
Inverness G.C.	CommonGround G.C.	Ft. Collins CC
Lakewood C.C.	Inverness G.C.	Ptarmigan C.C.
HOF Pro-Am (Pinehurst)	Eisenhower G.C.	Ridge @ C.P. North
Ft. Collins CC	Cheyenne C.C.	CC of Colorado
Ridge @ C.P. North	Greeley C.C.	Inverness G.C.
Heritage Eagle Bend G.C.	Omni Interlocken	Eisenhower G.C.
Blackstone C.C.	Lakewood C.C.	Greeley C.C.
Cheyenne C.C.		Cheyenne C.C.
Greeley C.C.		The Ranch C.C.
Columbine C.C.		Omni Interlocken
Omni Interlocken		

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