



WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

Common Issues for Golf Professionals

Carolinas Golf Association
February 18, 2020



How to use your Handicap Index under the World Handicap System

Handicap Index

The single measurement of golfing ability used worldwide.

Course Handicap

The number used to adjust hole scores for handicap purposes.

Playing Handicap

The number used to PLAY!

It's typically the same as your Course Handicap but may be adjusted based on the terms of the competition or format of play.

Changes under the World Handicap System

Your Course Handicap (CH) now represents the number of strokes needed to play to Par.

How will this change affect you?

If the Course Rating is **HIGHER** than Par, your Course Handicap will go up:

Course Rating	Par		Impact on CH
72.0	70	➡	2 strokes higher

If the Course Rating is **LOWER** than Par, your Course Handicap will go down:

Course Rating	Par		Impact on CH
68.0	70	➡	2 strokes lower

Set your Target!

Target Score = Course Handicap + Par

Your Target Score is the score needed to play to your handicap.



For more information or to learn more about the WHS, visit usga.org/whs

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

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Course Handicap

Under the *Rules of Handicapping*, 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:

$$\text{Course Handicap} = (\text{Handicap Index} \times \text{Slope Rating} / 113) + (CR - PAR)$$



If the Course Rating is **HIGHER** than Par, your Course Handicap will go up:

Course Rating	Par		Impact on CH
72.0	70	➔	2 strokes higher

If the Course Rating is **LOWER** than Par, your Course Handicap will go down:

Course Rating	Par		Impact on CH
68.0	70	➔	2 strokes lower

Tee Name	Length	Gender	Course Rating™/ Slope Rating	Front Nine	Front Nine Par	Back Nine	Back Nine Par	Total Par
Blue	6771	Men	73.7/130	36.8/127	36	36.9/132	36	72
White	6245	Men	70.9/128	35.4/125	36	35.5/130	36	72
Green	5497	Men	67.3/123	33.3/122	36	34.0/123	36	72
Green	5497	Women	72.0/124	35.8/121	36	36.2/126	36	72
Red	5176	Women	70.4/120	35.1/119	36	35.3/121	36	72

Course Handicap Calculation (without CR-Par)

Handicap Index – 0.0

TEE	YARDS	RATING	SLOPE	PAR	CH
BLACK	7033	74.2	135	72	0
BLUE	6684	72.8	131	72	0
WHITE	6414	71.7	128	72	0
SILVER	6021	69.9	125	72	0
WHITE/SILVER/RED	5886	68.8	123	71	0
RED	5637	67.8	121	71	0
GREEN	5385	66.5	118	70	0
GOLD	4957	64.4	113	69	0

Handicap Index – 15.0

TEE	YARDS	RATING	SLOPE	PAR	CH
BLACK	7033	74.2	135	72	18
BLUE	6684	72.8	131	72	17
WHITE	6414	71.7	128	72	17
SILVER	6021	69.9	125	72	17
WHITE/SILVER/RED	5886	68.8	123	71	16
RED	5637	67.8	121	71	16
GREEN	5385	66.5	118	70	16
GOLD	4957	64.4	113	69	15

Course Handicap Comparison (Scratch Player)

**Handicap Index – 0.0
Without CR- Par**

TEE	YARDS	RATING	SLOPE	PAR	CH
BLACK	7033	74.2	135	72	0
BLUE	6684	72.8	131	72	0
WHITE	6414	71.7	128	72	0
SILVER	6021	69.9	125	72	0
WHITE/SILVER/RED	5886	68.8	123	71	0
RED	5637	67.8	121	71	0
GREEN	5385	66.5	118	70	0
GOLD	4957	64.4	113	69	0

**Handicap Index – 0.0
Using CR - Par**

TEE	YARDS	RATING	SLOPE	PAR	CH
BLACK	7033	74.2	135	72	2
BLUE	6684	72.8	131	72	1
WHITE	6414	71.7	128	72	0
SILVER	6021	69.9	125	72	+2
WHITE/SILVER/RED	5886	68.8	123	71	+2
RED	5637	67.8	121	71	+3
GREEN	5385	66.5	118	70	+4
GOLD	4957	64.4	113	69	+5

