

Myrtle Beach winner DQ'd over handicap questions

The apparent winner of the PGA Tour Superstore World Amateur Handicap Championship was disqualified after his final round because of concerns over his handicap.

Al Simon shot 91 for a net 14-under 58 Sept. 2 at The Dunes Golf and Beach Club in the final round for all flight winners of the weeklong tournament (Results, p36).

Simon, of Charlotte, N.C., submitted a 30.1 handicap index when he entered the event and posted rounds of 101-108-95-88 to win Flight 34. His net scores were 70-78-66-58. He shot a 392 gross and 272 net total.

Jerry Glenn, of Pensacola, Fla., was declared champion after Simon's disqualification. Glenn shot 81 for a net 65 at The Dunes.

Tournament officials, who consult a USGA handicap probability scale, were concerned with Simon's handicap Thursday night but didn't have time to do research before the final round. Officials later found out Simon had not posted a score in two

months, thus questioning the accuracy of his handicap.

"There's a gray area there," tournament director Steve Mays told *The Sun News* of Myrtle Beach. "Handicap rulings aren't as black and white as the rules of golf. We take all the information we have and make the best decision we (can)."

The tournament regularly disqualifies players for handicap issues, and 15 were sent packing this year. No champion had been DQ'd in the final round since the inception of the flight winner playoff in 1988.

"It just happened (that) I had the best round of golf I probably shot in 20 to 25 years," Simon told *The Sun News*. "It probably looks a little fishy to some people, but believe me, I just had two good days of golf. . . ."

"It's a good feeling to shoot a couple days of good scores, but I understand where they're coming from. I'll try to go back down next year and do it again."

- Staff and wire reports