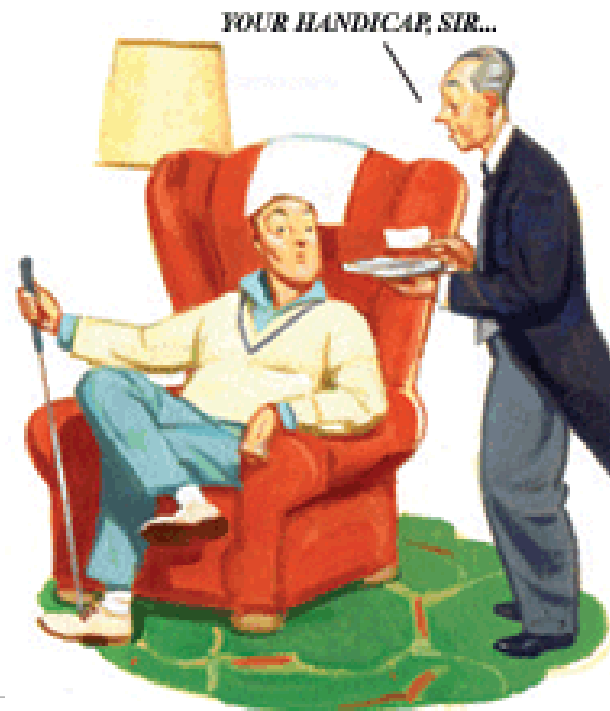
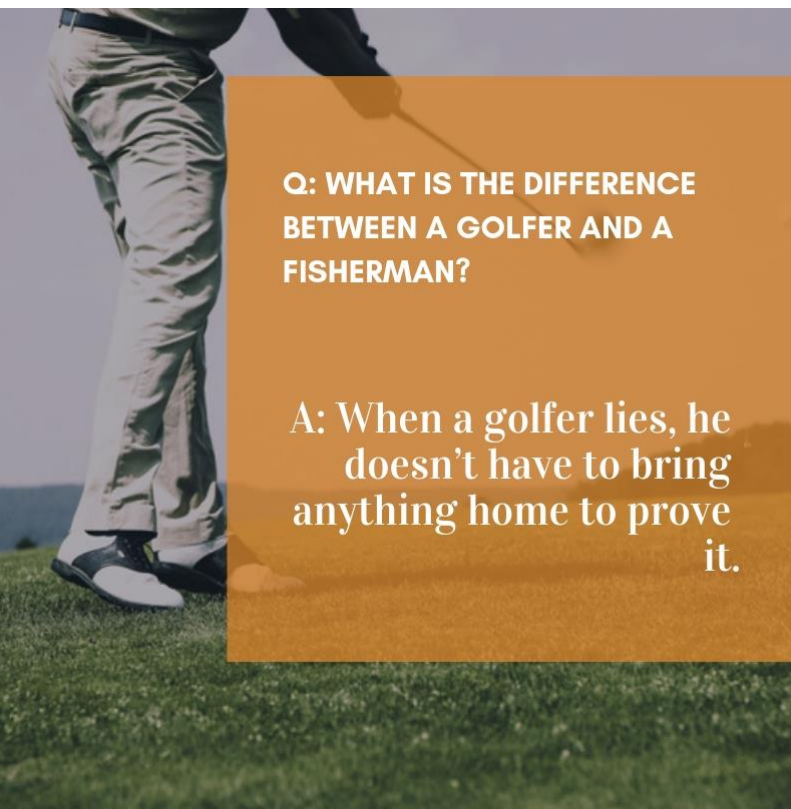


"He vaporized Bob for telling him he couldn't have a mulligan. I say we just let him play the way he wants."





