

Net Double Bogey is the maximum hole score under the World Handicap System

What is Net Double Bogey?

Net Double Bogey is the maximum allowable hole score for handicap purposes.

The procedure is typically applied after the round and before a score is posted. However, when the format of play allows, or when playing a recreational round, you can pick up once you've reached your Net Double Bogey limit.

Net Double Bogey prevents the occasional bad hole from impacting your Handicap Index too severely.

How is Net Double Bogey calculated?

Net Double Bogey =

Double Bogey +/- any handicap strokes received on a hole (minus applies to plus-handicap players)

If you post hole-by-hole scores, the Net Double Bogey adjustment should be applied automatically.

Can I see an example?

A player with a Course Handicap of 10 can post a maximum hole score of **Double Bogey +1** on holes allocated 1 through 10 on the scorecard (denoted with red •). The max score on all other holes is Double Bogey.

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT
Yardage	393	133	375	490	333	378	155	416	357	3030
Par	4	3	4	5	4	4	3	4	4	35
Stroke Index	5 •	17	9 •	1 •	11	7 •	15	3 •	13	
Player A	4	4	5	6	4	5	3	4	4	39

Front 9	39
Back 9	44
Total	83

-1

Adjusted Score	82
----------------	-----------

Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN
Yardage	341	152	360	131	471	323	314	375	340	2807
Par	4	3	4	3	5	4	4	4	4	35
Stroke Index	8 •	16	6 •	18	2 •	10 •	14	4 •	12	
Player A	4	4	8	4	6	4	4	5	5	44

The player's score of 8 on the 12th hole would be reduced to a 7 for handicap purposes. This is because their Net Double Bogey maximum was **Double Bogey +1**, which on a Par 4 = 7. The score for the competition is 83, but the score for handicap purposes is 82.

What if my Course Handicap is above 18?

If your Course Handicap is between 19 and 36:

Triple Bogey is your baseline – post up to **Triple Bogey +1** on holes with stroke index values less than or equal to your **Course Handicap – 18**.

If your Course Handicap is between 37 and 54:

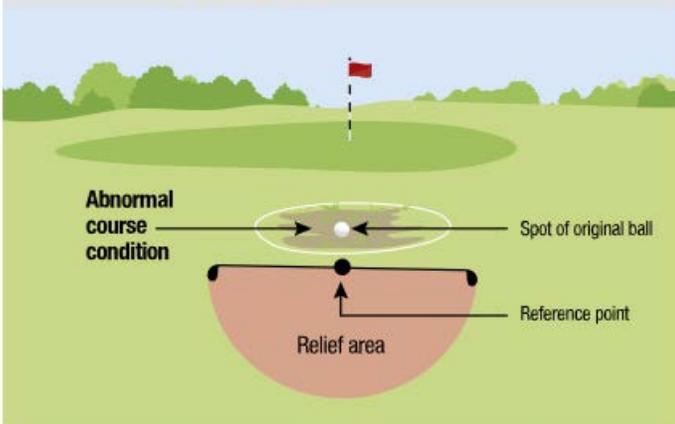
Quadruple Bogey is your baseline – post up to **Quadruple Bogey +1** on holes with stroke index values less than or equal to your **Course Handicap – 36**.

For more information or to learn more about the WHS, visit usga.org/whs

Rules of Golf

Images provided by the USGA Rules of Golf

DIAGRAM 16.1b: FREE RELIEF FROM ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION IN GENERAL AREA



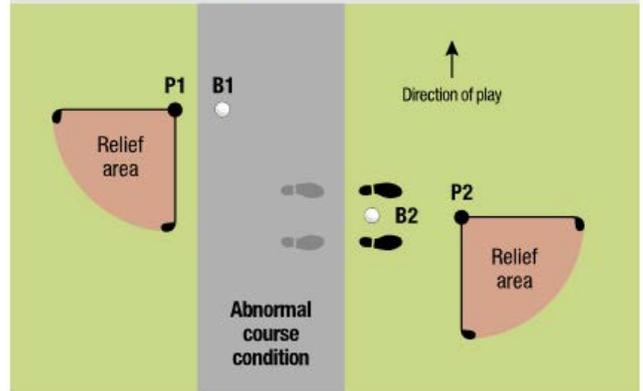
Free relief is allowed when the ball is in the general area and there is interference by an abnormal course condition. The nearest point of complete relief should be identified and a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

Reference Point	Size of Relief Area	Limits on Relief Area
The nearest point of complete relief	One club-length from the reference point	The relief area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and • Must be in the general area

Player Notes:

When taking relief, you must take complete relief from all interference by the abnormal course condition.

