



Special Olympics

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**2012 Rule Change Summary
Golf**

Change From	Change To
	<p>Additional rules clarifications related to individuals with disabilities (for example visually impaired or wheelchair bound athletes) can be found on the R&A or the United States Golf Association (USGA) website. at: http://www.usga.org/rules/disabilities/Modification-To-The-Rules-Of-Golf-For-Golfers-With-Disabilities/</p>
<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS 1. ELIGIBILITY</p> <p>1. Eligibility</p> <p>Each Program must establish criteria for eligibility to compete in Levels 2-5.</p> <p>A recommended standard for eligibility is for an athlete to have completed an Individual Skills Competition with a total score of at least 60 points. In addition, the athlete should score 10 points or more in at least four out of the six skills, with one of the four scores of 10 being in either the wood or iron shot. The athlete should also achieve a minimum of five points in the two skills that total less than 10.</p> <p>a) When considering moving up in levels, the following scores are the required averages that the athlete/team must have when practicing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Level 2 to Level 3 = average of 60 or lower ii. Level 2 to Level 4 = average of 60 or lower iii. Level 3 to Level 5 = average of 120 (athlete only score) or lower iv. Level 4 to Level 5 = average of 60 or lower <p>b) It is strongly recommended that athletes competing in Levels 4 + 5 provide their own caddies for tournaments and competitions. As per the USGA, a caddie is defined as “one who assists the player in accordance with the Rules, which may include carrying or handling the player’s clubs during play.”</p>	<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS 1. ELIGIBILITY</p> <p>2. Eligibility</p> <p>The following criteria should be followed during competition and when moving between levels.</p> <p>a. The standard for eligibility is for an athlete and partner to have completed an Individual Skills Competition with a total score of at least 60 points. In addition, the athlete should score 10 points or more in at least four out of the six skills, with one of the four scores of 10 being in either the wood or iron shot. The athlete should also achieve a minimum of five points in the two skills that total less than 10. If the athlete is scoring above 100 in the ISC (minus the bunker shot), it is recommended that they begin participating in Level 2 competitions.</p> <p>b. The following are maximum entry averages for each level of competition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Level 2 – average of 75 or lower ii. Level 3 – average of 120 or lower (18holes) iii. Level 4 – average of 70 or lower iv. Level 5 – average of 120 or lower <p>c. When considering moving up in levels, the following scores are the required averages that the athlete/team must have when practicing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. Level 2 to Level 3 = average of 60 or lower

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. For athletes transitioning from Levels 2 and 3, it is encouraged for the partner to become the athlete's caddie, as they will have experience understanding how the athlete plays the sport. b. For tournaments and competitions, coaches can assume the role of caddie, with the understanding they will relinquish their coach privileges (ie. ability to file a protest) during the competition. c. A caddie should not be utilized for Levels 2 and 3, where the partner would assume the role of providing advice to the athlete, including club selection, course management and etiquette. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi. Level 2 to Level 4 = average of 60 or lower vii. Level 3 to Level 5 = average of 120 (athlete only score) or lower viii. Level 4 to Level 5 = average of 60 or lower d. It is strongly recommended that athletes competing in Levels 4 + 5 provide their own caddies for tournaments and competitions. As per the USGA, a caddie is defined as "one who assists the player in accordance with the Rules, which may include carrying or handling the player's clubs during play." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. For athletes transitioning from Levels 2 and 3, it is encouraged for the partner to become the athlete's caddie, as they will have experience understanding how the athlete plays the sport. b. For tournaments and competitions, coaches can assume the role of caddie, with the understanding they will relinquish their coach privileges (ie. ability to file a protest) during the competition. c. A caddie should not be utilized for Levels 2 and 3, where the partner would assume the role of providing advice to the athlete, including club selection, course management and etiquette.
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<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS : LEVEL 2 – ALTERNATE SHOT TEAM PLAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Scoring 3) Scoring (marking of cards) — Athletes should be taught to keep score and, whenever possible in competition, serve as a marker for a fellow competitor. The Tournament Committee may also appoint a volunteer, caddie or partner to serve as a marker. Both competitors on the team will be responsible for verifying the team score and signing their scorecard.
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<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS : LEVEL 2 – ALTERNATE SHOT TEAM PLAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> h. Golf Course Set Up 2) The Tournament Committee should define teeing grounds for female players.
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<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS : LEVEL 2 – ALTERNATE SHOT TEAM PLAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> h. Golf Course Set Up 2) The Tournament Committee be authorized to designate teeing grounds for the competition that are consistent with the recommended restrictions for the length of holes and for forced carries and that will result in the fairest challenge and the best possible experience for

