

**To play “Forward”, or not to play “Forward”**, that is the question: Whether 'tis Nobler in the mind to suffer. The Slings and Arrows of outrageous Fortune of lost balls, OB, and more strokes for the Back Tees, Or to take Arms against a Sea of troubles, while playing Forward for fewer strokes, more fun, and shorter rounds.

Forward Tees or Back Tees really is The Question that Metro Senior Golfers must resolve. We have now opened up tee selection for all Flights A- D.

We are seniors and don't get the distance (or accuracy) that we remember? So playing Forward is a real strategy to play better golf, focusing more time and energy on what we still can do well.

## **Why Play Forward?**

### **More Fun**

- Do you really LIKE looking for balls?
- Shorter Approach Shots
- More action where the putts and short money shots reside

### **Better Scoring**

- Reducing the Yardage by 500 to 600 Yards can easily reduce 2 to 4 strokes from your game.

### **Faster Play**

- Fewer strokes, less time and delays
- Fewer lost and OB balls, and less searching
- Yes, we do enjoy our time on the course, but not waiting for you or anyone else?

## How Did Metro Seniors Members Play in 2016?

### D Flight

- Almost 75% of all rounds in D Flight are played from the Forward Tees
- Forward Players Average about 6 Strokes Better
  - Similar Handicap Guide (average 33)
  - Forward Gross = 105.5
  - Back Gross = 111.5
- Did those other 25% really WANT to hit 6 more strokes???
- Your buddies beat you because you played Back???

### C Flight

- Over 50% of all rounds in C Flight are played from the Forward Tees
- Forward C Players Average almost 2 Strokes Better
  - Similar Handicap Guide (average 26)
  - Forward Gross = 98.9
  - Back Gross = 100.5

### B Flight

- Over 36% of all rounds in B Flight are played from the Forward Tees
- Forward B Players Average more that 3 Strokes Better
  - Similar Handicap Guide (average 21)
  - Forward Gross = 90.6
  - Back Gross = 94.0

## What Tees Should You Use?

This is personal, but we have some really good ideas for you!

**USGA and PGA Tee It Forward** program recommends tee selections by course yardage depending on your AVERAGE driving distance. Note this is not the best drive you ever made, but what you typically see on the course.

USGA and PGA Guidelines for Selecting Tees	
AVERAGE Driver Distance, yds	18 Hole Course Yardage, yds
275	6,700-6,900
250	6,200-6,400
225	5,800-6,000
200	5,200-5,400
175	4,400-4,600
150	3,500-3,700
125	2,800-3,000
100	2,100-2,300

This chart is to be used as a guideline to help golfers potentially align their average driving distance with a course length that is best suited to abilities

Metro Sr Tees For 2017		
Tee Position	Average yds	Max, yds
Back	5841	6067
Forward	5219	5785

Here is a link to the PGA / USGA article.

<http://www.pga.com/pga-and-usga-step-new-sets-tees-in-nationwide-tee-it-forward-initiative>

## Other Ways to Pick Tees

### Can You Hit the 165 yard Par 3s in One and the 350 to 400 yard Par 4s in two?

If can't reach the longer par-3 hole distance in one shot or can't to reach the par-4 holes in two shots, you need to move up to a shorter set of tees.

### 5 Iron Average X 36 = Your Recommended Course Tee Yardage

Take your AVERAGE 5-iron distance, multiply by 36, and choose the tees that most closely match that yardage. Example: You hit your 5-iron 150 yards. So 150 times 36 equals 5,400. Choose the tees closest to 5,400 yards in length.

Since Metro Seniors has selected two (2) tees for tournament play, you can chose either forward or back. If you want to use your handicap to help select you tee, here is a guideline.

Since Metro Seniors is offering only two (2) tees Forward and Back (of Regular), we would suggest that most of A and B Flights would fit best on the Back Tees while most of C and all D players would be better fit for the Forward Tees.

You can see that handicap may not be as good a recommendation for tees. Short drivers that are really good around the green (low handicap) may be best suited for the forward tees even with a low handicap.

MAX Recommended Course Yardage		
Handicap Guide	Men, yards	Women, yards
<10	7000	6200
10 – 14.9	6500	5800
15 - 19.9	6200	5500
20 – 29.9	5800	5100
30.0 and Up	5500	5000

Metro Sr Division Flights, All Divisions		
Average Handicap Guide Range		
Flight	Hcp Guide	Suggest Tees
A	<17	Back
B	17 – 23	Back
C	23 – 28	Forward
D	>28	Forward