
Chapter 11

Glossary

1-2-3 Best Ball

see “Cha-Cha-Cha”

A-Player

A team’s “A-player” is the teammate with the lowest handicap, regardless of gender or the tees from which they play – the most skilled player. The “B-player” is the second-most skilled team member, etc. The A-player typically serves as the representative or “captain” of the team.

Many forms of team competition use handicapping methods that compute team handicap allowances as some portion of the handicap of the A-player and perhaps some portion of the handicaps of the other team members.

Adjusted Gross Score

A player’s Adjusted Gross Score is the player’s gross score adjusted under their handicapping system procedures for unfinished holes, conceded strokes and holes not played, or not played under the principles of the Rules of Golf, or adjusted under stroke control rules. A player’s handicap is computed from recent adjusted gross scores.

Allowance

see “Handicap Allowance”

Ambrose

see “Scramble”

American Foursomes

see “Chapman”

Banker’s System

see “Peoria”

Best-Ball

A “best-ball” competition consists of teams of 3 or more players, each playing their own ball at every hole. There are many variations, like Waltz, Cha-Cha-Cha, and others. A competition of the best ball of 2 players against the best ball of 2 opponents is called “four-ball” (see page 205).

When playing one best-ball of four, a handicap allowance of 80% of Course Handicap for men and 90% of Course Handicap for women is recommended. When playing two best-balls of four, a handicap allowance of 90% of Course Handicap for men and 95% of Course Handicap for women is recommended.

Best-ball scores can be determined as Stableford (page 215) or other point systems, rather than strokes. The team score remains the better of the partners' scores (in Stableford scoring, for example, the higher point score is better).

Bowmaker

A Bowmaker or Bowmaker 3-Ball, also known as a 6-6-6 or 3 x 6 Best-Ball, is a form of Best-Ball competition for 4 competitors, in which the number of balls to be scored at each hole begins with one best ball of the team on the first six holes, two best balls on the next six holes, and three best balls on the last six holes:

Bowmaker	
holes no. 1 - 6	1 best ball
holes no. 7 - 12	2 best balls
holes no. 13-18	3 best balls

A Bowmaker is also played with teams of 3, but is frequently scored with Stableford points when doing so to mitigate disaster over the last 6 holes when every teammate's score counts. Handicap allowances are typically calculated as 90% of Course Handicap for men and 95% of Course Handicap for women.

Bramble

see "Scramble"

C-Score

In the World Handicap System, "C" scores identify rounds defined as "any singles competition round, both 9 and 18 holes, whether played home or away that has been organized by the handicap committee". In contrast, General Play identifies "a casual round" or a round played "competitively, but not in an event organized by a Committee".

Some handicapping systems allow the combination of 9-hole rounds to be used in computing an 18-hole handicap. Rounds used for handicapping purposes that are constructed by Combining two 9-hole rounds are labeled with the letter "C", thus, C-scores.

Callaway System

The Callaway (or "Official Callaway") handicapping system was devised by Lionel F. Callaway to compute a handicap from hole-by-hole scores of

a single 18-hole round, ignoring some number of a player's "worst holes" based on the player's total gross score for the round. It is useful for computing handicaps for a group of unhandicapped players or for players with no playing history on which to base a handicap. The objective of the Callaway System¹ is to produce net scores in a range from par to the mid-70's. Occasionally, a net score below par is produced.

Calculated Course Rating

A calculated course rating (CCR) is the measure of the difficulty of a golf course from a particular set of tees under event-specific weather and playing conditions. The rating is calculated from the scores of the contestants relative to their handicaps and the Standard Course Rating. In parts of Europe, the rating is called a "Calculated Scratch Score" (CSS).

Canadian Foursomes

see "Greensomes"

Cart Sign

The printed card or placard affixed to a motorized golf cart identifying the participants assigned to that cart, their tee time and starting tee. Usually produced in a standard 5 ½" x 8 ½" size. Mulligan's Eagle can produce cart signs for your event.