Course Handicap Comparison (15.0 Player)

**Handicap Index – 15.0
Without CR - Par**

TEE	YARDS	RATING	SLOPE	PAR	CH
BLACK	7033	74.2	135	72	18
BLUE	6684	72.8	131	72	17
WHITE	6414	71.7	128	72	17
SILVER	6021	69.9	125	72	17
WHITE/SILVER/RED	5886	68.8	123	71	16
RED	5637	67.8	121	71	16
GREEN	5385	66.5	118	70	16
GOLD	4957	64.4	113	69	15

**Handicap Index – 15.0
Using CR - Par**

TEE	YARDS	RATING	SLOPE	PAR	CH
BLACK	7033	74.2	135	72	20
BLUE	6684	72.8	131	72	18
WHITE	6414	71.7	128	72	17
SILVER	6021	69.9	125	72	15
WHITE/SILVER/RED	5886	68.8	123	71	14
RED	5637	67.8	121	71	13
GREEN	5385	66.5	118	70	13
GOLD	4957	64.4	113	69	10

Net Club Championship

White - Men - 66.4

Mick Jeff	<u>Round 1</u> 68	<u>Round 2</u> 67	<u>Total</u> 135
Apple Daniel	<u>Round 1</u> 67	<u>Round 2</u> 70	<u>Total</u> 137
Smith Steve	<u>Round 1</u> 69	<u>Round 2</u> 68	<u>Total</u> 137
Phillips Don	<u>Round 1</u> 70	<u>Round 2</u> 69	<u>Total</u> 139

Starting Hole: _____

Starting Time: _____



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out
White - Men (72.4/136) W-M	381	413	454	139	409	510	155	373	394	3228
Gold - Men (69.7/130) G-M	358	381	424	112	390	449	121	349	357	2941
Par	4	4	5	3	4	5	3	4	4	36
Handicap	7	13	3	9	5	1	17	15	11	
Greg Kelly W-M	*	*	*	*	*	*			*	
Jack Nance W-M			*		*	*				
vs.										
Biff Lathrop G-M	*		*	*	*	*				
James Park G-M	*		*		*	*				

2019 Match Play Challenge

Bryan Park - Champions

Round of 32

Oct 16, 2019

Init	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total	Hdcp	Net
	345	493	180	431	191	456	386	407	419	3308	6536		
	310	470	157	325	179	410	358	376	379	2964	5905	(18)	
	4	5	3	4	3	5	4	4	4	36	72		
	18	6	10	4	8	12	16	14	2				
GK		*	*	*	*	*			*			10/13	
JN		*		*					*			3/6	
BL		*		*	*				*			9	
JP		*		*					*			7	

Starting Hole: _____

Starting Time: _____



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out
White - Men (72.4/136) W-M	381	413	454	139	409	510	155	373	394	3228
Gold - Men (69.7/130) G-M	358	381	424	112	390	449	121	349	357	2941
Par	4	4	5	3	4	5	3	4	4	36
Handicap	7	13	3	9	5	1	17	15	11	
Greg Kelly W-M	*		*	*	*	*				
Jack Nance W-M			*			*				
vs.										
Biff Lathrop G-M			*		*	*				
James Park G-M			*		*	*				

Carolinas Match Play Challenge

Bryan Park - Champions

Round 1

Feb 18, 2020

Init	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total	Hdcp	Net
	345	493	180	431	191	456	386	407	419	3308	6536		
	310	470	157	325	179	410	358	376	379	2964	5905	(18)	
	4	5	3	4	3	5	4	4	4	36	72		
	18	6	10	4	8	12	16	14	2				
GK		*	*	*	*				*			10	
JN									*			3	
BL		*		*					*			6	
JP				*					*			5	

Quota Game using new World Handicap System Course Handicap values.

