Who are the West Pointers?

A Profile of West Point Golf Club Golfers 2024

Being a very social group, West Point golfers like to talk to each other and hang around in the clubhouse, so we have a good sense of our fellow members.

To add some quantification to this personal understanding, this report provides a statistical review of the profile of West Point golfers, in terms of age, time with the club, handicap and residence. This is based on the club member database. Most analysis is based on the 119 "active golfers", i.e., the full playing members and life members. There is also information on the 16 largely non-playing members (associates, honorary, medical leave) and the 20 Waitlisters.

Overview

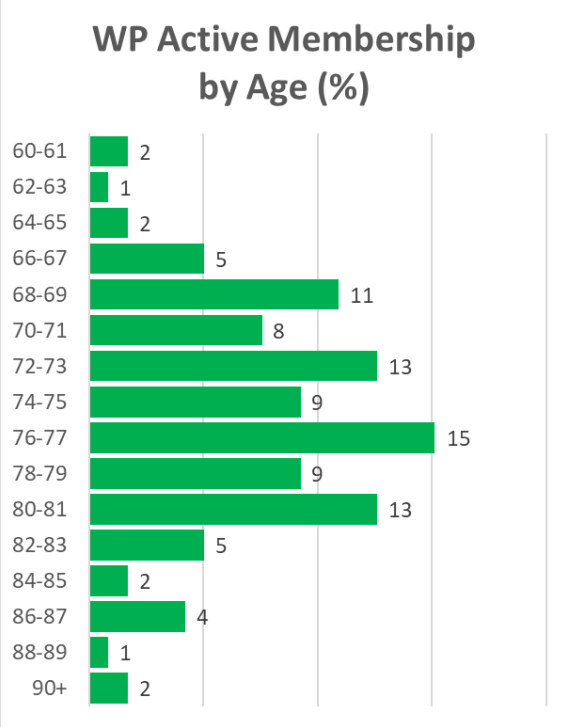
The average West Point active golfer is 76 years old, is in their eighth season with the club, lives in the city of Vancouver and has a handicap of 20.

Members' caps seem steady until they reach 75, after which - on average – handicaps increase by about two points every three years.

Technical Notes:
Data is sourced from the West Point member database as of June 14th, 2024. All charts show percentages of the membership.
"Active golfers" include all those in the full and life membership groups.
In all cases where an "average" is quoted, this is the median value of that series, to prevent a few outlying values skewing the average.
Author: Roger Barnes July 11th, 2024

Age

As a senior men's club, West Point active golfers range from 60 to 92 years. The largest segment, 78 percent, are aged from 68 to 81. Sixteen of our golfers are aged 82 and over.

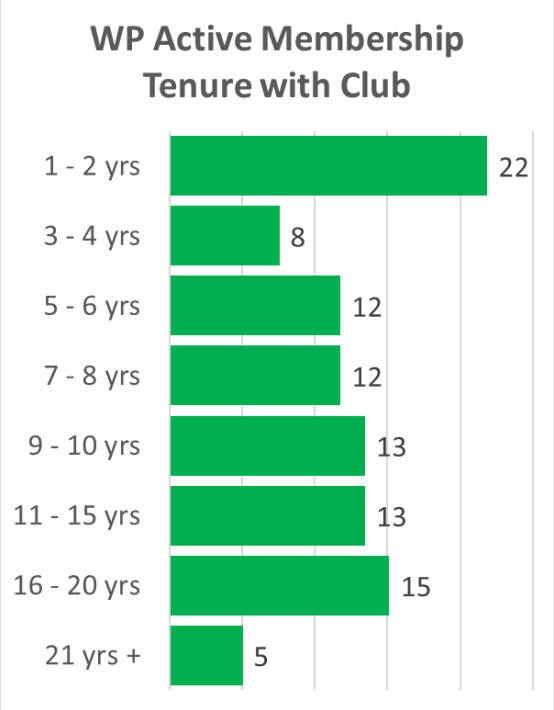


The average (median) age of active West Point golfers is 76 years. The associates and other largely non-playing members are older, averaging 82 years. The waitlisters are predictably the youngest group, these young pups averaging only 68 years.

Time with the West Point Club

Five West Point golfers are in their first year of membership, while three have been active members for over 25 years.

The average tenure with the club is eight years, the mid-point active member joining in 2017. One-half of active golfers have been with the club between five and fifteen years, and twenty percent have been members for 16 years or more.



Associates are members who used to be playing members who now play only occasionally, but remain with the club. Hence the Associates and other largely non-playing group have been with West Point longer than the active golfers; the average member of this group joined in 2010. Our longest serving member is in his 33rd year with West Point.

