

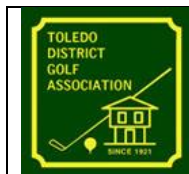


Subject: World Handicap System (WHS)

Tonight, I'm going to share with you some highlights of the new World Handicap System. The 6 major Golf Organizations worldwide have agreed that the new WHS will take effect in 2020, with implementation schedules set by the respective governing bodies. In the US, this means January. Changes to our system reflect the agreements and compromises that were necessary to make this come together.

Please hold questions until the end.

1. As you may be aware, the USGA, in conjunction with the other major golf organizations around the world will release new Rules of Handicapping effective January 1, 2020.
2. The USGA is requiring all clubs who wish to offer handicapping services (GHIN) to their members will be required to attend a World Handicap System Seminar, take and pass the USGA's handicapping quiz by June of 2020. ***Failure to complete both tasks will result in a suspension of the club's ability to provide handicap services. This directive includes all clubs who are members of the Toledo District Golf Association (TDGA).***
3. To assist our clubs with this process, the TDGA will offer several handicapping seminars beginning in January of 2020. You should expect that the seminars will last approximately 3 hours, followed by the required written exam. We will be communicating this information to all local PGA Members, Directors of Golf, Handicap Chairs, Handicap Committee Members, and the golfing community at large.
4. What should you know about the new system?
  - a. No more trend handicaps. Your index will be updated every time you post a score.
  - b. Your index will be based on the best 8, not best 10, scores of your last 20.
  - c. It will take only 54 holes to create a handicap index.
  - d. The maximum index for men and women will be 54. Tournament Committees will still have the right to control handicapped events.
  - e. Course Rating and Par become important. New formula:
    - i.  $(\text{Index} * \text{Slope}) / 113 + (\text{CR} - \text{Par})$
    - ii. Ex:  $10.9 * 130 / 113 = 13 + (70.4 - 72) = 11$
    - iii. So, your Course Handicap may (will) change.
  - f. Net Double Bogey replaces Equitable Stroke Control. Think of Net Double Bogey as Par + Double + Strokes received.
  - g. The new WHS has rules built in that will limit the upward movement of handicaps.
    - i. The soft cap. The *soft cap* is triggered when the difference between a player's newly calculated *Handicap Index* and their *Low Handicap Index* is greater than 3.0 strokes. When a calculated *Handicap Index* increase is greater than 3.0 strokes, the value above 3.0 strokes is restricted to 50% of the increase.



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- ii. The hard cap. The *hard cap* triggers to restrict the amount by which a player's *Handicap Index* can increase, after application of the *soft cap*, to no more than 5.0 strokes above their *Low Handicap Index*.
  - h. Exceptional Score Reduction: The dreaded "R" is gone. If a player posts an exceptional score the system will act, but the action will be limited to an adjustment to the player's last 20 scores. This allows an active player to work through this situation faster.
5. Adjudication of Par. The USGA's Course Rating System has become THE course rating system worldwide. As the new WHS places increased importance on Par, it's important that Par values become more precise.

Here's an example using Brandywine Country Club:

Brandywine has 5 Par 5 holes. From the forward tees that senior men tend to play, 3 of these holes, numbers 5, 9 and 13 have yardages short enough that the Course Rating System by default now identifies these holes as Par 4s. The members play them as Par 5s. Here's why this is important: The Gold Tee course is currently rated at 67.4, with a Par of 72. A player with a handicap index of 22.5 today is a 25 from the Gold tees. In January, he will become a 20. If the default course rating Par numbers go into effect, he would be a 23. I'll leave it up to you to decide which one will make him happiest.

6. Course Rating and Stroke Allocation: The Course Rating System will also make suggestions as to the allocation of handicap strokes on holes.

We do not have to follow these suggestions today.

7. The Club Handicap Committee:  
The Handicap Committee plays a vital role in the successful administration of a player's Handicap Index and is equipped with tools to intervene when the calculated Handicap Index is no longer reflective of the player's demonstrated ability.

What should you do as a member of your club's handicap committee?

- a. Attend a seminar on WHS, take and pass the exam.
  - b. The Committee should meet and review all players handicaps at least yearly.
  - c. Apply Penalty Scores to a player's scoring record when and if necessary.
  - d. Withdraw a player's handicap index for repeated failures to comply with player's responsibilities.
8. The AGA's Handicap Committee:
  - a. Assist Club Handicap Chairs and Committees as required.
  - b. Apply Penalty Scores to a player's scoring record when and if necessary.
  - c. Withdraw a player's handicap index for repeated failures to comply with player's responsibilities.
9. Questions?