- NOT INCLUDING 95% HANDICAP ALLOWANCE RECOMMENDATION



Weekly Quota Game

Quota is based on 36 Points minus Course Handicap

Quota is based on par



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out
Green - Men (68.5/123)	382	443	359	100	355	159	380	350	464	2992
Par	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	4	5	36
Handicap	5	13	3	15	1	17	7	11	9	
Biff Lathrop										
James Park										
Happ Lathrop										
Jack Nance										

Biff - Handicap Index $7.5 \times 123/113 = 8.16 + 68.5 - 72 = 4.66$ rounded to 5

James - Handicap Index $6.1 \times 123/113 = 6.63 + 68.5 - 72 = 3.13$ rounded to 3

Init	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total	Quota	Net
	362	124	360	474	161	245	260	510	376	2872	5864	(18)	
	4	4	3	5	3	4	4	5	4	36	72		
	8	10	18	6	16	4	12	14	2				
												31	
												33	
												23	
												37	

Happ - Handicap Index $15.0 \times 123/113 = 16.32 + 68.5 - 72 = 12.82$ rounded to 13

Jack - Handicap Index $2.2 \times 123/113 = 2.39 + 68.5 - 72 = +1.10$ rounded to +1

Quota using old Course Rating values from the USGA Handicap System



Weekly Quota Game

Quota is based on 36 Points minus Course Handicap

Quota is based on Course Rating



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out
Green - Men (68.5/123)	382	443	359	100	355	159	380	350	464	2992
Par	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	4	5	36
Handicap	5	13	3	15	1	17	7	11	9	
Biff Lathrop										
James Park										
Happ Lathrop										
Jack Nance										

Biff - Handicap Index $7.5 \times 123/113 = 8.16$ rounded to 8

James - Handicap Index $6.1 \times 123/113 = 6.63$ rounded to 7

Init	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total	Quota	Net
	362	124	360	474	161	245	260	510	376	2872	5864	(18)	
	4	4	3	5	3	4	4	5	4	36	72		
	8	10	18	6	16	4	12	14	2				
												28	
												29	
												20	
												34	

Happ - Handicap Index $15.0 \times 123/113 = 16.32$ rounded to 16

Jack - Handicap Index $2.2 \times 123/113 = 2.39$ rounded to 2

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

Calculation of Playing Handicap

Your Handicap Index provides a portable representation of your playing ability. But some courses are harder than others



That's why, when you go out on course, your Handicap Index is converted to a Playing Handicap

First, your Index is adjusted by the Slope Rating of the course you're playing



15.3



Slope Rating

(ANY DIFFERENCE)

Handicap Allowance (90%)

17.1

Lastly, the applicable Handicap Allowance for your chosen format of play is applied



Par

Playing Handicap

15

You can play with or against any other golfer on a fair and equal basis, in any format of play, on any course

Handicap Allowance (90%)



Playing Handicap



Playing Handicap



Playing Handicap

Normally, you'll be able to find the number of strokes you'll receive via an app or on a look-up chart in the clubhouse or close to the first tee



Look-up Chart



Slope Rating

Course Rating

Par

This means you can enjoy your game **without** worrying about having to make these calculations

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Handicap Allowances

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

Under the Rules of Handicapping, the allowance recommendations will be the same for men and women.

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

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

Adjudicating Hole Par

Where hole lengths fall on a break point, it may be appropriate to designate par relative to the way the hole was designed to be played. For example, men's hole lengths from all sets of tees on a specific hole lie within the recommended par 4 range, except for the forward tee at 250 yards. If the hole was designed to play as a par-4 hole, then it can be assigned as such.

The ***Allied Golf Association*** will have final say if there is a dispute.



Adjudicating Hole Par

Because of the new Course Handicap calculation, Net Par and Net Double Bogey, it's important to have accurate pars for each hole determined for both men and women. Ideally par will be printed alongside each hole on the scorecard.

It is recommended that par is established in accordance with the hole lengths indicated in the table. The AGA can also take into consideration the way the hole is designed to be played.

