

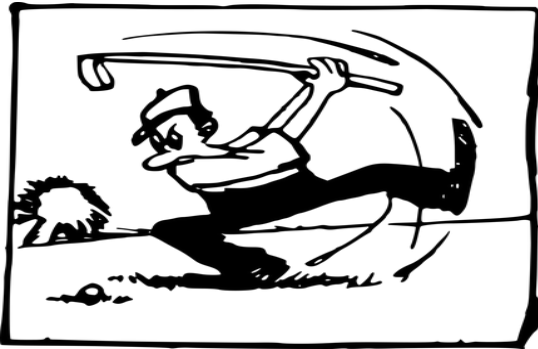
GOOD SHOT GOLF® Scoring System



The most positive, encouraging and successful way to play golf!

*© By two duffers for over 40 years
Allen Boivin-Brown and Rick Hunter*

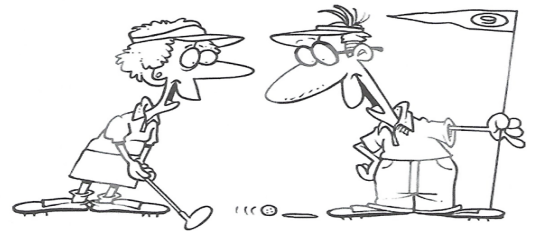
We are two run-of-the-mill golfers who have been playing the game together off and on for over 40 years. Our games really haven't changed much in that time. One of us shoots fairly consistently in the 90s, with an occasional 100-plus round or a miracle in the 80s once in a while. The other strives to break 120, hopes to shoot less than 110, and has the life-long dream of legitimately breaking 100. Needless to say, this has yet to materialize.



Quite often - as most golfers have experienced when the round starts off badly with that quadruple bogey followed by a few doubles - we get discouraged and basically give up hope of a good round. The accumulation of duffs, flubs, whiffs, chili dips, chunks, skulls, shanks, hooks and slices finally take their toll and our enthusiasm fades and the drudgery of completing a ruined round sets in. We then hate golf and vow never to play again. This has been a well-worn pattern for us over the past 40 years.

However, after a day or two of recovery time we invariably will be ready to play again. During this short hiatus we often go to the practice range, take a lesson, or discover a new swing thought that renews our enthusiasm and hopefulness.

This rejuvenation process has been very expensive over the years. We have spent literally a few thousand dollars on lessons, buckets of practice balls, videos, instruction booklets, new clubs and other golf paraphernalia in an attempt to better our game. None have produced a lasting improvement. So the roller coaster of expectation and disappointment continues.



As we all know, a bad game of golf can trigger frustration, self-doubt, embarrassment, a sense of inadequacy, discouragement, broken clubs, spouses on alert, road rage, or other terrible reactions. If things go really badly, you may take out this negativity on yourself and others around you - or get so discouraged you give up on golf altogether!

So recently, in search for a better solution, one of us finally got so disgusted at scoring poorly he decided he wasn't going to "count" his bad shots anymore - only his "good" ones. We both thought this was a great idea and began to expand and embellish this concept. It became clear that one stumbling block with golf for many players, especially beginners or chronically mediocre golfers like us, is not the game, but the SCORING!

The problem with regular golf scoring is that you have to include all your screw-ups in the final score! Most common sports do not count failed attempts in scoring the game. In basketball, only shots *made* count in the final score – not *every* shot attempted. A soccer team may have 20 shots on goal, but the only one that “counts” is the one that goes in the net. One fruitful attempt out of many can win the game. In other words, only your successful efforts are “counted” toward the outcome. We think golf should have the same approach – at least as a scoring option.

Golf is tough enough without punishing yourself by never scoring even close to *PAR*. This benchmark is not realistic for 90% of all golfers. Even the pros often don’t shoot par. So why accept such an unattainable standard by which to measure your “success”?

If you think about it, the *physical task* of the game of golf is to use clubs to hit the ball from the tee into the cup on the green of each hole. *Every* player will accomplish this same feat (no matter how many strokes it takes!) if they stick out the full round. But the end result can be *evaluated* in different ways – by counting *every* shot you take, or in our new method, counting *only* your good shots. In that case the challenge of golf becomes getting as many good shots as possible during a round, *not* to use the fewest strokes to get *par*.



We gave our method an obvious name - **Good Shot Golf®** - and began to develop rules for play. We have formalized the process so all golfers can benefit from the encouragement and success derived from the **Good Shot Golf®** scoring system.



This has revitalized the game for one of us. He comments on how much better he feels about himself, his skill level, and his golf results with the *Good Shot* system. He doesn’t beat himself up for what he *hasn’t* done well, but is encouraged by what he *has* done well.

The obvious principle here is to build on your strengths, *not* focus on your weaknesses. See what you have done *right* and do more of it! Only your strengths help you do your best and reach your potential.

In golf, as in life, bad stuff happens but it is the good stuff that gets us through and makes it worthwhile. If you focus on the things you have done well, you will keep hope, encouragement and joy in golf ...and in your life! That is the goal of **Good Shot Golf®**.

Golfers often say, “*Even a blind squirrel finds a nut now and then*”. So you squirrely golfers, start counting your nuts! Focus on what you have done right. Be encouraged by your successes so you can be hopeful and motivated to keep trying. No matter how many bad shots you make, the very next one may be a *good* shot! And that is the only one that counts in **Good Shot Golf®**!



Give it a shot!

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