



## Slammer Tour Tee Block Assignment FAQ – updated Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### 1. Why did you change the tee blocks rule?

We received feedback from some Slammers who were not happy with the status quo. A popular example is that if someone managed to get their scoring median down to A-Class (84) then they would have to move back a tee block. Shorter hitters then lacked the physical ability to hit most greens in regulation with a mid to short club. The “Tee it Forward” guidelines are designed to make golf more fun for these Slammers. We also had gender and age lines that we believe should not apply. All golfers should be treated equally if scoring media and distance are factored in

### 2. What is the “Tee it Forward” guideline?

“Tee it Forward” encourages people to play the right tee blocks for their distance ability. It is endorsed by Golf Canada, PGA of Canada, USGA and PGA US. Too many people play tee blocks that are too far back, frequently ending with an unhappy golfer. It is designed to maximize the potential for an enjoyable experience.

#### PGA of Canada Driving Distance & Recommended Course Yardages

275 yards (6,700-6,900 yards)	250 yards (6,200-6,400 yards)
225 yards (5,800-6,000 yards)	200 yards (5,200-5,400 yards)
175 yards (4,400-4,600 yards)	150 yards (3,500-3,700 yards)
125 yards (2,800-3,000 yards)	100 yards (2,100-2,300 yards)

The Slammer Tour tee block assignment is not solely based on this. The core belief of the assignments are that if two golfers shoot the same score and hit the same distance, they should play the same tee block. Furthermore we believe that all golfers should be able to reach most par fours with a short-mid iron after a good drive is hit.

### 3. Shouldn't competitions be from the same conditions?

For big tournaments, we agree that everyone should play under the same conditions to determine the true winner. We see Slammer Tour matches as a different type of competition. Some play 80 or more rounds per year on the Slammer Tour. For this reason we want to make sure they are on the right tee blocks for their distance abilities. Most people are okay playing a competition once in a while from a tee block that is a challenge.

### 4. How can you have a fair competition with people from different tee blocks?

The Slammer Tour has done this since Day 1 as a way to increase the number of close matches. Two people with similar scoring medians play against each other all the time from different tee boxes and have great matches. Some leagues use handicaps to increase the number of close matches but we chose not to for a number of logistical reasons. If a Slammer has an 84 scoring median from T6 (blue tees) and is matched against a player who's scoring median is 86 from T5 (white tees) then the player with an 84 scoring median still has the advantage since their scoring median is established from that assignment, where the 86 player established theirs from his/her assignment.

Alternatively the 84 SM player could be a T5 and the 86 SM player could be a T6. We don't change an assignment as soon as a player changes class. A drastic change in either scoring median or distance must occur to have an assignment changed.

## 5. Why should someone with a scoring average of 82 play the same tees as me when my scoring average is 95?

You have a lot of control over with whom you are matched. Ideally your matches are with people who have similar scoring medians. Sometimes you will get grouped with others that are not close to your scoring median, but in these cases you do not have to play a match. Please make sure you enter three challenges and try to challenge others in your class or one class above or below for desirable matches.

## 6. It is possible that I could have a match with someone who has a better scoring median than me but they play a shorter tee than me?

Yes. To set up a good match the biggest factor is the other person's scoring median. If his/her scoring median is lower than yours then you know you will probably have a tough match but you do have some control over whether the match happens or not. Since Day 1, a male with a 90 scoring median could have a match against a female with a 85 scoring median. The female would have a shorter tee box. Whether female or male, shorter hitters establish a scoring median from a certain assignment. More than one tee block exists for a reason. Old theories dictate it's solely for handicaps, gender and age. We need to break this down and move towards score (handicap or scoring median) and distance so all golfers are equal and there's no discrimination.

## 7. Why don't you just move the line down that determines A class for example? Say to 79 from the current 84 scoring median.

A few years back we chose to define A-Class as someone with a single digit handicap which approximately equates to a Slammer Tour scoring median of 84. We agree this line could be at a number of places but that is what we chose because we think it's easy for people to think of a single digit handicap as a A golfer. Some may say it is too high but we also want to try to balance out the divisions, so that for example the B division doesn't have too wide of a range. We also believe that no B-classer should play further back than T5 (whites). This might happen if an A just moved to B class but it is not drastic change enough to move the assignment.

## 8. If I think my tee block assignment or another Slammer's assignment should be changed, how do I proceed?

Send an email to [info@slammertour.com](mailto:info@slammertour.com) with details of how far you hit your clubs. We will review the information you provide and check with a few others who know your game fairly well and then get back to you with our decision.

If you believe another Slammer needs a review, please send in an email as well.

Reviews could take anywhere from one day to one month. We need to ensure we're using fact to determine all assignments.

Note that early spring and late fall are not desirable times to be measuring distance. We also don't encourage Slammers to use relative driving distance too much to determine your drives because there are too many variable factors like angles in, wrong yardages and many golfers don't know if their drive was hit on the sweet spot or not.

## 9. How do I know what my default tee box should be?

See the “Tee Blocks” section on the rules page at [slammertour.com](http://slammertour.com). All current Slammers should have an assignment and new Slammers receive one based on the info provided at registration. Every Slammer’s tee block assignment is shown in their profile along with a field for driver distance. These are editable only by Slammer Tour Management. There is also a field for your 150 club used. Please fill this in as more intel provided the better

## 10. Where is this matrix?

ST Management holds the matrix and will be releasing it in 2017. Tweaks were needed during the initial year and ST management still reserves the right to make judgement calls based on the lines of the matrix. In the optimal environment we would place each Slammer into a box on the matrix and Slammers could see the flow of Slammers which makes this new system more comprehensible. There are no secrets and everyone is treated equally. Based on each Slammers’ scoring median and distance all Slammers are placed somewhere from T1-T7.

## 11. How do golf course tee blocks work into this system?

Ideally each golf course has seven tee blocks. Some do, some are still stuck with three. We will be pushing courses hard to get seven blocks in play, all with about 300 yards gaps so it’s as smooth as ice. For courses without seven it’s possible some assignments will play from the same block (similar to our old system). Some courses we will use hybrid tees and others we might use start of fairways for T2. Please see each event webpage to see where each assignment will play.