



AMERICA'S MOST-IMPROVED GOLFERS

With help from state and regional golf associations and handicap vendors in areas not on the USGA's GHIN system, we scoured the country for golfers whose Indexes plunged in 2007. We honor two men (low- and middle-handicaps), a woman and a junior who improved the most in each state. (MAXIMUM STARTING HANDICAP: 40.4 FOR FEMALES, 36.4 FOR MALES.)

CATEGORY KEY
ML = MEN'S LOW HANDICAP
MM = MEN'S MIDDLE HANDICAP
WM = WOMAN
JR = JUNIOR

ALABAMA				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Al Fiore	The Links at Redstone	3.9	+0.6
MM	Mitch Bruhn	C.C. of Birmingham	17.2	10.2
WM	Huesun Chung	Arrowhead G. & C.C.	34.3	21.7
JR	Andrew Klasing	Wynlakes C.C.	13.8	1.7
ALASKA				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Tay Epperson	Anchorage G. Cse.	12.2	6.1
MM	Andrew Johnson	Fairbanks G. & C.C.	24.9	12.4
WM	Susan Evans	Chena Bend G. Cse.	40.1	28.6
JR	Ryanae J. Baca	Valley Golf Assn.	13.7	5.9
ARIZONA				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Martin Haap	London Bridge G. Cse.	14.8	3.6
MM	Dave Jones	AGA Club-Southeast Valley	27.9	10.2
WM	Conchita Reyna	Club de Golf, Los Lagos Women	18.0	11.4
JR	Andrew Gunn	La Paloma C.C.	23.6	5.8
ARKANSAS				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Ronnie Ruff	Diamond Hills C.C.	21.0	7.8
MM	Paul McAlester	Texarkana C.C.	27.4	10.6
WM	Holly Helder	Fayetteville C.C.	30.8	18.8
JR	Rachel Harmon	Central Arkansas Golf Assn.	17.3	6.5
CALIFORNIA				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Duke Maples	Poor Old Golfers Assn.	19.3	9.3
MM	John Murrell	Tee Divas/Dudes	21.5	12.1
WM	Paula (P.J.) Lowrey	Cypress Lakes G.C.	28.1	16.9
JR	Tammie Panich	Yippee Skippy G.C.	11.9	2.6
COLORADO				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	William Mills	Riverdale Golf	11.7	1.3
MM	Robert Korbelik	Eagle Springs G.C.	28.3	13.0
WM	Rosemary Pagliano	Mira Vista G.C.	12.4	2.8
JR	Cole Nygren	Fox Hill C.C.	22.0	6.4
CONNECTICUT				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Steve Morgan	Whitney Farms G.C.	9.4	2.9
MM	Robert Grimley	Grassy Hill C.C.	25.1	14.1
WM	Erica Barnes	Shuttle Meadow C.C.	18.1	8.9
JR	Jennifer Ali	Met PGA Junior G.C.	17.4	3.7
DELAWARE				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	John Oberly Jr.	Ed Oliver G.C.	12.5	5.8
MM	Louis Saindon	Newark C.C.	25.3	14.4
WM	Janet Carroll	Newark C.C.	26.2	18.6
JR	Justin Glavin	Brandywine C.C.	15.1	6.8
FLORIDA				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Bill Corry	Quail Valley G.C.	6.0	+1.4
MM	Fernando Davila	International Links Miami	25.0	12.7
WM	Kerry Haines	Veranda C.	29.2	16.0
JR	Hayden Jones	Orange Tree C.C.	22.4	5.7
GEORGIA				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Ken Miller	TPC Sugarloaf	7.6	+1.8
MM	Walter Strickland	Capital City C.	28.5	13.0
WM	Lauren Judson	Hawks Ridge G.C.	15.6	5.6
JR	Garrett Dehart	Woodmont G. & C.C.	29.4	13.7

