

Excerpt taken from USPA By Law 3-6

6. *Handicaps.*

- a. Upon payment of the appropriate fee for the current year, each Registered Player, Junior, Collegiate or Affiliate Member who is not under suspension by the Association will be entitled to an outdoor and/or arena handicap.
 - 1) An individual registered with the Association during the prior year, who has had a handicap assigned for the current year, may activate that handicap by the payment of the current year's Registration Fee including any applicable penalty.
 - 2) An individual who does not have a handicap assigned for the current year must complete a written application requesting that a handicap be issued. Such handicap does not become effective until the office of the Association is so notified by the Chairman of the National Handicap Committee and the Registration Fee is paid.
 - 3) An application for a handicap, including handicap recommendations, must be signed by the Delegate of the Club through which the individual is registered, the Circuit Handicap Chairman, and the National Handicap Chairman.
 - 4) The National Handicap Committee will use the designation "NR" for any individual for whom the Committee feels it does not have adequate input.
 - 5) The National Handicap Committee may append a "T" to the handicap of any individual. Such a handicap is subject to review and change at any time until the "T" is removed. The review of a "T" handicap may be requested by any member of a Circuit Committee or of the National Committee.
 - 6) Registered Players will be handicapped on a descending scale of 10-1, A (0), B (-1), C (-2), N (Novice) or NR (No Rating). In calculating team handicaps the numeric equivalents of A, B and C will be used.
 - 7) Any Player not registered during the prior year will be issued a "T" handicap for the current year.
- b. The National Handicap Committee will consist of a Chairman, the Chairman of the Association, the Chairmen of each Circuit Handicap Committee, and eight members appointed by the National Committee Chairman, each for a one-year term. Committee members may be reappointed for an indefinite number of terms.
 - 1) The National Handicap Committee Chairman will be appointed by the Chairman of the Association, with the approval of the Board of Governors, to serve for a one-year term. The same person may be reappointed for an indefinite number of one-year terms.
 - 2) The National Handicap Committee Chairman will be selected from the current members of the National Handicap Committee.
 - 3) There will be an Arena Handicap Sub-Committee consisting of a Chairman appointed by the National Handicap Committee Chairman and not less than three additional members appointed by the Sub-Committee Chairman. All Arena Sub-Committee members will serve one-year terms and be eligible for reappointment.

- c. Each Circuit Handicap Committee will consist of a Chairman appointed by the National Handicap Committee Chairman with the advice and consent of the Circuit Governor and not less than three other members to be appointed by the Circuit Handicap Committee Chairman. The term of each Circuit Committee member will be one year. Members may be reappointed for an indefinite number of terms.
 - 1) No Circuit Governor will simultaneously serve as Chairman of a Circuit Handicap Committee.
 - 2) The members of the Circuit Committee will be selected to represent the characteristics of the Circuit - arena polo, low goal, high goal, etc.
 - 3) Any member of a Circuit or the National Committee is expected to declare any potential conflict of interest before recommending a handicap for any Player.

- d. Except as set forth in subsection (e), all handicap decisions made by the National Handicap Committee will be final.
 - 1) A list will be prepared and circulated regularly, either in print or electronically, to each Delegate and Circuit Governor setting forth all Association handicaps.
 - 2) In the event the recommendation of a Club Delegate and/or a Circuit Handicap Chairman is not accepted by the National Committee, the Delegate and/or the Circuit Chairman will be so notified prior to the time the final handicap is issued.
 - 3) All handicaps are effective for the calendar year for which they are issued unless: (i) changed by the National Handicap Committee or the Chairman of the Association; (ii) not issued or withdrawn at any time as the result of a disciplinary action imposed by the Association; or (iii) withdrawn at any time by the Board of Governors.
 - 4) The review of any handicap may be requested at any time by any: (i) Circuit Governor; (ii) member of a Circuit Handicap Committee, or (iii) member of the National Handicap Committee.

- e. Emergency handicaps may be assigned by the National Handicap Committee Chairman or by the Chairman of the Association. No Individual who has not been given a handicap as above provided will be eligible to play in any Association match, game or tournament event at any Member Club.