Cha-Cha-Cha

A Cha-Cha-Cha, also known as a "1-2-3 Best-Ball," is a form of best-ball competition for 3 or more competitors, in which the number of balls to be scored begins with one ball on the first hole, two balls on the second hole, three balls on the third hole, then repeats for the remainder of the round:

Cha-Cha-Cha	
first hole (no. 1)	1 best ball
second hole (no. 2)	2 best balls
third hole (no. 3)	3 best balls
fourth hole (no. 4)	1 best ball
etc.	

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Similarly, a Cha-Cha alternates between one ball on the first hole, two balls on the second hole, then repeating:

Cha-Cha	
first hole (no. 1)	1 best ball
second hole (no. 2)	2 best balls
third hole (no. 3)	1 best ball
etc.	

Chapman

The Chapman System (also called “Pinehurst Foursomes” or “American Foursomes”) is a competition for teams of 2 players. It is frequently played with teams of couples. The format is named for Richard R. “Dick” Chapman (1911 - 1978), the 1940 U. S. Amateur Champion and 1951 British Amateur Champion, who collaborated in the 1950’s with the USGA to develop a handicapping method for this form of play.

In a Chapman, both partners play a tee shot at every hole from their designated tee. Each player then plays their partner’s ball for the second shot. The team selects the ball they wish to continue with and they play it alternately until it is holed.

The USGA recommends, for Chapman stroke play, a handicap allowance of 60% of the A-Player’s Course Handicap plus 40% of the B-Player’s Course Handicap. The Australian Golf Union recommends a handicap allowance of 3/8 (37.5%) of the aggregate (combined) handicaps of the partners. In Chapman match play, the team with the lower handicap allowance should play at scratch and their opponents play with the difference between the team handicap allowances.

Chicago

Chicago is a form of Stableford scoring, typically used in point-quota events, in which each player's quota is calculated as 39 less their Course Handicap. A team's quota is the sum of the quotas of its members. The competition is then conducted at scratch (without handicaps), using Chicago scoring:

Chicago Scoring	
2 or more over par	no points
1 over par (bogey)	1 point
par	2 points
1 under par (birdie)	4 points
2 under par (eagle)	8 points

The competitor's score is then determined as the difference between the points they have earned and their quota - negative values are allowed. A team or individual with the highest result is the winner.

Club

A club is a golf facility, like a country club or golf club which has one or more golf courses. Regardless of how many golf courses it has, the "club" is the whole facility. Mulligan's Eagle refers to a golf club by its name, and allows you to keep address and telephone information about the club.

CONGU

The Council of National Golf Unions is an association of national governing bodies for golf in the United Kingdom including The English Golf Union, The English Women's Golf Association, The Golfing Union of Ireland, The Irish Ladies' Golf Union, The Scottish Golf Union, The Scottish Ladies' Golfing Association, The Golf Union of Wales, The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, and The Ladies' Golf Union. In 2004, CONGU established the Unified Handicapping System (UHS) for use by members of all its associated organizations.

Course

A course is a 9-hole or 18-hole golf course or links, with its own unique name and characteristic sets of tees. A golf "club" might have one or more 9 and/or 18-hole golf "courses" available for play. Mulligan's Eagle refers to a golf course by its name (and the name of its club), and allows you to create an appropriate scorecard for the course.

Course Handicap

A Course Handicap is the USGA's mark for the number of handicap strokes a player receives from a specific set of tees at the course being played to adjust his scoring ability to a common level of scratch or 0-handicap golf.

Course Rating

In general terms, a course rating is a numeric measure of the difficulty of a golf course according to the governing body responsible for rating that course. In the United States, it's called a "USGA Course Rating™," the United States Golf Association's trademark for the measure of the difficulty of the course for scratch (expert) players. In other parts of the world, the governing body may specify rating values calculated or named differently. Course Ratings for 18-hole courses are typically between 55.0 and 80.0. 9-hole Course Ratings are about half of that. The Course Rating of an 18-hole course is the sum of the ratings of its nines. See also "Standard Scratch Score" and "Standard Course Rating."

Smaller Slope and Course Ratings may also be determined for short courses, or par 3 courses to provide a means of establishing a handicap from play at these facilities.

Danish

The great philosopher Bashō once wrote "A flute with no holes is not a flute. A donut with no hole is a danish."