HAWAII				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	John Neeley	Wela Ka Ha'o G.C.	16.1	6.5
MM	Garet Akiyoshi	Wela Ka Ha'o G.C.	26.0	14.6
WM	Valerie Ing	Hawaii Ladies Golf Assn.	37.3	25.1
JR	Hayley Young	Hawaii State Junior Golf Assn.	9.1	0.9
IDAHO				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Matthew Garner	BanBury G. Cse.	14.5	5.6
MM	Berto Reyes	Rolling Hills G. Cse.	18.4	12.3
WM	Jere Kovach	BanBury G. Cse.	15.3	9.1
JR	Travis Vitek	Gooding C.C.	21.7	11.5
ILLINOIS				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Robert Miller	Green Hills G.C.	17.7	8.7
MM	Gene Gurley	Metropolis C.C.	19.6	12.1
WM	Jayma Buckingham	Franklin Co. C.C.	30.5	21.7
JR	Kaleb Kessler	Sparta G. Cse.	4.7	0.4
INDIANA				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Doug Krodel	Heartland Crossing G. Links	18.4	3.7
MM	Doug Tolle	Sprig O'Mint G.C.	30.1	14.9
WM	Cathy Masters	Juday Creek G. Cse.	30.7	12.0
JR	Landon Smith	Evansville C.C.	22.9	8.9
IOWA				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Tommy Mellon Jr.	Tournament Club of Iowa	4.8	+2.0
MM	Darin E. Ferguson	Des Moines G. & C.C.	19.4	11.4
WM	Cindy Morrison	Indianola C.C.	15.9	9.3
JR	Jake Hanrahan	Clinton C.C.	18.5	4.5
KANSAS				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Dick Roberts	Reflection Ridge G.C.	5.7	1.2
MM	Doug McCollum	Forbes G. Cse.	27.1	12.8
WM	Nicole Pahl	Colbert Hills G. Cse.	20.0	10.4
JR	Andrew Morrison III	Kansas City C.C.	31.0	12.2
KENTUCKY				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Jearmy Wilson	The Links at Lily Creek	13.2	4.0
MM	Art Fulton	Old Bridge G.C.	22.5	10.0
WM	Becky Norris	Shawnee G. Cse.	40.3	24.6
JR	Mac Telle	Laurensville C.C.	15.3	4.2
LOUISIANA				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Michael Seal	Beau Chene C.C.	14.4	2.8
MM	Brian Thevenot	TPC Louisiana	21.5	12.3
WM	Catherine Murray	Forbes Hill G. & C.C.	39.2	26.8
JR	April Anderson	Lake Charles C.C.	12.6	7.8
MAINE				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Steve Crocker	Augusta C.C.	15.9	7.5
MM	Jon Martin	Oakdale C.C.	30.7	20.5
WM	Jen Gavett	Penobscot Valley C.C.	34.1	17.3
JR	Alexa Rancourt	Sable Oaks C.C.	8.9	0.9
MARYLAND				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Matt Hollis	Beaver Creek C.C.	11.8	4.2
MM	Frank Nesbit	Hawthorne C.C.	26.7	13.4
WM	Rose Ditomasso	Brantwood G.C.	16.2	9.4
JR	Michael Brennan	TPC Avenel	18.5	3.6
MASSACHUSETTS				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Mike Dinn III	Pocasset G.C.	12.8	4.6
MM	John Okane Sr.	Newton Commonwealth G. Cse.	27.8	15.1
WM	Sue Joyce	Harmon C.C.	31.0	18.0
JR	Brandon Weiner	Walpole C.C.	23.9	5.4
MICHIGAN				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Dave Karschnick III	Alpena C.C.	17.1	9.5
MM	Victor Kaufmann	Century Oaks G. Cse.	29.4	19.3
WM	Deanne Bruzzese	Great Oaks C.C.	21.1	9.9
JR	Brad Wernet	Birmingham C.C.	20.4	4.0
MINNESOTA				
CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Daniel Gill	Monticello C.C.	20.4	9.0
MM	Ryan Snorek	Pine City C.C.	32.0	17.4
WM	Ali Nelson	Village Green G.C.	6.9	0.4
JR	Dan Pylipow	Bearpath C.C.	35.0	12.7



MISSISSIPPI

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	David McCay	Reunion G. & C.C.	11.8	1.2
MM	C.M. Jordan	C.C. of Oxford	33.3	22.2
WM	Nancy Robinson	Back Acres C.C.	22.9	13.9
JR	Mary Lang Gallagher	Greenwood C.C.	15.6	6.0

MISSOURI

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Al Futrell	Links at Dardenne	11.6	2.7
MM	Alex Doneff	Crescent Farms G.C.	25.2	10.8
WM	Michele Duncan	Aberdeen G. Cse.	29.5	16.6
JR	Kristen Hamel	Forest Hills C.C.	11.2	3.3

MONTANA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Andrew Wagner	Fort Custer G.C.	23.9	8.0
MM	Bernie Sender	Rivers Bend G. Cse.	28.5	16.6
WM	Julie Campbell	Riverside C.C.	20.4	9.8
JR	Esten Scanson	Lake Hills G.C.	28.4	16.6