The World Handicap System

An Overview

Presented By Doug Hastie – Jan. 14th 2020



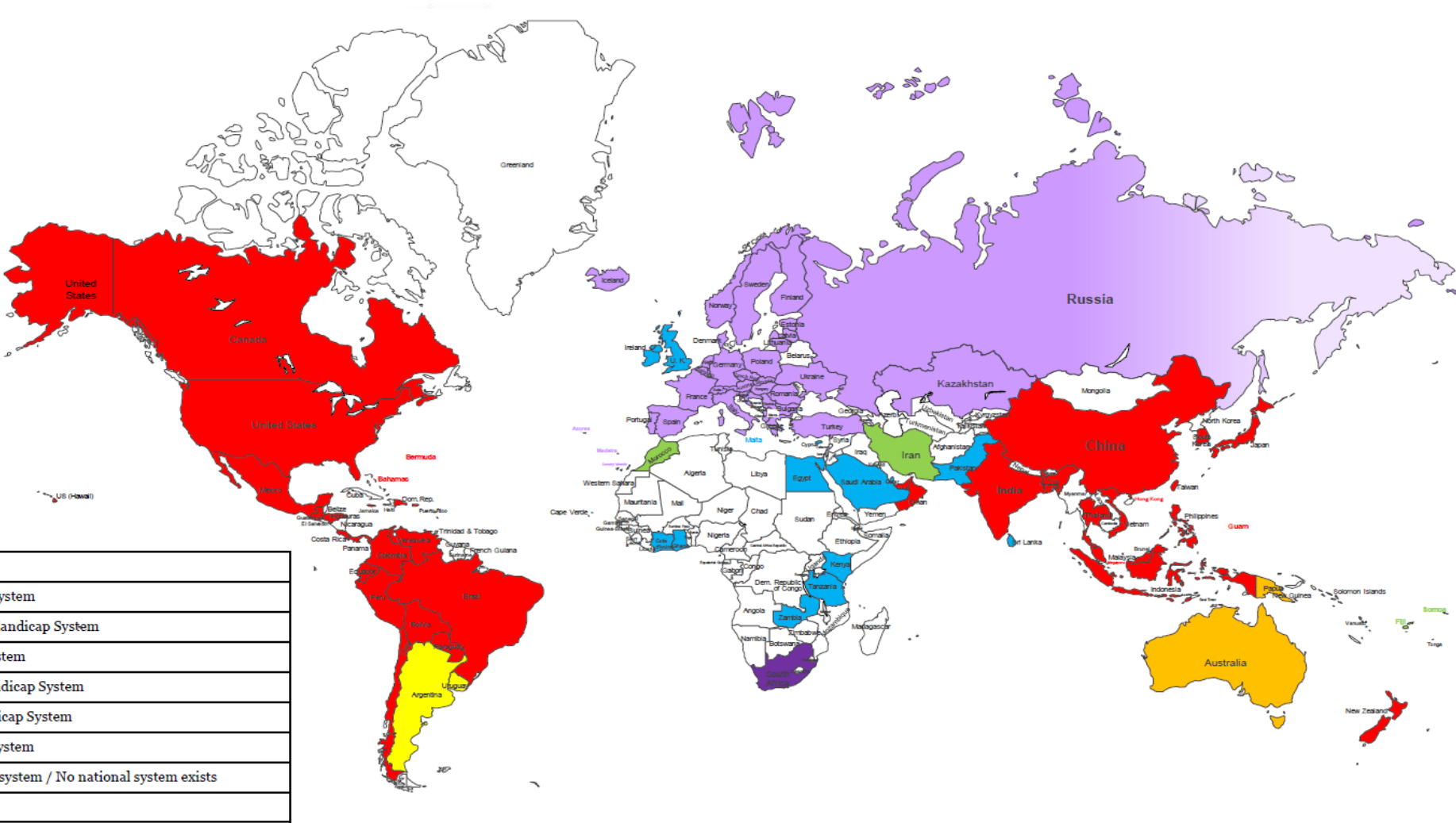
Topics for the day

- 1) Welcome to the WHS
- 2) The Importance of “Par” in the WHS
- 3) Playing Conditions Calculation
- 4) Exceptional Score Reduction and “Caps”
- 5) Some recommendations for you
- 6) Q and A

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Welcome to the World Handicap System

Six Systems to one



Governance

There will be one World Handicap System to be consistent with other other Governance functions.

Governance Structure



The World Handicap System will be comprised of the Rules of Handicapping and the Course Rating System.

