

Officiating 101 Scoring Lesson Summary

Getting Ready

- √ Make sure the scoring area is **easy to find** and **easy to access**.
- √ Clearly identify the **boundaries** of the scoring area.
- √ Assemble all the **equipment** you'll need, which should include:
 - Pencils with erasers
 - Marking pens
 - Calculator
 - Atomic clock
 - Radio (on correct frequency)
 - 3x5 cards from the USGA Office
 - Towels
 - Bottled water
 - Table and chairs
 - Trash can
 - Starting Time Sheet for Current Round
 - Starting Time Sheet for Next Day (if applicable)
 - Starting Time Phone Number for Round After the Cut
 - Decisions book

What Scorers Do

- √ Make sure that score cards are **properly handled**.
- √ Maintain **order** in the scoring area.
 - Keep conversations with players to a minimum.
 - Allow only you and the competitors in the scoring area (and sometimes the walking scorer and caddies).
- √ Follow a routine for a smooth **score card check**.
 - Step 1.** Record the finishing times of each group on the starting sheet, and return the sheet to the office.
 - Step 2.** Clearly communicate to players when a score card is considered returned.
 - Step 3.** Allow players to check their hole-by-hole scores with their marker.

- Step 4.** Ask the competitors to wait in the scoring area until you (the scorer) have checked the cards.
- Step 5.** Check each score card.
- Step 6.** Agree on the total score. If the competitor hasn't entered the total on the score card, enter the total yourself
- Step 7.** Record the player's score on the 3 x 5 card. Make sure the card is placed in the proper order.

√ Carefully check **seven areas** of the score card.

1 - Competitor's Signature

Make sure the signature matches the name on the score card. It's also good idea to check that the right name is on the score card—you don't want one player's name matched with another player's score!

2 - Marker's Signature

Check that a player hasn't mistakenly signed a card twice. It doesn't matter exactly where the player and the marker sign—just be sure the signatures are somewhere on the card.

3 - Individual Hole Scores

Check that there are 18 individual hole scores. There should be one in each box, and they should each be legible.

4 - Nine-Hole Scores

Add up the score for each set of nine holes and fill in the OUT and IN totals. If the totals are already entered, confirm that they're right or correct them if they're wrong. Don't erase any numbers from the card; just cross out the wrong total and pencil in the correct total.

5 - Total Score

Add the OUT and IN totals and fill in the TOTAL score. If the TOTAL score is already entered, confirm that it's right, or correct it by crossing out the wrong total and penciling in the correct total. Don't erase any numbers from the card!

6 - New Total

Add this card's total to the previous round's total and enter the New Total here in the upper corner of the score card.

7 - Your Initials

When everything else is checked and agreed upon, enter your own initials in the Verified field.



Protect the Players

Before the competitors return their score cards, use a **questioning strategy** to help protect them from disqualifications and penalties. Ask:

- √ Did anything happen during the round that you would like clarified?
- √ Does anyone need to speak with a Rules Official before returning your card?
- √ Do you have any questions about a ruling or a relief procedure?