Devil Ball

Devil Ball (also called "Yellow Ball," "Lone Ranger," "Pink Ball," "Money Ball," "Pink Lady," or "Pumpkin Ball") is a team game in which teammates take turns playing a single ball at each hole while the rest of the team plays another ball (Best-Ball, Scramble, etc.). The team's score at each hole is the total of the individually-played ball (the "Devil" ball) plus the team's multi-player ball.

If the team ball is determined by several players playing one ball (Scramble, Chapman, Foursomes), the team ball is handicapped as if all of the teammates participated at each hole, and the allowance is applied against the total score. If the team ball is determined from a best-ball or similar format, the net score for the team ball should be determined by the low net score of the teammates at each hole. The net score for the "Devil" ball is determined by the net score of the individual at each hole, based on their handicap allowance.

Variations include a special golf ball (pink, yellow, orange or specially marked) that *must* be shared by the individual players at each hole or a penalty for losing (or a bonus for not losing) the original "devil" ball is imposed.

Differential

A differential is the difference between a player's score and some standard measurement of course difficulty. The determination of a differential may vary in different handicapping systems. See also "Handicap Differential"

Eclectic

see "Ringer"

European Golf Association

The European Golf Association (EGA) is the governing body for golf in Europe, except the United Kingdom (see CONGU). The EGA publishes the EGA Handicap System, a golf handicapping system used by authorized golf clubs and golf associations to compute an Exact Handicap and playing handicap for each of their members.

Equitable Stroke Control (ESC)

Equitable Stroke Control was the USGA's mark for their method used to limit changes to handicaps based on unusually high individual hole scores. ESC set a maximum number that a player can post for handicapping on any hole based on the player's Course Handicap. See also "Adjusted Gross Score".

The World Handicap System adjusts hole scores recorded for handicapping to be limited to net double-bogey.

Expected Score

Under the Rules of Handicapping implementing the World Handicap System, an "expected score" is a calculated or pre-tabulated score or differential used to calculate an 18-hole score differential from a 9-hole round, or to estimate a score or differential for use calculating a handicap from a round with from 1 to 4 missing hole scores.

Four-Ball

Four-Ball consists of two competitors playing as partners, each playing their own ball. The lower of the partners' scores (gross or net) is the team's score for the hole. In medal (stroke) play form, the team's total score is the total of their better-ball scores at each hole. In match play, which is where "four-ball" gets its name, the winner of the hole is the team whose better ball is less than the better ball of the opponents. Four-Ball is well known as one form of competition played in the Ryder Cup. When teams consist of 3 or more players, the competition is usually called a "Best-Ball," and may have many variations, like Waltz, Cha-Cha-Cha, and others.

In stroke play, a handicap allowance of 90% of their Course Handicap for men, and 95% of their Course Handicap for women is recommended. In addition, the USGA recommends that the Course Handicaps of partners not differ by more than 8 strokes, and a competitor's Course Handicap be reduced to 8 strokes greater than their lower-handicapped partner. If that is not feasible, the Course Handicaps of both team members should be reduced an additional 10%. In match play, the USGA recommends that the Course Handicap of all four players be reduced by the Course Handicap of the A-Player, who then plays from scratch. The other players are allowed 100% of the difference.

Four-Ball scores can be based on Stableford (page 215) or other point systems, rather than strokes. The team score remains the better of the partners' scores (in Stableford scoring, for example, the higher point score is better). In combined gross and net events, a player's score at a hole may serve as both the better gross score for the team and the better net score for the team. In some forms of play (see *The Ritz*), the better gross and better net score must be from different players. In four-ball net events, the conditions of the competition should require that the gross scores of both partners be recorded to identify the source of a team's net score. Generally, a team whose net score for a hole cannot be clearly determined from the partners' gross scores is disqualified.

Foursomes

Foursomes is one of the oldest forms of team golf, consisting of two players as partners alternately playing a single ball. Foursomes can be played in medal (stroke) play form, where it is commonly called "Alternate Shot" or "Scotch Twosomes," but is more commonly played as match play between two teams (hence the name "foursomes"). Foursomes is well known as one form of competition played in the Ryder Cup. For foursomes with selected drive or "Canadian Foursomes," see "Greensomes". For "Pinehurst Foursomes" or "American Foursomes," see "Chapman".

