

SCOREBOARD

OFFICIAL (PUBLIC) SCOREBOARD

The USGA will cover the construction cost of a scoreboard at the Host Club that meets the USGA specifications for the championship. The scoreboard will include all scoring information for the entire field during stroke play and of each match during match play. The club may keep the scoreboard or opt to have it removed at the completion of the Championship.

Over the past few years, the USGA has become more open to alternative scoreboard presentations. Other options would be an electronic board or a Fan Central type of hub that features a messaging and scoring presentation with the use of large screen TV's. The scoreboard cost given it's usual temporary nature aren't necessarily ideal for all clubs so a conversation should be had to determine what is best for the club and the Championship.

Dimensions

Public Scoreboard

- 44' in width, working surface of 8' tall

Header – 120th U.S. Amateur Championship

- Width: 44'
- Text Height: 18" tall
- USGA Logo Height: 24"
- Font: National Bold
- Colors: USGA Blue – 280; USGA Red – 186; Green – PMS 3435

Requirements

- Roof over entire scoreboard
- Steps along entire width of board, if needed
- Plastic covering, which can be pulled over board in the case of dew or rain
- 8' skirted table placed in a roped area in front of the board
- 3 - comfortable chairs
- Trash cans
- Ice cooler with bottled water and sport drinks

Note: It is very important that the header be placed on top of the scoreboard and not on the board itself. Otherwise, we will have a space problem with the score sheets. Our score sheets require the full requested scoreboard work surface. No other signage (i.e. recognizing corporate or individual donors, supplier, etc.) is allowed on the scoreboard.

USGA flags will be affixed to the back of the scoreboard (as pictured above). These flags will be provided and installed by the signage vendor.



PLAYOFF SCOREBOARD

A small scoreboard will be needed for the playoff. This board should be mobile, affixed to a utility cart. This scoreboard should be one 8' tall by 4' wide section, painted green.



LOCATION

The location(s) of the scoreboard(s) should be determined in consultation with Robbie Zalzneck of the USGA. The Public Scoreboard should be located in a high traffic area to maximize its convenience for players and fans. It should be near the clubhouse without disrupting views of the golf course and also should be near the golf course, preferably close to both the 9th and 18th greens, but far enough away that the activity at the scoreboard does not disrupt play on any part of the course.

Ideally the site would be quite level at grade allowing easy access to the scoreboard from any spot. The working platform of the scoreboard is designed to be elevated 12" above grade. This can be varied more or less to accommodate elevation change in the area. If it is necessary to have one end of the working platform at more than 18" above grade, it is suggested that steps be provided on that end that would taper into the slope as necessary.

In some instances, at the discretion of the USGA, it may be desirable to elevate the scoreboard more than 12" above grade. Factors that weigh in this decision include the limitations of the chosen scoreboard site and the volume of fans expected. In these cases, the plans and budget for the scoreboard must be adjusted to include the additional required materials.

Ideally, the area around the Public Scoreboard should be level or gently sloping upward away from the board to allow for ease of viewing. This would create an amphitheater effect allowing the maximum number of people to have unobstructed views. While the goal is to locate a scoreboard in a high traffic area, it should be as unobtrusive as possible. The chosen location should not create a traffic bottleneck. Please note the back of a scoreboard can be especially unattractive. Locating the back of the scoreboard against walls, fences or foliage helps minimize this problem.

Proximity of tents, concession stands and other championship infrastructure should be considered. These should not obstruct the public view of the scoreboard or create other problems such as noise from generators, smoke and trash from concession stands.

WEATHER

The scoreboard ideally should face Northeast or East. When facing Northeast or East, the structure of the scoreboard itself, along with its roof will provide afternoon shade to the scoreboard operators, volunteers and fans. Try to avoid having the scoreboard face West if possible.

Wind is another factor in site selection of the scoreboard. Ideally, the scoreboard would be oriented so that the back of the scoreboard blocks the prevailing wind. Also, if the prevailing wind causes rain to fall at an angle, the scoreboard should be sited in such a way that the back of the scoreboard blocks the rain.

A sheet of clear plastic should be affixed to the scoreboard so that it can be rolled up or down as needed for protection. This clear plastic shield can be temporarily rolled down to cover the scoreboard in the event of precipitation during the day. It is impossible to use the score sheets if the paper becomes wet. The plastic cover is also utilized overnight to provide protection from wayward irrigation water, wind and precipitation.

TURF

The scoreboard will attract considerable traffic during the championship causing wear to the turf in the area.

If a site is available that places the viewing area of the scoreboard on a paved area, it may be desirable to use it. It will reduce maintenance and provide better footing for fans, especially in bad weather.

Irrigation heads near the scoreboard should be turned off for the duration of the championship. Only hand watering of turf and ornamental plantings in the scoreboard area should be allowed. This should be done overnight allowing time for sufficient drainage prior to the appearance of fans the next morning.

Drainage around the scoreboard area should be good. The site should not be susceptible to accumulations from storms, runoff or irrigation. Small hollows or low spots that might become puddles should be leveled.

If wear or weather causes soggy or unsure footing around the scoreboard it is advisable to provide for mulch or wood chips to stabilize the area.

Construction of the scoreboard may cause some minor damage to turf and other plantings near the scoreboard. These should be repaired with sod and mulch or other ground covers.

CONSTRUCTION

The scoreboard is first and foremost designed to provide an information service to the players and fans. Effort should be taken to make it attractive and functional. Specifications for scoreboard construction are included in this kit. They provide minimum standards for dimensions and structural integrity.

