

Course Rating Content for sdga.org

- **COURSE RATING**

The SDGA rates golf courses every ten years to comply with the USGA Course Rating 10-year requirement. Re-ratings are also conducted after significant hole construction or course renovations have been completed. There is no charge to SDGA member clubs to rate or measure their golf courses.

The SDGA Course Rating Team is composed of an SDGA staff member and a group of trained volunteers. When rating a course, the Team evaluates each hole using the USGA Course Rating System guidelines and procedures. The majority of the Team's time is spent measuring distances to various obstacles from specific landing zones. After rating the obstacles, the Team plays the golf course to gain greater insight and to clarify any questions that may arise during the rating process.

After evaluating the course, the Rating Data is entered into the USGA Course Rating Program. This program calculates Ratings based on the course obstacles and effective playing length adjustments such as Topography, Rough and Recoverability, Bunkers, Crossing Hazards, Lateral Obstacles, Trees, Green Surfaces, and much more. Additionally, obstacle rating values are calculated for the male and female scratch and bogey golfer, which produces Course Ratings and Slope Rating for every set of tees.

For more information about the rating process, explore the related information links or contact our Director of Course Ratings joel@sdga.org

- USGA Introductory Explanation Video
[Course Rating Introduction](#)
- USGA Course Handicap™ Calculator
[USGA Calculator](#)
- USGA Course Rating and Slope Database
[USGA Database](#)