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

Playing Handicap

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

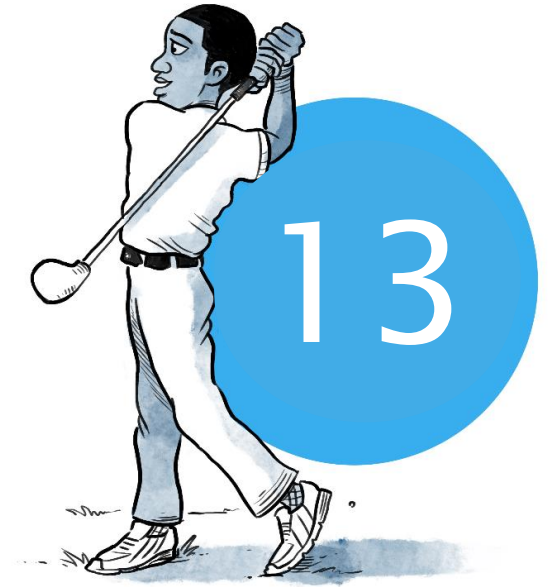
Within the *Rules of Handicapping*, the adjusted Course Handicap will be referred to as a **Playing Handicap**.

Playing Handicap

=

Course Handicap x Handicap Allowance

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



Score Cards should make it clear the player knows both their Course Handicap and Playing Handicap each time they play.

Member-Member Four Ball

Handicap Allowance in Four Ball Stroke Play is 85%

Dots will be used for Competition
and not for Maximum Score

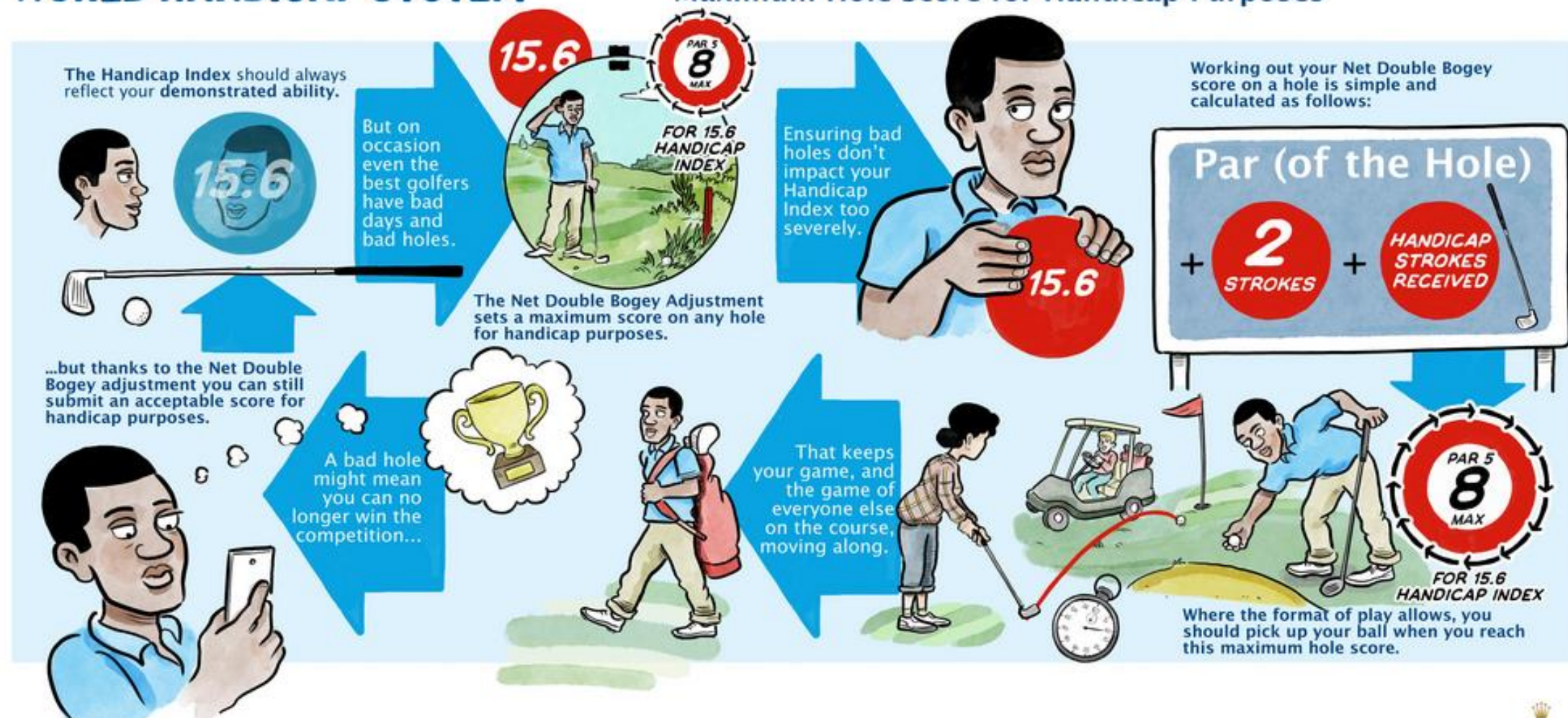
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out
Green - Men (68.5/123)	382	443	359	100	355	159	380	350	464	2992
Par	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	4	5	36
Handicap	5	13	3	15	1	17	7	11	9	
Biff Lathrop	•		•		•		•			
James Park	•		•		•					
Team Score										
Happ Lathrop	•	•	•		•		•	•	•	
Jack Nance					•					
Team Score										