Hierarchy

The USGA and The R&A	Are joint governing authorities and are responsible for authorizing use of the World Handicap System.
National Associations	Have the exclusive rights to implement and administer the World Handicap System within its jurisdiction, including the issuance of a Handicap Index.
Allied Golf Associations	Are affiliated to its National Association and comprised of golf clubs and/or golfers within a defined area.
Golf Club/Handicap Committee	Is affiliated to its AGA and is responsible for ensuring the Handicaps of its members are administered in accordance with the requirements of the Rules of Handicapping.
Player	Attempts to make the best score possible at each hole and submits scores for handicap purposes as soon as possible after the round is completed.

Hierarchy

January 8th	World Handicap System (WHS) launch on golfcanada.ca
January 8 - 15	Implementation of Winter Handicaps (applicable Lower Mainland/Vancouver Island courses only)
January 1 st – February 28 th	Mailout (via email) of current pars to all courses Correction of pars and Stroke Allocation Holes
February 3rd	Print versions of Rules of Handicapping available to order
Spring 2020	In-person Handicap Seminars

Home Club

To ensure that a player has only **one Handicap Index**, and to easily identify the golf club or AGA with authority should issues arise, a player should have one Home Club.

A Home Club is determined by:

- the player;
- and is typically determined by where the player submits the *most* scores or demonstrates regularity of play.



How to Use the Rule Book

The “Rules of Handicapping” will consist of Definitions and seven Rules:

Rule 1 – Purpose and Authorization; Obtaining a Handicap Index

Rule 2 – Scores Acceptable for Handicap Purposes

Rule 3 – Adjustment of Hole Scores

Rule 4 – Submitting a Score

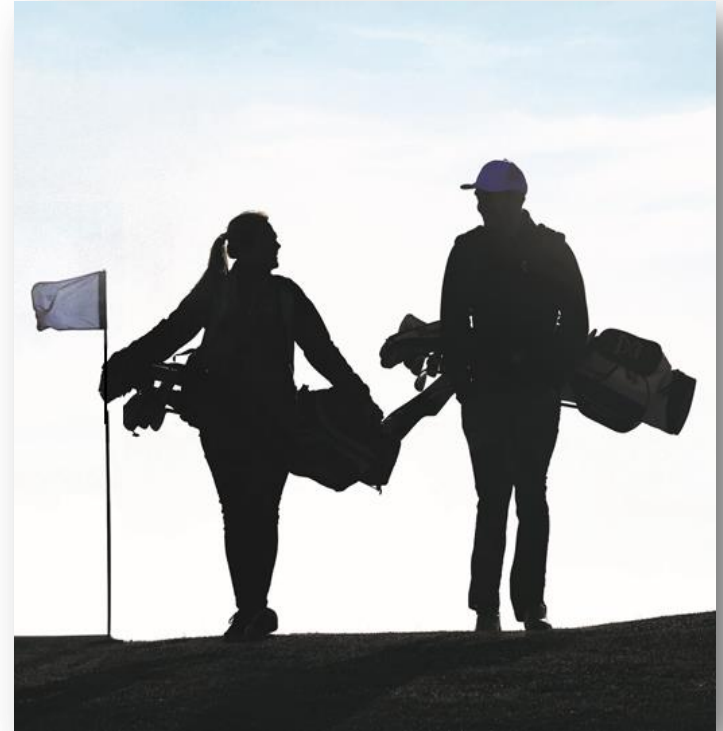
Rule 5 – Handicap Index Calculation

Rule 6 – Course Handicap and Playing Handicap Calculation

Rule 7 – Committee Actions

There will also be seven Appendices, which will contain further details and more information.

Refer to the “Rules of Handicapping” whenever a question arises about the World Handicap System.



