



Which Tees Should Be Rated?

As rule of thumb the most commonly played set of tees for each gender should have the obstacle ratings evaluated by the rating team. The captain then should look at the tees that are longer and shorter than the most commonly played tees and using the guidelines listed below the captain should determine which tees to rate.

The USGA does not require the separate obstacle evaluation of holes that measure +/- 25 yards for men and +/- 20 yards for women, of another set of tees that is being rated. So with the most commonly set of tees being rated we are looking for the sets of tees to rate in which the majority of holes are greater or less than the parameters set by the USGA for each gender.

The USGA does allow for State and Regional Golf Associations to calculate a USGA Course and Slope Rating for tees 7000 (6000 for women) yards or longer without collecting separate obstacle rating values. Use the obstacle ratings and effective playing length correction factors for both the scratch and bogey golfer from the nearest set of tees less than 7000 (6000) yards. The same procedure can be done with tees that are less than 4800 (4000), assuming there is a set of tees above 4800 (4000) yards to use for the obstacle rating. This procedure cannot be used on any set of tees under 3000 yards. Tees that fit into this parameter shall be listed and the hole-by-hole yardages entered into the section "Tees Rated by Length Difference" in the "Length and Wind Data" worksheet in the Course Rating workbook.

Combo sets of tees are usually a mixture or combination of two sets tees. Do not rate Combo tees as a separate set of tees. The captain needs to report the presence of any Combo tees to the FSGA office so the ratings can be calculated. These Combo tees should also be listed and the hole-by-hole yardages entered in the section "Tees Rated by Length Difference" in the "Length and Wind Data" worksheet in the Course Rating workbook.

When considering which tees the rating team will rate the captain should consider the following. If a tee in question gets very little play or a very small percentage of scores from the club are posted from that set of tees, maybe that is a tee we provide a yardage adjustment. An example would be a women's tee that measures 5900 yards, I doubt that at an average country club you will have a lot scores posted from here. And if I had to choose a set of tees to rate between the previously mentioned set of tees at 5900 yards and a shorter set of tees that the percentage of play is a little less than the most commonly played set of tees, I would choose the latter to rate. I would try to rate the tees that are going to affect the greatest number of golfers.

I hope it's obvious that this topic is very subjective and will vary course to course. On an average course, I would anticipate the men's teams to rate 3 to 4 tees and the women's teams to rate 2 or 3 tees. With those parameters in mind, use your best judgement and use the guidelines above to determine which tees to rate.