Course Handicap and
Playing Handicap should
Be Presented on Card

Init	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total	Hdcp	Net
	362	124	360	474	161	245	260	510	376	2872	5864	(18)	
	4	4	3	5	3	4	4	5	4	36	72		
	8	10	18	6	16	4	12	14	2				
				•		•			•			8/7	
				•		•			•			7/6	
	•	•		•		•	•	•	•			16/14	
									•			2	

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Maximum Hole Score for Handicap Purposes



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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.



The new term of Net Double Bogey is taken from language used in Net Stableford Competitions

Net Stableford Scoring	
Net Double Eagle	5 Points
Net Eagle	4 Points
Net Birdie	3 Points
Net Par	2 Points
Net Bogey	1 Point
Net Double Bogey	0 Points

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 hole 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

Stroke Index Allocation

The Rules of Handicapping will recommend using Course Rating data to rank the holes for Stroke Index allocation. The recommendation is to allocate odd strokes on the front and even strokes on the back.

Specific strokes will be allocated using three-hole clusters, with a recommendation for the #1 and #2 stroke holes in the middle clusters.

Hole Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Front 9									
Sample Table	1 1	1 5	3	7	1 7	1	9	1 3	5
Hole Number	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Back 9									
Sample Table	1 2	4	1 6	8	2	1 8	6	1 0	1 4

Application of Net Double Bogey Adjustment

Sunnyside Golf Club

Bronze Tees Course Rating: 72.1

Slope Rating: 122

Name of Player: *Janet Smith*

Course Handicap: **18**

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	
Par	4	4	5	4	3	5	4	5	3	37	
S.I.	7	13	3	9	15	1	11	5	17		
Score	5	5	6	5	4	6	5	6	4	46	

Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Par	4	4	3	5	4	3	5	4	4	36	73
S.I.	8	12	18	4	10	16	2	6	14		
Score	5	5	4	6	5	4	7	8	5	49	95

Application of Net Double Bogey Adjustment

Sunnyside Golf Club

Bronze Tees Course Rating: 72.1

Slope Rating: 122

Name of Player: *Janet Smith*

Course Handicap: **18**

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	
Par	4	4	5	4	3	5	4	5	3	37	
S.I.	7	13	3	9	15	1	11	5	17		
Score	5	5	6	5	4	6	5	6	4	46	

Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Par	4	4	3	5	4	3	5	4	4	36	73
S.I.	8	12	18	4	10	16	2	6	14		
Score	5	5	4	6	5	4	7	8	5	49	95

↓
7 → = Net double bogey adjustment of -1

Application of Net Double Bogey Adjustment

Sunnyside Golf Club
Bronze Tees Course Rating: 72.1 Slope Rating: 122
Name of Player: *Janet Smith*
Course Handicap: 18

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	
Par	4	4	5	4	3	5	4	5	3	37	
S.I.	7	13	3	9	15	1	11	5	17		
Score	5	5	6	5	4	6	5	6	4	46	

Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Par	4	4	3	5	4	3	5	4	4	36	73
S.I.	8	12	18	4	10	16	2	6	14		
Score	5	5	4	6	5	4	7	8	5	49	95

