

The Stableford Competition by J.I.B. Jones

In 1898 **Doctor Frank Stableford** from Cardiff, Wales, came up with his scoring system which was played at his club, the Glamorganshire Golf Club. His idea was to turn the score on each hole into points. Points were awarded for bogey, par, birdie, eagle and albatross. A double bogey or worse scored a zero. The winner was the player with the highest points.

The purpose of the **Stableford** was to allow the average player to have a bad hole or two, and not ruin the round. The Stableford became a regular game in the 1930's, and is still played in the United Kingdom in about half of all club tournaments.

The professional tours also played the Stableford at one time, but eventually changed it to a **modified** version, where bad play would be penalized. Strange thing to do, considering the whole point of a Stableford was to allow for a bad hole(s)?

The 'pure' **Stableford** also had the benefit of speeding up play, because a player need not continue to play a hole once he was unable to score on the hole, if for instance he/she was at net double bogey or worse.

The Scoring is simple, for Gross and Net:

Bogey = 1 point

Par = 2 points

Birdie = 3 points

Eagle = 4 points

Albatross = 5 points

If you shoot your handicap, you will score 36 points over 18-holes.

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