	all of the competitors
<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 3 GOLF – UNIFIED SPORTS TEAM PLAY</p> <p>d. Scoring</p> <p>Form 1</p> <p>b) If a 10th stroke is played without holing the shot, the team shall record a score of 10x and proceed to the next hole</p>	<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 3 GOLF – UNIFIED SPORTS TEAM PLAY</p> <p>d. Scoring</p> <p>Form 1</p> <p>b) If a 10th stroke is played without holing the shot, the team shall record a score of 10x and proceed to the next hole.</p> <p>c) Scoring (marking of cards) — Athletes should be taught to keep score and, whenever possible in competition, serve as a marker for a fellow competitor. The Tournament Committee may also appoint a volunteer or partner to serve as a marker. Both competitors on the team will be responsible for verifying the team score and signing their scorecard.</p>
<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 3 GOLF – UNIFIED SPORTS TEAM PLAY</p> <p>h. Golf Course Set Up</p> <p>2) The Tournament Committee should define distinct teeing grounds for female players.</p>	<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 3 GOLF – UNIFIED SPORTS TEAM PLAY</p> <p>h. Golf Course Set Up</p> <p>2) The Tournament Committee be authorized to designate teeing grounds for the competition that are consistent with the recommended restrictions for the length of holes and for forced carries and that will result in the fairest challenge and the best possible experience for all of the competitors.</p>
<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 4 GOLF—INDIVIDUAL STROKE PLAY COMPETITION</p> <p>a. Purpose for this Level of Play</p> <p>2) The player should be capable of playing independently and must be able to walk during the entire nine-hole round.</p>	<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 4 GOLF—INDIVIDUAL STROKE PLAY COMPETITION</p> <p>a. Purpose for this Level of Play</p> <p>2) The player should be capable of playing independently and must be able to walk during the entire nine-hole round.</p> <p>3) While the player should be capable of playing independently, it is strongly recommended that the player provide their own caddie for tournaments and competitions. Former partners in Levels 2 or 3 can serve in the role of caddie. A coach can also serve in the role of a caddie, with the understanding they will relinquish their coach privileges.</p>

<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 4 GOLF—INDIVIDUAL STROKE PLAY COMPETITION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> g. Golf Course Set Up 2) The Tournament Committee should define teeing grounds for female players. 	<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 4 GOLF—INDIVIDUAL STROKE PLAY COMPETITION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> g. Golf Course Set Up 2) The Tournament Committee be authorized to designate teeing grounds for the competition that are consistent with the recommended restrictions for the length of holes and for forced carries and that will result in the fairest challenge and the best possible experience for all of the competitors.
<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 5 GOLF—INDIVIDUAL PLAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Purpose for this Level of Play 2) This level will challenge the golfer on a golf course with few, if any, modifications. 3) The player should be capable of playing independently and must be able to walk during the entire 18-hole round 	<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 5 GOLF—INDIVIDUAL PLAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Purpose for this Level of Play 3) The player should be capable of playing independently and must be able to walk during the entire 18-hole round. 4) While the player should be capable of playing independently, it is strongly recommended that the player provide their own caddie for tournaments and competitions. Former partners in Levels 2 or 3 can serve in the role of caddie. A coach can also serve in the role of a caddie, with the understanding they will relinquish their coach privileges.
<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 5 GOLF—INDIVIDUAL PLAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> g. Golf Course Set Up 2) The Tournament Committee should define teeing grounds for female players. 	<p>SECTION B – GENERAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS: LEVEL 5 GOLF—INDIVIDUAL PLAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> g. Golf Course Set Up 2) The Tournament Committee be authorized to designate teeing grounds for the competition that are consistent with the recommended restrictions for the length of holes and for forced carries and that will result in the fairest challenge and the best possible experience for all of the competitors.

NOTE: For full detail of Proposed Rule Changes (Accepted and Denied) please contact your Regional Sport Director. This list does not indicate those proposed changes that were not adopted by the Sports Rules Advisory Committee in 2012.