The USGA recommends, for stroke play, a handicap allowance of 50% of the total Course Handicaps of the partners (ie: the average of their handicaps). In match play, the team with the lower handicap allowance should play at scratch and their opponents play with the difference between the team handicap allowances.

Foursomes with selected drive

see "Greensomes"

GHIN

Golf Handicap and Information Network – a service of the USGA used by authorized golf clubs and associations to periodically calculate USGA Handicap Indexes, provide for online posting of scores and search.

Golf Australia

Golf Australia is the governing body for golf in Australia. Originally founded as the Australian Golf Union (AGU), Golf Australia specifies and publishes the Australian Handicap System, which allows Australian golf clubs and associations to produce Exact Handicaps and playing handicaps for their members. Golf Australia also maintains a nation-wide computerized handicap system called GOLFLink, which allows scores to be posted and retrieved at golf clubs across Australia.

Golf Canada

Golf Canada – an association governed by the Royal Canadian Golf Association (RCGA) – is the governing body of golf in Canada, responsible for promoting participation in and a passion for the game of golf in Canada. Golf Canada actively conducts championships, programs and services throughout the country, and as the authority for golf in Canada, administers the Rules of Golf, amateur status, handicapping and course rating under the RCGA brand.

Green-in-Regulation

A player has a green-in-regulation when he reaches the putting surface in the regulation strokes (par less 2 strokes) or less.

Greensomes

Greensomes (also called “Foursomes with selected drive,” or “Canadian Foursomes”) is a variation of foursomes in which a team of two players play a single ball alternately after selecting a preferred tee shot of the team.

Both partners play a tee shot at each hole from their designated tee, then the team selects a single ball to continue, and the partner of the player whose ball is chosen plays the next shot. The partners then alternate playing that single ball until it is holed.

The USGA recommends, for stroke play, a handicap allowance of 40% of the total Course Handicaps of the partners (ie: 80% of the average of their handicaps). CONGU recommends a handicap allowance of 60% of the A-player’s handicap plus 40% of the B-player’s handicap. In match play, the team with the lower handicap allowance should play at scratch and their opponents play with the difference between the team handicap allowances.

Gross Score

A player’s gross score is the unadjusted number of total strokes, including penalty strokes, taken on a hole or during a round.

Handicap (hole)

The handicap of a golf hole, or “handicap stroke allocation,” is a number assigned to a hole reflecting its relative difficulty (1 being most difficult, 18 being least difficult) or the scoring differential between low and high handicapped players (1 being the largest differential, 18 being the smallest). Hole handicaps are used to determine at which holes players receive strokes in a handicap competition.

Handicap (your)

see “Course Handicap”

Handicap Allowance

A “handicap allowance” is the percentage of the Course Handicap recommended for a handicap competition. Allowances vary for different forms of competition and are designed to produce equitable competition.

Handicap Differential

A Handicap Differential is the difference between a player’s adjusted gross score and the Course Rating of the course on which the score was made, less any PCC (playing condition calculation), multiplied by 113, then divided by the Slope Rating from the tees played and rounded to the nearest tenth. Handicap Differentials are expressed as a number of strokes rounded to one decimal place. They are used to calculate a Handicap Index.

International

The International system, a form of Stableford scoring, was introduced into common use in 1986 at the PGA Tour’s “The INTERNATIONAL” at Castle Pines Golf Club in Colorado. The system uses points for scoring with a bonus for sub-par play. Points are awarded based on the player’s score at each hole:

International Scoring	
2 or more over par	-3 points
1 over par (bogey)	-1 point
par	no points
1 under par (birdie)	2 points
2 under par (eagle)	5 points
3 under par	8 points

A player’s competition score is the sum of their International points awarded at each hole. The result may be negative. For amateur competition using the International scoring system, handicap allowances are typically full handicap, but may be adjusted for mixed competitions or play from different tees (which might have different pars).

