

Hasentree ranks as one of the toughest golf courses in the Triangle

Triangle Business Journal ranked the public and semi-private courses in the area, as well as local private golf courses, by slope from men's back tees. Hasentree tied for second place as one of the toughest golf courses in the Triangle.

Golf course rankings measure courses by a number of metrics. Sometimes, they are based on player reviews, other times by a conglomeration of factors, including resistance to scoring, shot values and design variety.

But all of that can be simplified by two numbers that are assigned to every golf course: rating and slope. Both are measures of how difficult a course is to play.

While the course rating measures how difficult a course is for a golfer who consistently shoots par on any course, slope is actually a measure of how much difference a course's difficulty is for the average "bogey golfer" compared to a par golfer.

The slope is the imaginary line difference on a chart from a par score of, say, 72 and a bogey golfer score of 90, for example. The United States Golf Association has developed a scale for slope values that typically run from 55 to 155.

The 10 toughest public/semi-private courses in the Triangle have an average slope of 133.5. The toughest local private courses have a 136 slope average. And all of the courses in the slideshow have a tee-to-green length of more than 6,200 yards from men's back tees.