NEBRASKA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Dale Jenneman Jr.	Indianhead G.C.	1.2	+2.8
MM	Fred G. Walker	Indianhead G.C.	34.5	16.0
WM	Danielle Lemek	Lochland C.C.	10.9	4.8
JR	Tyler Dowling	NJGA Handicap C.	21.8	8.2

NEVADA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Roy Goodell	White Pine G. Cse.	17.0	8.1
MM	Bill Boon	ArrowCreek C.C.	25.6	15.5
WM	Daninelle Kegley	Winnemucca Ladies G.C.	36.0	24.8
JR	Anthony Decker	The Resort at Red Hawk	36.4	10.3

NEW HAMPSHIRE

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Walter Reid	Windham C.C.	16.5	6.8
MM	Kris Hillson	Duston C.C.	36.4	11.4
WM	Roberta Cullity	Derryfield C.C.	19.7	9.0
JR	Mitchel Fortin	Manchester C.C.	36.4	14.1

NEW JERSEY

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Kevin McSorley	Charleston Springs G.C.	4.9	+0.8
MM	Tyrone Lopez	Gambler Ridge G.C.	35.4	17.5
WM	Tara Fleming	Bayonne G.C.	6.5	+1.6
JR	Keith Burkard	Ramsey G. & C.C.	20.1	4.6

NEW MEXICO

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Randy Barnes	Puerto Del Sol G. Cse.	22.9	9.0
MM	Thomas Rice	Four Hills C.C.	20.5	11.4
WM	Shala Lopez	Dos Lagos G. Cse.	40.3	26.1
JR	Chris Cutler	San Juan C.C.	15.8	3.8

NEW YORK

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Jim Mattoon	Clifton Springs C.C.	19.2	6.8
MM	Phil Trench	Pompey C.	34.8	13.4
WM	Rene Sobolewski	Crag Burn G.C.	19.2	8.5
JR	Trevor Sluman	Oak Hill C.C.	30.8	8.1

NORTH CAROLINA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Kanen Lawson	Forest Oaks C.C.	4.8	+2.4
MM	James Grant	Brier Creek C.C.	32.9	16.8
WM	Val Shivar	Rockfish C.C.	14.2	3.6
JR	Mitchell Schneider	Charlotte G. Links	24.0	4.4

NORTH DAKOTA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Eddy Delzer	Ashley C.C.	7.5	+2.3
MM	David Talley	Oxbow C.C.	24.3	15.1
WM	Lynn Schaible	Mott G. Cse.	33.4	23.8
JR	Heather Cellmer	Hillcrest Women's Assn.	20.2	9.2

OHIO

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Lynn Nearing	Pleasant Hill G.C.	12.3	1.0
MM	Cecil Jenkins	Longaberger G.C.	25.0	12.2
WM	Leigha Kristoff	Mentel Memorial G. Cse.	14.8	7.7
JR	Brad Blake	Medallion C.	23.0	6.9

OKLAHOMA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Sean Cowan	Elk City G. & C.C.	9.1	2.3
MM	Mike Wolf	Twin Hills G. & C.C.	24.2	15.0
WM	Meagan Hendrix	Rose Creek G.C.	5.1	0.9
JR	Chris Weiser	Moore G. & A.C.	6.5	+0.2

OREGON

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Derek Sipe	Emerald Valley G.C.	0.4	+3.8
MM	Viorel Badescu	Heron Lakes G.C.	27.6	11.7
WM	Lindsay Aho	The Cedars G.C.	8.6	1.5
JR	Lindsay Reeve	Oregon Junior G.C.	13.1	2.6

PENNSYLVANIA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Chuck Rotelli	Huntingdon Valley C.C.	12.4	3.5
MM	Leo Kelly Sr.	Commonwealth National G.C.	21.9	10.1
WM	Sally Lee	St. Clair C.C.	35.2	25.0
JR	Steven Welkie	Brookside C.C. of Allentown	20.2	3.7

RHODE ISLAND

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Brian Maher	Newport C.C.	19.7	9.0
MM	Evan Picard	Exeter C.C.	25.1	14.4
WM	Kathy Shafer	Weekapaug C.C.	30.2	19.7
JR	Nick M. Leandro	Montaup C.C.	21.8	6.3

SOUTH CAROLINA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	David Clark	North Augusta G. & C.C.	6.8	0.7
MM	Jim Davis	Gaffney C.C.	25.5	12.9
WM	Cheryl Love	Kiawah Island C.	23.3	13.5
JR	John Neal	Fort Mill G.C.	27.2	10.0

