GOLF AUSTRALIA
Level 3, 95 Coventry Street
South Melbourne Victoria 3205
Australia
ABN: 54 118 151 894
Website: www.golfaustralia.org.au
Facsimile: 61 3 9626 5095

Memo

To: **State Associations, Clubs, GOLF *Link*, Tier 3 Providers**

From: **Simon Magdulski**

Date: **20 December 2010**

Subject: **Purpose of USGA Handicapping Visit to Australia**

Dear All,

Golf Australia recently announced that the United States Golf Association had agreed to take part in a collaborative study with GA looking at the implementation to date of our new handicap system, the golfing culture and structure in Australia and the application of the USGA Handicap System within the Australian environment. As a part of its commitment to this study, the USGA had agreed to visit Australia early in 2011.

We can now confirm that the USGA representative for this visit will be its Executive Director, David Fay. Whilst the schedule is still being worked through, the visit is likely to occur in mid/late February 2011.

The purpose of this study from a GA perspective is to help Australia to not only get the best possible handicap system, but a system that is broadly viewed as a positive step forward by its golfers and golf clubs.

It is clear that the following are not consistent with this goal, and consequently will not be considered for use in Australia:

- The mandatory use of <u>all</u> social scores for handicap purposes.
- The use of the ±most likely scoreqconcept to handicap four-ball and other team events.
- The use of match play scores for handicap purposes.
- The use of a score for handicap purposes returned by a person playing alone.

Please note that there is no cost attached to obtaining a licence from the USGA to operate either the USGA Handicap System or the USGA Course Rating System.

We will continue to keep the industry updated with further important details as they arise.

Please let me know if you have any queries.

Simon Magdulski
Manager – Rules & Handicapping

Email – simonm@golfaustralia.org.au
Direct phone – (03) 9626 5023