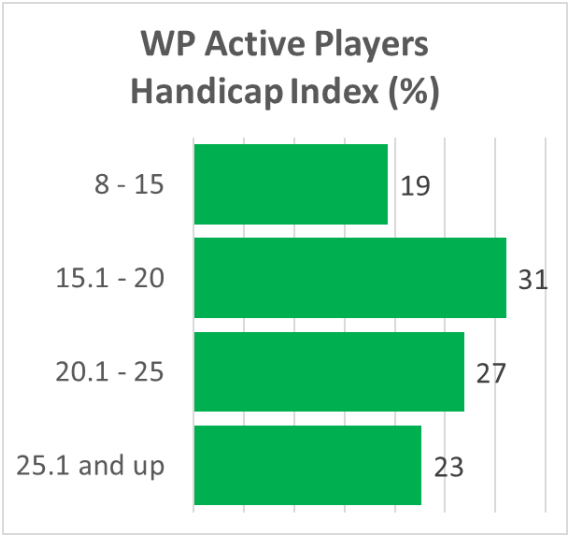
City of Residence

The majority of active West Point golfers live in the City of Vancouver, which accounts for six in ten West Point players. About one-in-ten WP golfers live in each of North Vancouver and Richmond.

	%
Vancouver	59
North Vancouver	13
Richmond	9
Delta	5
Burnaby	4
Surrey	4
West Vancouver	3
Coquitlam	2
New Westminster	1
White Rock	1

Handicap Index

West Point golfers have "iCap" indexes ranging from under ten to over thirty. At June 14th, the three lowest handicap golfers in the club had indexes close to nine.



The average handicap among West Point active golfers is 19.9. Twenty percent have a cap of 15 or better and 30 percent play off between 15 and 20. Twelve players carry indexes of 30 or higher. The average index among waitlisters (19) is close to members.

Handicap Index by Age

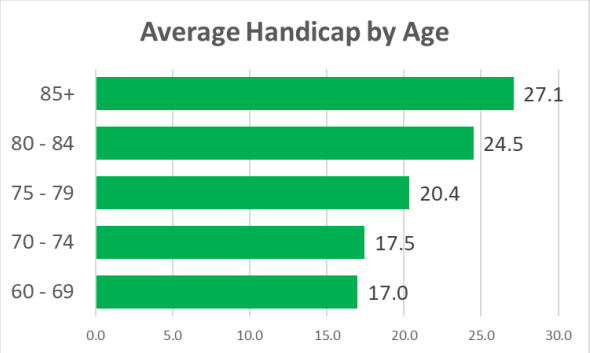
Every year, shooting our age gets one shot easier. Or so they say!

The West Point handicap database gives a great way to look at trends in players' handicaps at different ages. How does age affect our ability to score?

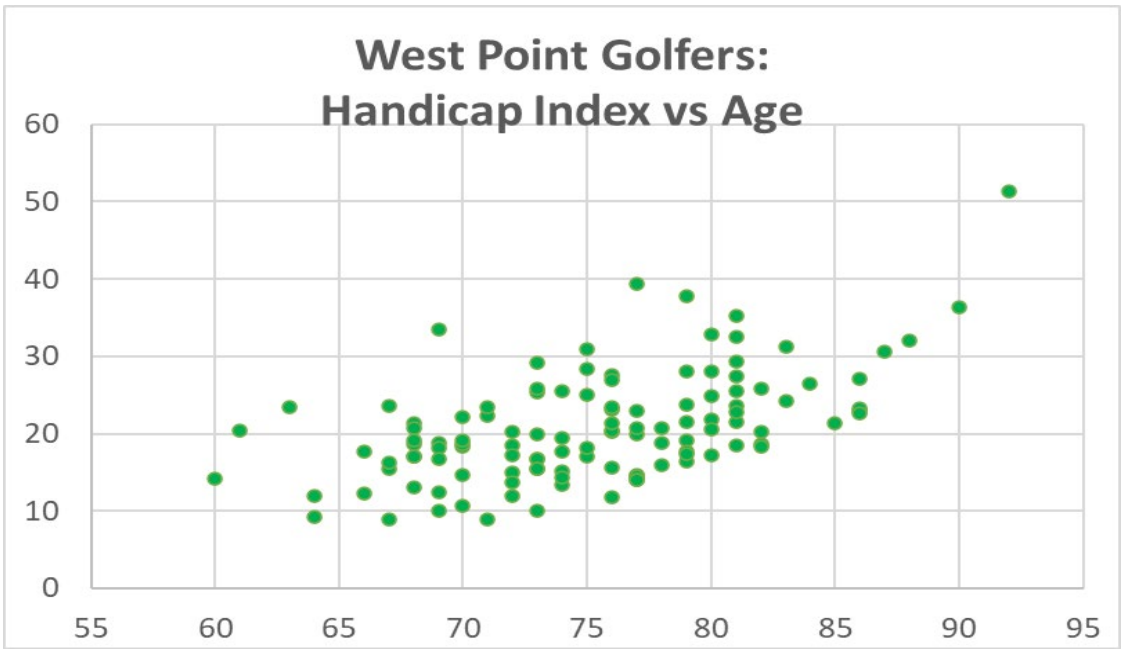
Each dot on the chart below represents one golfer, with their handicap (vertical axis) plotted against their age (horizontal). As a club welcoming all abilities, handicaps of players of the same age vary widely. Applause for our six members over 80 who have caps 20 or lower.

Every individual golfer's game will change differently with age, but the ravages of time have clear effects on average caps.

Up to the age of 75, West Point golfers are on average bogey golfers. The average caps of those in their sixties and those 70 to 74 are both just under 18.



After 75, the average handicap starts to rise, at a pretty steady rate, with handicaps increasing by about two points for every three years of age.

But these are just averages – we can beat them – just watch us go for it!

Thanks for reading! Roger