Purpose of the World Handicap System

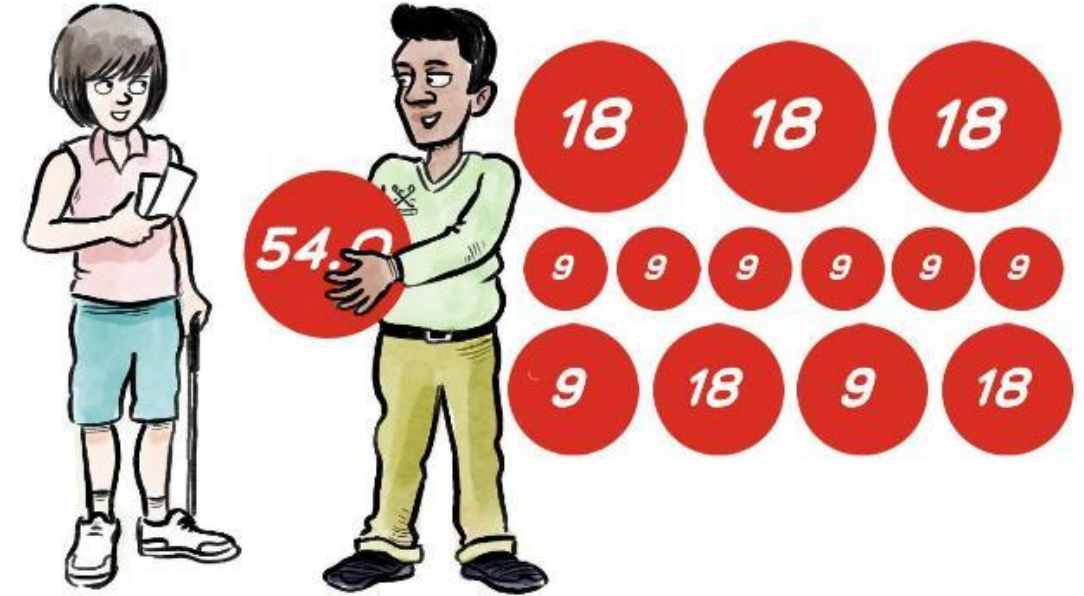
The WHS includes the Rules of Handicapping and the Course Rating System. Its purpose is to enable as many golfers as possible the opportunity to:

- Obtain and maintain a Handicap Index;
- Use their Handicap Index on any golf course around the world; and
- Compete, or play recreationally, with anyone else on a fair basis.



Minimum Scores to Obtain a Handicap Index

- **54 holes** made up of any combination of 9- or 18-hole rounds.
- No time limit on completing the submission of these scores.



Maximum Handicap Index

The maximum Handicap Index that can be allocated to a golfer is **54.0**.

This speaks to two key principles of the World Handicap System:

- To be as inclusive and accessible as possible;
- To make it as easy as possible for golfers to obtain and maintain a Handicap Index.



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Importance of Par in the WHS

Importance of Par

Par	Men	Women
3	Up to 260 yards	Up to 220 yards
4	240 to 490 yards	200 to 420 yards
5	450 to 710 yards	370 to 600 yards
6	670 yards and up	570 yards and up

Stroke Index

New terminology for *Handicap Stroke Holes*.

It is recommended allocating odd strokes on front 9 and *even* strokes on *back 9*.

With Par being more important under the WHS, difficulty to Par using scores in ranking the holes. The Course Rating can be used to help determine the Stroke Holes.

If possible, avoid having the #1 and #2 stroke holes on first or last holes of each nine.

If possible, avoid consecutive low stroke holes (6 or less) on consecutive holes.

Maximum Score for Handicap Purposes

Net Double Bogey	A player's maximum hole score for handicap purposes, ensuring bad holes don't impact a player's handicap too severely.
-------------------------	---



Maximum Score for Handicap Purposes

Net double bogey

=

Par

+

2

+/-

Handicap strokes received
or given on a hole

A player with a Course Handicap of 11 receives one stroke on the first 11 allocated stroke holes. On a par-4 with a *stroke index* of 6, the player's *net double bogey* score is calculated as follows:

Par		Two Strokes (Double Bogey)		Stroke(s) Received	=	Max
4	+	2	+	1		7

Course Handicap

A Course Handicap will be the number of strokes a player receives to play down to the *Par* of the tees being played. The formula is:

Course Handicap =

(Handicap Index x Slope Rating / 113) + (Course Rating – PAR)



Comparison of Course Handicap – Old & WHS

Handicap Index 15.0

Tee and Rating	OLD		WHS	
	Course Hdcp	Target Score	Course Hdcp	Target Score
Black (72.0/115) Par 72	15	87	15	87
White (69.0/114) Par 72	15	84	12	84
Gold (67.0/113) Par 72	15	82	10	82

Note: The Target Score for Playing to Handicap remains the same under both systems.