The scoreboard is in many cases a temporary structure erected only for the duration of the championship. A number of upgrades are possible if it is desired by the club to retain the scoreboard as a permanent fixture. These might include a larger roof structure with shingles or tile, electrical lighting, a more elaborate finish for the back of the scoreboard, a stronger working platform, and a more permanent foundation with reinforced concrete footings. It is also possible to partially dismantle and store the scoreboard and then reinstall it for a future event. The specifications provided allow for these upgrades.

PAINT

The USGA recommends that scoreboard(s) be painted in a dark green color. This will minimize the obtrusiveness of the structure as the green color will blend into the natural surroundings. It will also serve to absorb rather than reflect sunlight providing a cool environment while also providing a contrast to the light-colored score sheets for enhanced visibility. Several USGA championships require considerable infrastructure that will be painted green. Scoreboards should be painted in the same green color as used elsewhere on the course. The USGA recommends the use of the following paint color: **PMS 3435**.

SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

During the championship, play may extend close to dusk. Please make sure temporary lighting is available.

During the championship the entire front of the scoreboard should be roped off to define the working area and the fan area. This is usually done at about 6'-8' in front of the scoreboard. A "gate" for access should be provided on both ends.

A covered and skirted 6' or 8' banquet table should be provided for the scorekeeper's use during the duration of the championship along with four folding chairs. Several trash receptacles should be provided along the roped perimeter in front of the scoreboard for fan and scorekeeper use. These should be emptied on a regular basis, as fans will linger at the scoreboard with food and beverages and fill the receptacles with the resultant trash.



Common Mistakes to Avoid

Many scoreboards at clubs around the country are built on elevated platforms. Elevating the scoreboard adds significantly to its cost and creates problems for the scorekeeper and volunteers of how to get up and down from the board. Usually, this elevation is unnecessary if the site is well chosen. Fans will be able to see the board adequately if it is installed only slightly above grade.

The working platform is designed to be elevated 12". This is more than enough to allow for construction of the platform at ground level. The slight elevation will allow easy access. The site chosen may dictate that the height of the platform varies from one end to the other and on some extreme sites it may be necessary to install steps at an end to accommodate access.

Railings are not necessary. They add to the cost, hinder the view of fans, and hinder access for the scorekeeper and volunteers. Posts supporting the roof structure are also undesirable. It is preferable to cantilever the roof structure to provide structural support.

Do not install any moldings as a frame around the scoreboard surface or along the vertical seams of the 4x8 plywood sheets.

Do not install any signage on the writing surface of the scoreboard. The dimensions specified are barely enough to handle the scoring operation. The entire surface will need to be used to accommodate the score sheets. The attached specifications provide an area to locate the official USGA signage banner above the scoreboard roof.

OFFICIAL SCORER and SCOREBOARD VOLUNTEERS

An official scorer will be a USGA staff member or be hired and be paid by the USGA for the Championship. The official scorer will prepare the score sheets and operate the board for the entire seven days of the Championship. The scorer will arrive Saturday and create stroke play sheets on Sunday. The scorer will require a quiet, well ventilated, work space with a large table.

Requirements

- Four (4) volunteers or club staff members to assist the scorer with reading and adding scores, hanging score sheets, etc. from Monday through Thursday. It is important that the volunteers assigned to work the scoreboard be knowledgeable about scoreboard procedures and physically able to handle the work, especially during stroke play. The official scorer would prefer to work with the same pool of volunteers as much as possible.

The USGA will provide the scorer to work for eight (8) days: one (1) day to make up the score sheets (provided by the USGA and shipped to the club prior to the championship), two (2) days of stroke play qualifying, setting up the match play board and posting the results for the final five (5) days and six (6) rounds of match play. Hole-by-hole scores and totals will be posted on the official scoreboard for all stroke play and match play rounds.

SCOREBOARD VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE			
Date		Volunteers / Times	Details
Monday	1 st wave	2 volunteers: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 a.m. 1 volunteer: 12:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	One volunteer will receive 9-hole scores from the scorers on each course and nine on a hand-held device. At the conclusion of rounds, they will receive the official 18-hole scores as well as check the accuracy of the first nine posted. The volunteers will read scores to the scorer while he posts them.
	2 nd wave	2 volunteers: 3:00 p.m. to dark (<i>approx. 9 – 9:30 p.m.</i>) 1 volunteers: 5:00 p.m. to dark (<i>approx. 9 - 9:30 p.m.</i>)	
Tuesday	1 st wave	2 volunteers: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 a.m. 1 volunteer: 12:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	It is recommended the same group of trained volunteers that worked Monday work on Tuesday, if possible.
	2 nd wave	2 volunteers: 3:00 p.m. to dark (<i>approx. 9:00 – 9:30 p.m.</i>) 1 volunteers: 5:00 p.m. to dark (<i>approx. 9:00 – 9:30 p.m.</i>)	
Wednesday	1 st wave	3 volunteers: 6:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	They will help the scorer put up the match play score sheets and receive hole by hole scores from the hand-held scoring devices.
	2 nd wave	2 volunteers: 12:30 p.m. – end (<i>approx. 7:00 p.m.</i>)	
Thursday	1 st wave	2 volunteers: 7:15 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	• Needed to receive hole-by-hole scores from the scoring devices and relay them to the scorer.
	2 nd wave	2 volunteers: 1:00 p.m. – end (<i>approx. 7:30 p.m.</i>)	
Friday		1 volunteer: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	
Saturday and Sunday – No assistance needed; the Scorer can receive scores directly from the hand-held device			

**Duty specific training is not required in advance.*