Irish Four-Ball

An Irish Four-Ball is a form of best-ball competition for 4 competitors, in which the number of balls to be scored increases from 1 best-ball of the team to every ball of the team:

Irish Four-Ball	
holes 1 - 6	1 best ball
holes 7 - 11	2 best balls
holes 12 - 15	3 best balls
holes 16 - 18	4 balls

The Irish Four-Ball is almost always scored as a Stableford (and is frequently called an “Irish Stableford”) and can be handicapped in any fashion typically used for four-ball or Stableford competition.

Junior Par

Junior par is an adjustment to par under the USGA Handicap System for junior golfers of various ability levels. Junior par provides a realistic standard against which a junior can measure improvement in his (or her) game until he (or she) is capable of measuring his (or her) game against par. Junior par is calculated based on hole yardages for golfers of different skill levels for both boys and girls.

N-Score

In the World Handicap System, scores for 9-hole rounds submitted for handicapping are identified with the letter “N”.

In some other handicapping systems, a 9-hole “N” designation is instead applied to an official 9-hole handicap calculated by those system.

Net Score

A net score is a player’s score after his handicap strokes have been subtracted from his gross score. A plus handicap player adds his handicap strokes to his gross score to determine his net score.

Nine

A nine is 9 related golf holes. An 18-hole golf course usually has two “nines.” A 9-hole golf course usually has one nine. Nines sometimes have names, but, if not, we give them names like “Front Nine” or “Back Nine.”

9-Point Game

The 9-Point game (also known as “9’s”) is a betting game for 3 players which can be contested with net or gross scores. At every hole, 9 points are available and a player earns points based on their standing vs. the opponents:

9-Point Game Scoring	
1st place	5 points
2nd place	3 points
3rd (last) place	1 point

Ties are shared at each hole. Thus, 2 players who tie for the low score earn half of the total 1st and 2nd place points (4 points each). Or, if all the competitors tie, each earns 3 points. There are 162 (9 x 18 holes) points available to the 3 players in an 18-hole game. Each player’s points are totaled at the end of the round, and payoff determined by the value of each point and the difference between the points of the players.

The 4 player variation of the 9-Point Game makes 16 points available:

16-Point Game Scoring	
1st place	7 points
2nd place	5 points
3rd place	3 points
4th (last) place	1 point

Two players who tie a hole with the low score earn half of the total 1st and 2nd place points (6 points each). If all the competitors tie, each earns 4 points. There are 288 (16 x 18 holes) points available to the 4 players in an 18-hole game. The most a player can accumulate is 126 points in 18 holes.

Penalty Round

Some handicapping systems allow for posting of a penalty score for a player who fails to return a score or for other reasons. The USGA recommends, if player fails to post their score in a timely manner, that the Handicap Committee post a penalty score equivalent to the lowest differential in the player’s scoring record. Eagle identifies penalty rounds on their scorecards and may report penalty rounds in handicapping reports.

Peoria

The Peoria System, also called the “Banker’s System,” computes a handicap for a single 18-hole round based on the scores of six holes, selected secretly by the tournament committee. Following play, each player’s handicap is calculated and their net score for the event is determined. The Peoria System is commonly used to compute handicaps for a group of unhandicapped players or for players with no playing history on which to base a handicap.

In a Peoria competition, two par-3, two par-4 and two par-5 holes are selected at random or from each nine. For calculating the handicap, the players scores on the selected holes are limited to double par (6, 8 or 10). The handicap is calculated as the limited total of the selected holes times 3, less par for the entire round, multiplied by 0.8 and rounded.

In a Modified Peoria, one par-3, one par-5 and four par-4 holes - two from each nine are selected. For calculating the handicap, the scores on the selected holes are limited to three over par on the par-3 and par-4 holes (6 or 7), four over par on the par-5 hole (9). The handicap is calculated as the limited total of the selected holes, less par on those holes, multiplied by 2.8 and rounded.

Pinehurst Foursomes

see “Chapman”

Player

A player is a golfer – someone for whom you’ll use Mulligan’s Eagle to keep track of scores and statistics – like you and your club members.

Playing Conditions Calculation (PCC)

The playing conditions calculation determines whether playing conditions on the day of play differed from normal conditions of play. It is a daily statistical procedure to compare submitted scores on a day to expected scoring patterns.