Course Handicap = (Handicap Index x Slope Rating/113) + (Course Rating – PAR)

Playing Handicap

When *handicap allowances* are used in various formats of play, *Course Handicaps* are adjusted to make the competition equitable.

The adjusted Course Handicap will be referred to as a **Playing Handicap**.

$$\text{Playing Handicap} = \text{Course Handicap} \times \text{Handicap Allowance}$$

If different tees are in use (by different genders), a player's Playing Handicap is adjusted by the difference in Par.



Handicap Allowances

Handicap Allowances are recommended to provide equity for various forms of competition.

Allowance recommendations will be the same for men and women.

STROKE PLAY	
Format:	Allowance:
Singles Stroke Play/Stableford	95%
Four-ball Stroke Play	85%
Maximum Score Form of Stroke Play	95%
Best 1 of 4 Stroke Play	75%
Best 2 of 4 Stroke Play	85%
Best 3 of 4 Stroke Play	100%
All 4 of 4 Stroke Play	100%
Total Score of 2	100%
Foursomes	50% combined
Selected Drive (Greensomes)	60% Low + 40% High
Pinehurst/Chapman	60% Low + 40% High
Scramble (4 players)	25%/20%/15%/10% from lowest to highest handicap
Scramble (2 players)	35% Low, 15% High

MATCH PLAY	
Format:	Allowance:
Head to Head	100%
Four-ball	90%
Total Score of 2 Match Play	100%
Foursomes	50% Combined
Selected Drive (Greensomes)	60% Low + 40% High
Pinehurst/Chapman	60% Low + 40% High

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What is a PCC?

Daily Revisions/Timeframe for Submitting a Score

- A Handicap Index will update daily.
- Players should submit their scores as soon as possible after the round is completed, and before midnight (local time).
- This is to ensure the score will be used for the Playing Conditions Calculation.
- A player's Handicap Index should be updated the day after a score is submitted.
- For Canada, this does not reflect any change

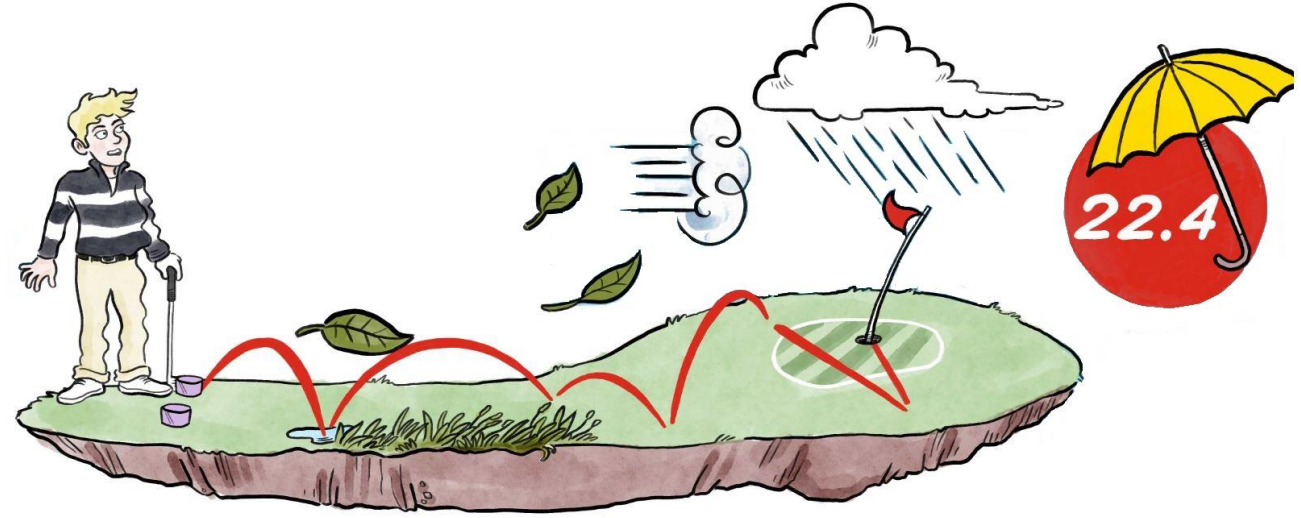


Playing Conditions Calculation (PCC)

When abnormal playing conditions cause scores to be unusually high or low on a given day, a Playing Conditions Calculation will adjust Score Differentials to better reflect the player's actual performance.

