

At the beginning of the 2024-2025 season the Big Rock Men's Club Board asked Members about their concerns regarding Saturday's competitions and the overwhelming response was perceived Sandbagging.

In response the Board instituted USGA rule 5.2a using only Saturday Handicaps. While this approach effectively eliminated Sandbagging, it created issues with members feeling that their Saturday handicap index was not a true reflection of their Saturday play, and that their Saturday index was not changing quickly enough because many Saturday events were not postable rounds.

Your Board is constantly trying to achieve accurate, fair and equitable handicapping for all members, and ultimately greater enjoyment for Saturday's competitions. For the 2025-2026 season the Board is proposing the following change to how the Saturday Handicaps are calculated:

- All handicap calculations will continue to use USGA scoring differentials, which reflects which tees are used for play. For example, the calculation for a round played from the blue tees will differ from a round played from the white tees and will impact your handicap differently.
- For any player with less than 8 postable Saturday rounds their existing USGA GHIN will be used to determine the players index for Saturday competitions.
- For any player with 8 or more postable Saturday rounds their Saturday index will be the average of 6 of their last 8 postable Saturday differentials with the highest, and lowest differentials of the 8 dropped from the calculation.
  - For example, Mr. Big Rock, playing from the white tees most recent 8 differentials are: 22.4, 12.7, 14.6, 15.8, 16.6, 12.7, 16.6, and 20.5.
  - The highest and lowest differentials (highlighted) are then eliminated leaving 6 differentials: 14.6, 15.8, 16.6, 12.7, 16.6, and 20.5 (totaling 96.8).
  - The average of the remaining 6 differentials is 16.1 (96.8 / 6).
  - When playing from the white tees at the Big Rock, 16.1 becomes a handicap index of 13, and would be used during Saturday competitions.
- This approach will be retroactive. If a member has 8 postable rounds from 2024-2025 season the average of the last 8 differentials, less the highest and lowest, will be used.
- This calculation will change weekly after each round members play. Throwing 1 high and 1 low out should give a better representation of a members ability at a

given time. The board feels this is a better way to calculate a handicap than always using only low scores.

The spreadsheet that would be used to calculate Members index is available for review by any Member upon request.