SOUTH DAKOTA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Chris Johnson	Webster Municipal G. Cse.	17.8	7.4
MM	Terry Steele	Brandon G. Cse.	19.1	10.9
WM	Katie Benedict	Elmwood G.C.	19.0	5.8
JR	Tom Dockry	Westward Ho C.C.	30.0	13.7

TENNESSEE

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	John Burton	Kings Creek G.C.	27.9	9.9
MM	Robert Anderson	Memphis National G.C.	36.4	22.9
WM	Nancy Frank	Irene G. & C.C.	26.6	13.3
JR	Tyler Bunn	Fox Den C.C.	13.7	1.7

TEXAS

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Landon Allen	Corsicana C.C.	2.5	+2.9
MM	Matt Poole	South Shore Harbour C.C.	23.6	11.7
WM	Catherine Matranga	Ridglea C.C.	1.6	+2.6
JR	Kayli Quinton	Blackhorse G.C.	11.1	1.0

UTAH

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Michael McKinzie	Alpine C.C.	11.9	0.9
MM	Will Doudy	Toana Vista G. Cse.	35.6	22.0
WM	Aimee Evans	Old Mill G. Cse.	22.7	11.8
JR	Sam Smith	Park City G. Cse.	25.6	7.3

VERMONT

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Joe Bartlett	Ralph Myhre G.C.	3.1	+0.2
MM	Mike Baranski	Links at Lang Farm	19.0	10.2
WM	Bette Kilduff	Lake St. Catherine C.C.	31.6	19.1
JR	Harrison Shih	Stratton Mountain C.C.	26.3	9.2

VIRGINIA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Jesus Vicente-Salas	Eagle Haven G. Cse.	24.4	7.2
MM	Allen Jones	Cypress Cove C.C.	32.1	22.1
WM	Lori Harris	Greenbrier C.C.	40.4	22.8
JR	Will Macilwane	Manakin-Sabot	35.1	11.9

WASHINGTON

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Trent Combs	Apple Tree G. Cse.	10.8	1.9
MM	Matt Melcher	Hangman Valley G. Cse.	25.2	11.8
WM	Linda Bachand	High Cedars G.C.	40.3	20.7
JR	Justin Cory	Oakbrook G. & C.C.	21.0	5.5

WEST VIRGINIA

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Denver Singleton	Bridgeport C.C.	25.7	9.9
MM	Gary Adkins	Spring Valley C.C.	22.6	14.1
WM	Kelley Dlugos	The Pines C.C.	27.0	17.8
JR	Alex Mattingly	The Pines C.C.	19.6	9.0

WISCONSIN


CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Ross Michler	Tripoli C.C.	4.6	+1.4
MM	Jeremy Mason	Drugan's Castle Mound C.C.	26.6	12.0
WM	Joan Brent	The Legend at Brandybrook	16.7	8.4
JR	Jack McKinney	WPGA Junior Foundation	16.7	2.8

WYOMING

CAT.	NAME	COURSE	1/07	12/07
ML	Edward Stewart	Jackson Hole G. & T.C.	2.2	+1.4
MM	Ryan O'Dell	Kendrick G.C.	33.6	14.6
WM	Linda Lovelett	F.E. Warren Air Force Base	40.3	24.1
JR	Troy Miskimins	Cheyenne C.C.	22.4	8.2



1
EDDY DELZER
NORTH DAKOTA
2.010



2
DOUG KRODEL
INDIANA
1.936



3
KEN MILLER
GEORGIA
1.922



4
JESUS VICENTE-SALAS
VIRGINIA
1.896



5
LYNN NEARING
OHIO
1.869



6
MICHAEL MCKINZIE
UTAH
1.853



7
PHIL TRENCH
NEW YORK
1.843



8
JOHN BURTON
TENNESSEE
1.822



9
DAVID MCCAY
MISSISSIPPI
1.803



10
DAVE JONES
ARIZONA
1.797

THE BIGGEST IMPROVERS

Our rankings use a USGA formula developed by Dean Knuth that allows improvement at different levels to be compared "apples to apples." The equation: Add 12 to a player's Index at the start of a season (A), then add 12 to the Index at the end of the season (B). Divide A by B, calculating to three decimal places to get the player's Improvement Factor. A golfer who goes from 20.0 to 10.0 has about the same Improvement Factor as one who goes from 5.0 to scratch. Above are the Top-10 Most Improved Golfers (adults) nationwide for 2007 and their Improvement Factors.