Playing Handicap

A playing handicap is the general term for the number of strokes a player receives based on his official handicap, the difficulty of the tees he plays, and the handicapping system under which his handicap is computed. In the United States, a player whose handicap is computed under the USGA Handicap System has a playing handicap called a Course Handicap.

Point-Quota

A Point-Quota competition is an event for individual golfers or teams in which some form of Stableford scoring is used to reflect the competitor’s performance relative to their established handicap. Prior to play, a player’s (or team’s) “quota” is established. Each player’s quota is computed as 36 (39 in a Chicago event) less their handicap (with a minimum quota of zero or some other agreed value). A team’s quota is the sum of the quotas of its members. The competition is then conducted at scratch (without handicaps), using Stableford, Modified Stableford or Chicago scoring.

The player’s competition score is determined as the difference between the points they have earned and their quota – negative values are allowed. A team or individual with the highest numerical result is the winner.

Multi-round Point-Quota competitions for amateurs frequently have quota “adjustments” after each round. A common adjustment is to raise a team’s

quota for the next round by half of the amount by which they exceeded their quota in their previous round (or conversely, reduce their quota by half the amount by which they failed to meet their quota). Fractional quotas, bigger or smaller adjustments, and upper or lower quota limits are common variations in Point-Quota events.

Press

A press is a wager or bet made at some point in a match that begins as an even match at the point of the press and has the same value as the match or bet that was “pressed.” So, if a player decides to press when 2 down in a match after the 2nd hole, an additional bet or match begins at the 3rd hole with the competitors all square. Should the competitor who pressed win the 3rd hole, he is 1 down on the original bet, and 1 up on the press. The purpose of a press is to allow a player to “get even” by winning the press bet. The risk, of course, is also losing the new bet.

Traditionally, a competitor may only “press” when they are down in a match. Other conditions may require the competitor to be 2 down, or 1 down with just one hole to play, or allow the opponent to decline the press. Generally, a match or bet can only be pressed once, although a press bet itself can also be pressed. Mulligan’s Eagle *will* allow multiple manual presses of a bet unless it is prohibited in the application’s settings.

R&A

The Royal & Ancient Golf Club (the “R&A”) is the governing body for golf in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world. The R&A publishes, in conjunction with the USGA, the The Rules of Handicapping, based on the World Handicap System used under license by authorized golf clubs and golf associations to compute a Handicap Index® for their members.

RCGA

The Royal Canadian Golf Association (“RCGA”) or Association Royale de Golf du Canada is the governing body for golf in Canada. The RCGA publishes the RCGA Handicap System, a golf handicapping system used, under license, by authorized golf clubs and provincial golf associations to compute a Handicap Factor® for their members.

The RCGA is also the provider of RCGA Network, Canada’s national, centralized web-enabled handicap and communication network service for RCGA members and member clubs.

Ringer

A ringer round (also known as an “eclectic” score) is a scorecard that records the best score previously recorded by a player on each hole of a course. Mulligan’s Eagle can determine a ringer round for all recorded rounds on a particular course, rounds between two dates or rounds from a particular tee.

The Ritz

The Ritz is a form of best-ball competition for 2 or more competitors, in which both a gross and net score are returned for each hole, but the scores cannot be from the same ball. First, the gross score for the team is determined as the best gross result of a teammate on the hole. Second, the team's net score for the hole is determined as the best net result of *another* teammate. If two or more teammates tie for the lowest gross result, the team will use the score from the player with a higher net result, preserving the best possible net score for the team. The "Ritz in Reverse" is the same game, except at each hole the best net result is determined before the best gross result.

Round

A round is what you play when you play golf. Your "round" might be 18 holes or it might be a 9-hole "round." When you play more than 18 holes (i.e.: more than two "sides"), you're playing more than one round.

Sand Save

A "sand save" is the successful completion of a "sand try" - an opportunity to make par from a greenside bunker. If the player hits a greenside bunker with the opportunity to make par (indicated while entering scores), then scores par or better, they have a sand save.

Scheid System

The Scheid System computes a handicap based on the hole-by-hole scores of a single 18-hole round. It is useful for computing handicaps for a group of unhandicapped players or for players with no playing history on which to base a handicap. The Scheid System produces approximately equal net scores.

