



BSGS Golf & Tournament Rules

OCTOBER 2021

BSGS Tournament Rules:

1. BSGS rules are guided by The Royal & Ancient Golf Rules of St Andrews, Scotland.
2. BSGS is a social society and as such we retain and utilize discretion in application of rules, penalties and Handicapping in order to allow all levels of players to enjoy and compete. We lean towards giving any level of player a fair chance of winning.
3. Players should be aware of and play to the Local Rules printed on your score card and any announced temporary (e.g. Preferred lies) rules
4. All players must always play by the BSGS Competition Rules. Note: Some BSGS rules may vary according to the Tournament format, please refer to published format rules.
5. The BSGS Handicap rules apply. Please review latest version as published on the day or on www.bsgsgolf.com
6. All players should check that their BSGS **playing** handicap (i.e. Not Index) published on the Draw sheet and printed on your score card is correct before starting their round. If a player knows that his/her true playing handicap is lower/higher than the handicap stated on your score card, you **MUST** notify a BSGS committee member before starting your round or this could lead to disqualification from the competition.
7. For most BSGS competitions the male players are divided into divisions. The Divisions are based approximately, depending on numbers as follows;

A - Division (usually handicaps 0-18, playing off the Blue Tee's) and

B - Division (usually handicaps 19-28, playing off the White Tee's).

NOTE: The BSGS Committee aims to give all golfers a fair chance of winning each BSGS Tournament.

8. Players play off the designated Division tees as published on Draw sheet issued and scorecard. Alternatively, we may offer "Tee of Choice" for the Men (Ladies tees in Batam are not rated for Men and Vice versa, Men's tees not rated for Ladies).
9. The Committee decides the Division male players compete in when appropriate, by reference to a player's Handicap Index and a threshold may be adjusted. For example, generally an Index of 18-19 or less means A Division, above means B Division. However, other factors can influence our decision such as the resulting number of players competing in that Division.
10. The course slope and rating adjustments are added to your Handicap Index after allocation to a Division.

Ladies always play off the Red Tee's unless changed by the BSGS committee for any special competition.

BSGS Course Condition Playing Rules for the day:

1. All players should know and understand the BSGS Tournament Rules before starting to play. Please ask the BSGS committee member if you need help in understanding the 'Course playing rules'.

2. The 'Course Condition Playing Rules' should be announced before the start of play by the Club or Committee. If a player does not play to the correct 'Course Condition Playing Rules' this could lead to disqualification from the competition.
3. All players must play the same 'Course Condition Playing Rules' for the competition, for example, 'no preferred lies', 'preferred lies on the fairways' or 'preferred lies through the green' (including balls in the rough).
4. If preferred lies are allowed, a player/caddy can clean his/her ball and place the ball within six inches of the original position but no nearer the hole.
5. If your ball is in the bunker, the ball must be played from the bunker, unless the bunker is marked GUR (Ground Under Repair) or is flooded and deemed unplayable.
6. If your ball in a bunker, stops in a foot print (due to poorly raked bunkers), the player should ask his/her playing partner to confirm that this is correct verdict. If your playing partner agrees that your ball is in a foot print you may mark the position of your ball, then lightly rake the bunker and replace your ball in the original position.
7. If the golf club has marked circles on the green round the hole pins and your ball stops within the circle or substantially on the line, your ball can be picked up, but this counts as one stroke/putt.
8. If a player is uncertain about any of the 'Rules of Golf' for a shot just played or for a shot that is about to be played on any hole during your round, the player should first consult with his/her playing partner for a 'ruling' (i.e. is there penalty or not). If your playing partner does not know the correct ruling you should complete your round then ask a BSGS committee member (in the club house) for a penalty 'ruling' before finally completing your score card and signing the card. Potentially you can also opt to play a second ball as well as the first, under the potential alternative ruling and then discuss the situation with a Committee member before submitting your card.

Scoring & Scorecards

Please follow the below instructions to aid the results process :

It is important to **observe the following to avoid potential penalty rulings or even dis-qualification.**

These are standard requirements for Golf competitions.

1. **One scorecard** should be submitted per player (or team in non-individual formats).
2. **Score Card Marker** – per normal golf rules, **it is preferred** that players, before starting play, **exchange score cards with a playing partner.**
3. It is the players responsibility to ensure that the score card is **fully legible and written and signed** by them and a playing partner but NOT their caddy. If the nominated golf club representative or BSGS committee member cannot read the card, the player may be disqualified from the competition.
4. After each hole is completed, your Marker should record on your score card the number of shots you have played (**Note: +1, -1, 0, etc., is not acceptable**).
5. After finishing holes 1-9 and 10-18 the totals of each 9 holes should be added up and recorded on your score card. (**Note: this will help the BSGS scorers decipher the individual hole scores on the cards that are unclear**).

6. On completion of the 18 holes, the person recording your score should record your 18 hole total and sign your card in the 'Marker' box.
7. It is the players responsibility to check that the Marker recorded the correct number of shots for every hole on your score card, then the player must confirm his/her approval of the score card by signing in the 'Player' box.
8. On arrival back at the club house your score card **MUST** be given to the nominated golf club representative or BSGS committee member.

Results:

Results and scoring methods are at the discretion of BSGS in order to maintain fair competition for a social society.

Our scoring system calculates a System 36 which the Committee may use to check a players performance on the day and, adjust results if they see fit to do so.

Countback - In the event of 2 or more players (or teams) having the same score, the BSGS has adopted the following 'count back rules' to decide the final placings. Check to see if there is a winner with the best score on the back 9 holes (i.e. 10-18), then followed by checking holes 13-18, followed by checking 16-18 and finally the last hole 18.

Etiquette on the Course:

Slow Play

The BSGS committee want all players to enjoy the BSGS golf competitions but slow play can lead to frustration & lack of enjoyment, therefore, please play 'Ready Golf' and keep your golf game progressing at a good rate.

1. Groups must keep up with the group in front. If a gap develops you must play faster to close the gap. The BSGS committee request that the lower handicap players in each group take the responsibility to help any player play faster golf.
2. All players should be ready to play when it is your turn to play. (Note the **Ready Golf** requirement and **inform your partners** if you believe it is safe for you to play first.
3. When a group is playing slowly or looking for a lost ball you should consider asking the group behind to play through.
4. If a player hits a 'wayward' shot and cannot be sure if it is in play, the player should play a provisional ball. The player should not forget to state that they are playing a "provisional ball" and note the make of the new ball being played. If the player does not say provisional ball, then under Rule 27-2 the 2nd ball becomes the ball 'in play' and penalty shot added to the players score i.e. Second ball from the tee is counted as the third shot, even if the original golf ball is found.
5. Please write down the scores **on the way to the next hole**, not on the green you are leaving.

BSGS Committee 10.2021 v2