Score for Competition = 95
Score for Handicap Purposes = 94

→ 94

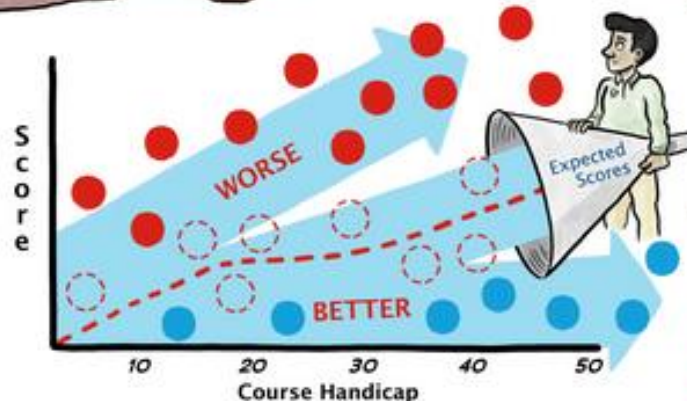
↓
7 → = Net double bogey adjustment of -1

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

Course and Weather Conditions Calculation



The result is a higher score on a tough day may still count as a good score and may be used to calculate your updated Handicap Index - ensuring it continues to reflect your ability



But if the PCC shows players have performed significantly better or worse than expected, the calculation automatically adjusts score differentials accordingly

The PCC compares actual scores against expected scores. If scores submitted match expectations, no adjustment is made.

- Expected Scores
- Match Expected Scores
- Better
- Worse

To ensure they don't, a Playing Conditions Calculation is carried out automatically for each course, each day, provided at least eight eligible players have submitted acceptable scores.



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Playing Conditions Calculation

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.

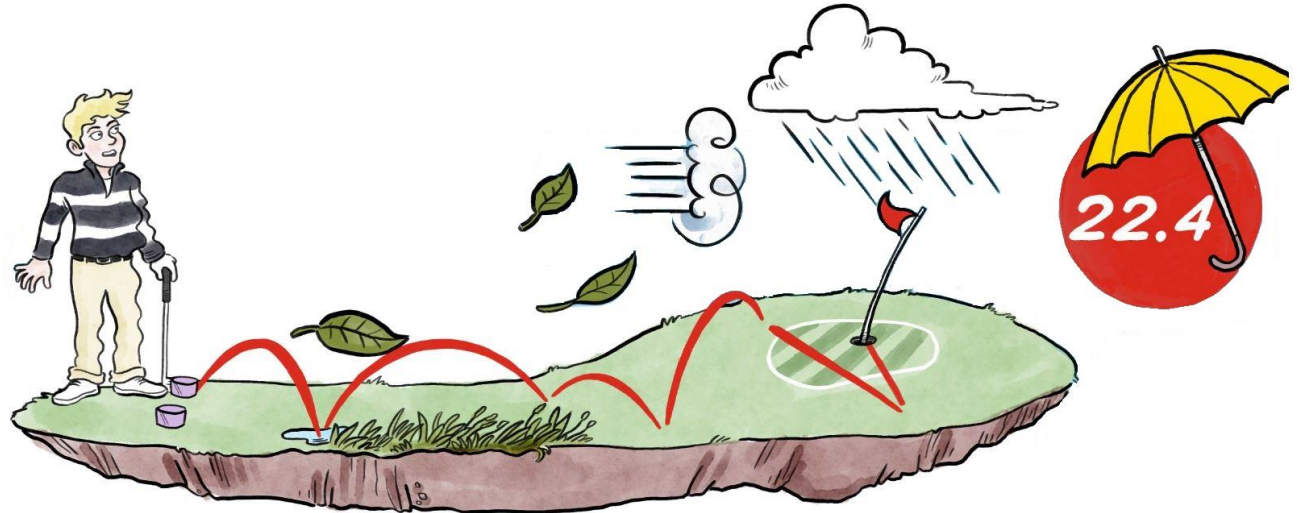


Playing Conditions Calculation

When adverse weather conditions or abnormal course set-up causes 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.

Range: -1 to +3



Calculation of a Score Differential

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

Score Differential =

$(113 / \text{Slope Rating}) \times (\text{Adjusted Gross Score} - \text{Course Rating} - \text{PCC adjustment})$

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

Thank you for attending!

Carolinas Golf Association
February 18, 2020