The 'PCC' will be simple and conservative in nature and will be adjusted in integer values.

-1, +1, +2, +3



Playing Conditions Calculation (PCC)

- Is performed only once for a day.
- Considers acceptable scores submitted on a golf course, including all rated tees and both genders.
- Requires at least eight acceptable scores submitted by players with a Handicap Index of 36.0 or below.
- Is applied in the calculation of score differentials for all players.
- Includes both 9-hole and 18-hole acceptable scores.
- Regardless of when the score is posted, the PCC will impact the score differential.



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No More “Tournament” Scores

Exceptional Score Reduction (ESR)

ESR is a procedure for dealing with exceptional scores which may indicate the player's true ability. **All scores** are considered, rather than only Tournament scores.

How does it work?

1. Calculate Score Differential once score is posted and Playing Conditions Calculation is applied (when appropriate).
2. If Score Differential is **-7.0 strokes or better** than the Handicap Index from when the round was played;
3. Apply ESR table reduction to newly calculated Handicap Index.

<i>Score Differential Relative to Index</i>	7.0 – 9.9 strokes lower	10.0 or more
<i>ESR Adjustment</i>	-1.0	-2.0

➤ This is *in addition to* any reduction caused by the score being used in the updated 8 of 20 calculation.

ESR

Note the scores made after the Exceptional Score will not have a –1 adjustment, which allows the ESR to take care of itself.

The player posted a second Exceptional Score on 9/5, which resulted in a –1 adjustment to their previous 20 differentials.

The player posted an Exceptional Score on 5/22, which resulted in a –1 adjustment to their previous 20 differentials.

	Score Type	Date Played	Adjusted Gross Score	Rating/Slope	PCC	Score Differential	Course Name	ESR Adjustment
1	H	9/29/2020	92	70.5/125	0	19.4	Hill CC	
2	H	9/22/2020	91	70.5/125	0	18.5	Hill CC	
3	H	9/5/2020	75	70.5/125	0	4.1	Hill CC	-1
4	H	9/1/2020	99	70.5/125	0	25.8	Hill CC	-1
5	H	8/28/2020	89	70.5/125	0	16.7	Hill CC	-1
6	A	8/23/2020	92	71.3/127	0	18.4	River CC	-1
7	A	7/26/2020	87	72.2/131	0	12.8	Meadow CC	-1
8	H	7/14/2020	97	70.5/125	0	24.0	Hill CC	-1
9	H	7/4/2020	88	70.5/125	0	15.8	Hill CC	-1
10	A	6/18/2020	87	71.3/127	0	13.5	River CC	-1
11	A	6/18/2020	95	69.9/118	0	24.0	Valley CC	-1
12	C	6/12/2020	86	70.1/115	0	15.6	Forest CC	-1
13	A	6/5/2020	85	72.2/131	0	11.0	Meadow CC	-1
14	H	6/2/2020	82	70.5/125	0	10.4	Hill CC	-1
15	H	5/30/2020	94	70.5/125	0	21.2	Hill CC	-1
16	A	5/25/2020	89	69.9/118	0	18.3	Valley CC	-1
17	H	5/22/2020	75	70.5/125	0	4.1	Hill CC	-1/-1
18	H	4/29/2020	85	70.5/125	0	13.1	Hill CC	-1/-1
19	H	4/14/2020	93	70.5/125	0	20.3	Hill CC	-1/-1
20	H	4/10/2020	94	70.5/125	0	21.2	Hill CC	-1/-1
21	A	4/3/2020	86	72.2/131	0	12.1	Meadow CC	-1/-1
22	A	3/29/2020	84	72.2/131	0	10.2	Meadow CC	-1/-1
23	H	3/27/2020	92	70.5/125	0	19.4	Hill CC	-1
24	A	3/22/2020	90	69.9/118	0	19.2	Valley CC	-1
25	H	3/21/2020	89	70.5/125	0	16.7	Hill CC	-1