Scorecard

A scorecard is where you enter and keep information about a round of golf. Your golf club has a scorecard for its golf courses and information on that card is used by Mulligan's Eagle on its scorecards to provide handicapping, scoring and analysis of your play.

Scramble

A Scramble (also called an "Ambrose," "Bramble," "Florida Scramble," "Texas Scramble" or "Ft. Lauderdale") is a team competition for teams of 2 or more players. It is commonly played in golf events with participants of widely varying skill levels. Typically, the most skilled team member, the A-player, is designated as the team's captain.

Every team member plays a tee shot at each hole from their designated tee. The team or its captain selects the best result and that stroke is added to the team score. Each player on the team plays a shot from the location of the selected ball. The process is repeated until a ball is holed.

Common methods of determining team handicaps for a Scramble include:

Scramble Handicapping Variations	
A-B-C-D teams	No handicap. Teams play scratch.
Teams of any size	50% of A-Player's handicap, or 50% of the teammates' average handicap, or Zig-Zag (see page 218)
Teams of 2 or more players	35% of A-Player's handicap, plus 15% of B-Players's handicap
Teams of 3 or more players	25% of A-Player's handicap, plus 15% of B-Player's handicap, plus 10% of C-Player's handicap
Teams of 4 or more players	20% of A-Player's handicap, plus 15% of B-Player's handicap, plus 10% of C-Player's handicap, plus 5% of D-Player's handicap

For large events, the requirement to break ties can be reduced by computing the team handicap allowances to a tenth of a stroke.

“Step-Back” or “Elimination” Scramble – The team member whose shot is selected may not play from that location, but resumes play with the next selected shot.

“Las Vegas” Scramble – A die, rolled after all the tee shots at each hole, indicates either the number of the player whose drive is to be used (ie: 1, 2, 3, 4) or that the team may select the drive (5 or 6).

“Hit & Gigue” Scramble – Large mixed teams (6-somes, 8-somes or larger) in which men and women play from alternate tees, and play the selected ball alternately. For example, after the men all play from the tee, the women all play from the location of the selected ball, then the men, etc., until a ball is holed.

Second-Best Score System

The Second-Best Score system is a method of handicapping players who play infrequently, or have recorded few scores from which to determine a handicap. It bases a player's handicap on a formula which uses the player's second-best reported score.

Side

A side is the particular nine from a particular tee that you play during a round of golf. “The Front Side” is meaningful only if you know what tee is being played.

6-Point Game

The 6-Point game is a betting game for 3 players which can be contested with net or gross scores. At every hole, 6 points are available and a player earns points based on their standing vs. the opponents:

6-Point Game Scoring	
1st place	4 points
2nd place	2 points
3rd (last) place	no points

Ties are shared at each hole. Thus, 2 players who tie for the low score earn half of the total 1st and 2nd place points (3 points each). Or, if all the competitors tie, each earns 2 points. There are 108 (6 x 18 holes) points available to the 3 players in an 18-hole game. Each player's points are totaled at the end of the round, and payoff determined by the value of each point and the difference between the points of the players

Skins

Skins is a multi-player game in which the winner of a hole is the player who has the lowest score on the hole and is untied. If the low score is tied, there is no winner on that hole. Skins might be computed between a few players on a scorecard, or between all the players in a large tournament. Eagle can determine skins in both circumstances.

Slope Rating

A Slope Rating is the USGA's mark for the measure of the relative difficulty of a course for players who are not scratch golfers. Slope ratings range from 55 through 155 for 18-hole or 9-hole courses. A golf course of standard playing difficulty has a Slope Rating of 113. The Slope Rating of an 18-hole course is the average of the ratings of its nines.

Smaller Slope and Course Ratings may also be determined for short courses, or par 3 courses to provide a means of establishing a handicap from play on these facilities.

Stableford

The Stableford system of scoring was introduced by Dr. Frank Stableford, of Liverpool, England, in 1932. The system uses points for scoring rounds or competitions. The player's score at each hole is determined, gross or net, and

points are awarded based on that score compared to a target score - usually par:

Stableford Scoring	
2 or more over par	no points
1 over par (bogey)	1 point
par	2 points
1 under par (birdie)	3 points
2 under par (eagle)	4 points
3 under par	5 points
etc.	