DIAGRAM 16.1a: WHEN RELIEF IS ALLOWED FOR ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION



The diagram assumes the player is right-handed. Free relief is allowed for interference by an abnormal course condition (ACC), including an immovable obstruction, when the ball touches or lies in or on the condition (B1), or the condition interferes with the area of intended stance (B2) or swing. The nearest point of complete relief for B1 is P1, and is very close to the condition. For B2, the nearest point of complete relief is P2, and is farther from the condition as the stance has to be clear of the ACC.

DIAGRAM 16.3a: WHEN A BALL IS EMBEDDED

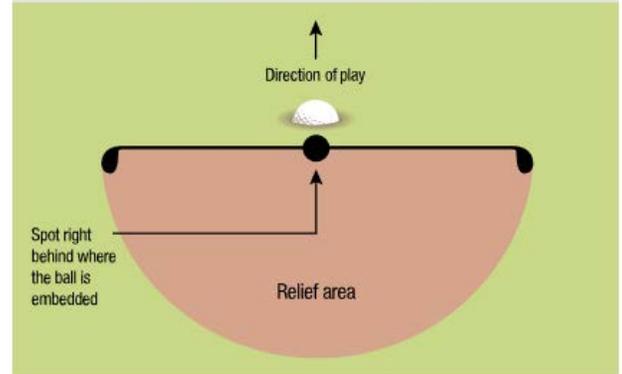


Ball is embedded
Part of the ball (embedded in its own pitch-mark) is below the level of the ground.
← Level of Ground

Ball is embedded
Despite the fact that the ball is not touching the soil, part of the ball (embedded in its own pitch-mark) is below the level of the ground.

Ball is NOT embedded
Even though the ball is sitting down in the grass, relief is not available because no part of the ball is below the level of the ground.

DIAGRAM 16.3b: FREE RELIEF FOR EMBEDDED BALL



When a ball is embedded in the general area, free relief may be taken. The reference point for taking relief is the spot right behind where the ball is embedded. A ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

Reference Point	Size of Relief Area	Limits on Relief Area
The spot right behind where the ball is embedded	One club-length from the reference point	The relief area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and • Must be in the general area





Courtney Mahon, LPGA

Courtney developed a love for the game of golf at an early age. Her father is a Class A PGA Professional, and his passion for the game encouraged her to become an elite competitor and coach.

She had a successful amateur and professional career, competing for the University of Arkansas as well as on various professional golf tours including the LPGA Symetra Tour. Throughout her competitive experience she found her passion for the game included introducing people of all ages to the game of golf. Additionally, she has played a role in inspiring women and juniors to embrace the sport.

Mahon contributes her successes as an instructor to her past experiences as a collegiate and professional golfer, as well as her time as a division one collegiate coach. She has studied under multiple accomplished top ranked instructors including Martin Chuck, Jeff Ritter, Aaron Olson, Stan Thirsk and her lifelong coach, her father, Charlie Mahon.

Courtney is currently located in Kansas City and serves as the Director of Instruction and Junior Development for Falcon Ridge, Deer Creek, and Prairie Highlands. She is extremely knowledgeable in the technical aspects of the golf swing resulting in fast, long-lasting changes with her students. Her Junior Development Program includes programs such as the Itty Bitty League, PGA Jr. League, LPGA*USGA Girls Golf, The Tour Strikers, and The All Americans ranging in age from the three years old up to collegiate golfers. Mahon is recognized as a Golf Digest Best Young Teacher, Golf Digest Best in State, Top 50 US Kids Instructor, and is the 2019 Marilynn Smith Service Award recipient.

Before moving to Kansas City, she served as the Lead Instructor under Martin Chuck for the Tour Striker Golf Academy at the Raven Golf Club in Phoenix, Arizona. The academy hosted three day golf schools and private instruction from October through May. In the summer months Mahon served as the Head Instructor for the Nike Junior Golf Camps in Pebble Beach, California, in conjunction with traveling to coach various Tour Striker Golf Academies across the West coast and internationally with Martin Chuck.

Mahon is heavily involved in the LPGA, serving as the Central Section Treasurer and the National Director of the New Member Committee. She earned her LPGA Class A card in 2012.