Memory of Low Handicap Index (LHI)

- The *LHI* represents the demonstrated ability of a player over the 12-month period preceding the most recent score in the player's scoring record.
- It provides a reference point against which the current Handicap Index can be compared.
- 4/25/2021 – Golfer submitted a score which produced a Handicap Index of 24.9
 - *Low Handicap Index at this time is 25.8 (from 5/3/2020)*

Retains a
memory
of your
lowest
Handicap
Index



Upon recalculation the next day, a new Low Handicap Index of 24.9 is set.

Limit on Upward Movement of a Handicap Index

- There is no limit on the amount by which a player's Handicap Index can decrease.
- There are two trigger points that will limit extreme upward movement of a Handicap Index.



Your Handicap Index should **NEVER** increase more than **five strokes** above your Low Handicap Index over a rolling **twelve-month period**

Cap Procedure

A Soft Cap and Hard Cap will be implemented to limit the extreme upward movement of a player's Handicap Index within a 12-month period.

The *Soft Cap* will suppress upward movement by 50% after a 3.0 stroke increase over the Low Handicap Index has been reached.

The *Hard Cap* will restrict upward movement to 5.0 strokes over the Low Handicap Index.

The soft cap and hard cap procedures only start to take effect once a player has at least 20 acceptable scores in their scoring record.



Soft cap



Hard cap

Soft Cap Example

*Player A has a Low H.I. of **10.0**. His current 8 of 20 average is **15.2***

***Step 1:** Add 3.0 to Low HI*

$$10.0 + 3.0 = 13.0$$

***Step 2:** Determine difference between current 8 of 20 average and Step 1:*

$$15.2 - 13.0 = 2.2$$

***Step 3:** Add 50% of the resulting value to Step 1:*

$$13.0 + 1.1 = 14.1$$

Handicap Index: 14.1



Hard Cap Example

*Player A has a Low H.I. of **10.0**. A's current 8 of 20 average is **17.4***

Step 1: Add 7.0 to Low HI

$$10.0 + 7.0 = 17.0$$

Step 2: Compare 8 of 20 value to Step 1.

If 8 of 20 is greater value, go to Step 3.

17.4 vs. 17.0 8 of 20 is greater

Step 3: Because 8 of 20 is greater, Hard Cap applies and limits Index to 15.0

Handicap Index: ~~17.4~~ 15.0



Hard cap

Key Definitions



LOW HANDICAP INDEX

The lowest Handicap Index achieved by a player within the last 12 months.



HARD AND SOFT CAP

A reduction or limit on the increase of a player's Handicap Index over a rolling 12-month period, measured against the player's Low Handicap Index within that period of time.



PLAYING CONDITIONS CALCULATION

A procedure used to evaluate if course and/or weather conditions on the day of play deviate from normal playing conditions to the extent that they have a significant impact on players' performance.



EXCEPTIONAL SCORE REDUCTION

A score differential which is at least 7.0 strokes better than the player's Handicap Index at the time the round was played (see Rule 5.9).



NET DOUBLE BOGEY

The maximum score for a hole for handicap purposes, which is the sum of:

- The Par of the hole,
- Any handicap strokes applied on that hole, and
- An additional two strokes



NET PAR

Net Par is the new term for Par Plus used when a hole is not played.

Some Recommendations

- 1) Get to know the basics
- 2) Look at the “Par” for your course and see if it matches
- 3) Recommend to your customers that they enter their scores hole by hole and use the Golf Canada app
- 4) Check your “handicap stroke holes” and consider changing them with your next scorecard order

QUESTIONS?

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Handicap Formula

Handicap Index Calculation

There are **five significant changes** to the Handicap Index calculation coming in 2020:

1) The **minimum** number of scores required.

3

2) The **number of** differentials used.

