

Important Info on the World Handicap System

Here are a few key points that everyone needs to know about the new World Handicap System (WHS) which was implemented January 1, 2020.

For all of you who post scores online through GHIN or MyNCGA apps, you must load or update to the new apps (you can get through app updates or go to their websites).

The major changes of the WHS:

- Your Handicap Index (HI) is now based on your best 8 of your last 20 scores (instead of 10 of 20 scores).
- There is a new course handicap (CH) computation which is:
CH = HI X (slope / 113) + (rating - par)
Because they added the "rating minus par" to the computation, when the rating is lower than the par, you will be subtracting from what used to be your CH under the old system. Also, there is no longer an additional adjustment necessary when people are playing different sets of tees within an event (unless the par is different).
- Handicap Indexes will be updated daily instead of twice a month. When posting your own scores (non-club events), you should be sure to post the same day you play. Our club will be using Handicap Indexes from one week before the event.
- The new maximum hole score - **for posting purposes only** - is a net double bogey. SGC event scores are posted for you (except for "non-postable" formats where you don't play your own ball throughout the round). But if you are posting your own score, the maximum you can post is a double bogey **PLUS** any stroke(s) you receive on that hole based on your Course Handicap. (This has replaced the "Equitable Stroke Control" system).
- Your "Playing Handicap" will be your CH for an event with any adjustments made; for instance – in team events, only a percentage of your CH is used so that adjusted handicap would be your "Playing Handicap" for that event.
- The new system will do a Playing Conditions Calculation (PCC) - this means that if scores made at the course that day were significantly higher or lower than expected, a PCC will be applied to your score differential calculation (this is done automatically "behind the scenes").
- "C" (Competition) will replace "T" (Tournament) for scores posted as tournament rounds; "N" will be used for 9 hole scores which will be combined into 18 hole differentials.
- If a score produces a score differential that is 7.0 strokes or better than your Handicap Index (HI) at the time the round is played, it is subject to an exceptional score reduction; if it's between 7.0 and 9.9 strokes better, your HI will be reduced by 1 stroke; if the score differential is 10.0 or more strokes better, your HI will be reduced by 2 strokes.

There are other new things in the WHS such as soft and hard index caps, maximum handicap index, etc. For more information on the WHS, please go to [USGA.org](https://www.usga.org) (World Handicap System).