Modified Stableford Scoring	
2 or more over par	no points
1 over par (bogey)	1 point
par	2 points
1 under par (birdie)	4 points
2 under par (eagle)	6 points
3 under par	8 points
etc.	

Half-Stableford Scoring	
1 or more over par	no points
par	1 point
1 under par (birdie)	2 points
2 under par (eagle)	3 points
3 under par	4 points
etc.	

A player's competition score is the sum of their Stableford points awarded at each hole. Handicap allowances for Stableford scoring are typically full handicap, but may be adjusted for mixed competitions or play from different tees (which might have different pars). In match play, handicap allowances are usually reduced by the handicap of the lowest handicapped competitor, who plays at scratch.

Standard Course Rating

A standard course rating (SCR) is a measure of the difficulty of a golf course from a particular set of tees under normal weather and playing conditions. See also "Course Rating" and "Standard Scratch Score."

Standard Scratch Score

A standard scratch score (SSS) is a measure of the difficulty of a golf course from a particular set of tees under normal weather and playing conditions for an expert (scratch) player. See also “Course Rating” and “Standard Course Rating.”

Stroke Allocation

see “Handicap (hole)”

System 36

System 36 is a method of computing a one-round handicap for events in which un-handicapped players participate. The player’s handicap allowance is derived from “points” which are earned by adding 1 point for every bogey, plus 2 points for every par. The player’s handicap allowance, used to compute his net score, is 36 less his points.

T-Score

Some handicapping systems require special computations for rounds played in a tournament (see Tournament Score). These rounds are usually labeled with the letter “T”, thus, T-scores.

Tee

Most golf courses have several different teeing areas or “tees” from which different categories of golfers play during a round of golf. Tees frequently have names based on who plays from them, like “Ladies’ Tees” or “Championship Tees.” If they don’t, they are almost always known by the color of the tee markers used to identify them, like blue, white or red. Mulligan’s Eagle identifies a tee by both its name and its color.

Tournament Score

In the USGA and RCGA Handicap Systems, “A tournament score is a score made in a competition organized and conducted by a committee in charge of the competition. The competition must identify a winner(s) based on a stipulated round(s), and should be played under the Rules of Golf.” Regardless of how the player is handicapped, Mulligan’s Eagle allows you to identify rounds as tournament scores.

Up-and-Down

An “up-and-down” is the name for holing out at a hole in two strokes from a greenside bunker or anywhere off the green, usually with 1 putt.

USGA

The United States Golf Association (the “USGA”) is the governing body for golf in the United States and elsewhere in the world. The USGA, in conjunction with the R&A, publishes the The Rules of Handicapping, based on the World Handicap System used under license by authorized golf clubs and golf associations to compute a Handicap Index® for their members.

Waltz

A Waltz is a form of best-ball competition for 3 or more competitors, in which the number of balls to be scored is based on par:

Waltz	
par-5 holes	1 best ball
par-4 holes	2 best balls
par-3 holes	3 best balls

A Modified Waltz is sometimes used for 3-person teams or high handicap players:

Modified Waltz	
par-5 holes	1 best ball
par-4 holes	2 best balls
par-3 holes	2 best balls

World Handicap System

A world-wide unified golf handicapping system, the WHS was implemented in 2020 as a standard method of calculating handicaps for players and teams around the world. Supported by most of the major golf handicapping authorities, like the USGA, Golf Canada, European Golf Association, CONGU, Golf Australia and others. The WHS purports to preserve the best features of each existing system.

Zig-Zag

Zig-Zag handicapping is a method of calculating a handicap in a Scramble or other team event. It generates net results of a somewhat random nature, with almost all results under par.

The tournament committee secretly selects 3 holes at random during or after the competition to be used in the calculation, and a team allowance is calculated as a percentage of the team’s score on those 3 holes, based on their total gross score:

Total Gross Score	Percentage
59 or lower	30%
60 - 64	70%
65 - 69	90%
70 or higher	120%

The team’s net score is their total gross score less the percentage of their total on the 3 selected holes.