8 of 20

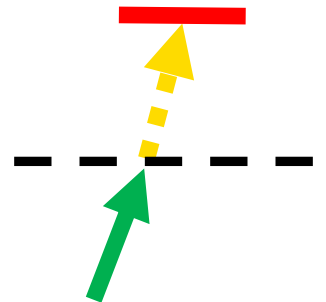
3) A Playing Conditions Calculation.



4) An Exceptional Score Reduction that considers all scores.



5) The **addition** of a Soft Cap and Hard Cap to limit upward movement.



Number of Differentials Used

The following table will be used to determine the number of score differentials used in the Handicap Index calculation, as well as any additional adjustment:

Number of <i>score differentials</i> in <i>scoring record</i>	Score differential(s) to be used in calculation of <i>Handicap Index</i>	Adjustment to column 2 result
3	Lowest 1	-2.0
4	Lowest 1	-1.0
5	Lowest 1	0
6	Average of lowest 2	-1.0
7 or 8	Average of lowest 2	0
9 to 11	Average of lowest 3	0
12 to 14	Average of lowest 4	0
15 or 16	Average of lowest 5	0
17 or 18	Average of lowest 6	0
19	Average of lowest 7	0
20	Average of lowest 8	0

Calculation of a Handicap Index

For 20 Scores:

- Average the lowest **8** of the most recent 20 Score Differentials;
- round to the nearest tenth.

Your
**Handicap
Index** is
based on:



Calculation of a Score Differential

For an 18-hole Score, a Score Differential is calculated as follows:

Score Differential =

(Adjusted Gross Score – Course Rating – PCC) x (113/Slope Rating)

PCC = Playing Conditions Calculation

Calculation of a Score Differential

A lower score may not always produce a lower Score Differential:

$$(95 - 71.5 - 0) \times 113 / 125 = 21.2$$

$$(97 - 73.8 - 0) \times 113 / 140 = 18.7$$

$$(90 - 66.1 - 0) \times 113 / 105 = 25.7$$



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Putting in Scores

Treatment of 9-Hole Scores – Combining

Combine two 9-hole scores to create an 18-hole *score differential*.

If a player plays 7-**13** holes, then the 9-hole score will be posted and then combined with next 9-hole score.

$$\begin{array}{c} 9 + 9 = \\ 18N \end{array}$$

Guidelines for Most Likely Score

When a player starts, but does not complete a hole, the score recorded for handicap purposes is the ***Most Likely Score*** using the following guidelines:

Position of the ball:	Strokes to be added:
On the putting green within 5 feet of the hole	Add 1 additional stroke
Between 5 feet and 20 yards from the hole	Add 2 or 3 additional strokes, <i>depending on the position of the ball, the difficulty of the green and the ability of the player</i>
Beyond 20 yards from the hole	Add 3 or 4 additional strokes, <i>depending on the position of the ball, the difficulty of the green and the ability of the player</i>

Hole Not Played

When a player does not play a hole, the score recorded for handicap purposes is ***net par.***

For example:

A player stops after hole 16 due to darkness; or

A hole being declared out of play by the Committee for maintenance or renovation purposes.



Acceptability of Scores

- **Scores from an authorized format of play which meets all the provisions set out within the *Rules of Handicapping* (see Rule 2).**
- **Scores in both match and stroke play; multi-ball or team competitions. This includes any time a player picks up before completing a hole.**
- **Scores on all courses with a current Course Rating and Slope Rating made during an active season, both at home and away.**



Acceptability of Scores

- **Scores made under the *Rules of Golf* and *The Modified Rules of Golf for Players With Disabilities*.**
- **When accompanied by at least one other person.**
- **When a player follows a Model Local Rule even if the Committee has not adopted it.**
 - *For example – Alternative option to stroke and distance or preferred lies.*



Fewer than 9 Holes Played

- For a 9-hole score to be acceptable for handicap purposes, a minimum of 7 holes must be played.
- If a player plays 7 or 8 holes, a 9-hole score will be determined by adding a score of Net Par for the remaining hole(s).
- This 9-hole score will then be combined with another 9-hole score to produce an 18-hole score differential.

