



Helsby Golf Club



Phil

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HGC Comps & Scoring

COMPETITION STANDARD SCRATCH EXPLAINED

The Competition Standard Scratch score is a well discussed point following every completion we have at Helsby. It's sometimes surprising and other times makes sense but is always calculated using a pre-defined formula devised by our handicap regulation body, CONGU.

The CSS is a complicated number and difficult to explain, thank the lord for Howdidido which calculates this on our behalf and automatically adjusts handicaps in line with CONGU.

So can you explain the Competition Scratch Score and how it is calculated?

We will try, as previously stated this is not a straightforward calculation. Broadly speaking, the calculations are as follows:

1. First off (At present) Men with category 4 handicaps (21 to 28) are not included in the calculation. This is due to change next year, we will of course update you when.
2. The computer then calculates the percentage of players who competed in the competition in each of the handicap categories 1, 2 and 3
3. Then the percentage of scores returned by the category 1, 2 and 3 players which were in the player's 'buffer zone', or better are calculated.
4. Finally using the percentages from (2) and (3), the Competition Scratch Score is defined by the computer referring to the table supplied by CONGU for this sole purpose.

ORDER OF MERIT & ECLECTIC EXPLAINED

A few members have enquired as to how the Order of Merit (OOM) and eclectic competitions run throughout the year.

The Order of Merit and eclectic competitions are run over the course of the Summer and the Winter periods.

In the summer order of merit points and eclectic scores are only recorded for the following competitions: all monthly medals (Points are awarded for the full field and not each division), the Richmond Trophy, JV Fletcher Salver, Dave Kitchen Quaich, Briant Bowl, Centenary Trophy, Presidents Day, Jubilee Trophy, Ward Trophy, Captains Prize Days 1 & 2, Brewery Cup, and the Shankland Trophy.

In the winter the order of merit becomes the Partridge Cup Qualifying Competition, with the eclectic run as a Winter series. Only the Partridge Cup Qualifiers count towards the Partridge Cup OOM and eclectic scores.

The Order of Merit (Summer)

The Summer Order of Merit is an official board competition. Players are awarded points for finishing in position 32 or better. The winner gets 100 points, 2nd place gets 75 points, 3rd gets 70 points, 10th place receives 30 with 11th receiving 25 points then each place below receives one point less up to 32 place. The winner of the Order of Merit is simply the player with the most points gained over the Summer.

The Order of Merit (Winter) AKA The Partridge Cup Qualification

The Winter series is awarded slightly differently with the top 100 players receiving points. 1st place gains 100 points, second 99 points, 3rd 98 points etc. The winner again is the player with the most points.

Eclectic

The Eclectic is basically the best score each player achieves at each hole throughout the season. The ultimate aim is to birdie every at least once for the season which will equate to an 18 under par total or 52 Gross. This is a net comp so all players receive a 5/8ths reduction to their handicap which is then taken off their total Gross eclectic score. The winner is the player that produces the lowest eclectic score.

Weather in
Chester - England



Heavy Showers

Humidity is 67%

Wind is South-southwest 6
m/s

Visibility is 19 km

Pressure is 0 mbar

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Posting of results

We try our very best to post the OOMs and eclectic scores as soon as we can in the gents locker room, alternatively both competitions are available to view using the club section of www.howdidido.co.uk.

COMPETITION SCORES & YOUR HANDICAP

Apart from competing and returning your score on any given competition it is also beneficial to know all the other factors that affect your handicap.

What is a 'Buffer Zone'?

A player's 'Buffer Zone' is a range of scores returned in competitions where the player's handicap will not be changed. The buffer zone is different depending upon the player's handicap category. A player returns a score within his Buffer Zone when his Nett Differential is within specified limits.

So a 10 handicap (Category 2) returning a Nett score of 73 in a competition where the standard scratch is 70, has missed his buffer zone and will gain 0.1 on his handicap. If the same player returns a 73 in the next competition which is a standard scratch of 71 his handicap doesn't change as he is just within his categories buffer zone.

Handicap of player	Buffer Zone (Nett Differential)
Category 1: Handicaps up to 5	0 to +1
Category 2: Handicaps 6 to 12	0 to +2
Category 3: Handicaps 13 to 20	0 to +3
Category 4: Handicaps 21 to 28	0 to +4
Category 5: Ladies Handicaps 29 to 36	0 to +5

What is 'Stableford Adjustment'?

Clubs must apply 'Stableford Adjustments' to Nett Differentials calculated after a Medal Competition. This adjustment has the effect of converting Nett Differentials under medal play to those which would have been calculated had the competition been played under Stableford format, eliminating any distortions resulting from unusually high scores (such as a 10 on a hole, for example). Here, players' Nett Differentials are reduced for each stroke scored on the players card which is more than two over Par after any handicap strokes have been subtracted for that hole (a 'Nett Double Bogey').

"I have returned a score outside buffer zone but my handicap has not changed. How is this possible?"

Under some circumstances (when few nett scores in a competition are close to the Standard Scratch Score of the course or better) the Competition Scratch Score will be identified as 'Reductions Only'. Here, no increases of 0.1 may be applied to a handicap (although anyone returning a Nett Differential below zero will still have his handicap reduced!).

THE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

The forerunner of the Club Championship was the Scratch Trophy presented to the Club by Mr Monty Swan. It was a trophy he had won during his professional wrestling career.

This competition was originally restricted to members whose handicaps were within the limits specified by the Handicap Committee. (Usually Division One). Up to 1974 the Scratch Trophy was awarded to the member who returned the lowest aggregate gross score for the summer Monthly Medals. In 1974 a number of members requested that the Scratch Trophy should be a 36-hole stroke play competition, played on the same day. The Management Committee agreed to this request and introduced the change in 1975 and redefined the competition as the Club Championship. In 2001 it was decided that the aging membership population meant that few members were willing to play 36 holes in one day. The format from 2002 was changed such that the second round was played on the Sunday following a monthly medal. This medal to double as the first round of the championship with the leading 24 gross scores (of those wishing to participate in the second round), to qualify for the second round, with the aggregate two round score to decide the championship.

In 2007 it was agreed that the primary objective of the Club Championship should be to establish the "Best Player" in the club. It is widely felt that the present format of qualification to play in the Club Championship via the August Monthly Medal was unsatisfactory. It was therefore decided to reinstate the Scratch Trophy and introduce a new Club Championship competition.

The format is that the 4 players with the lowest aggregate gross scores from any 4 of a designated number of qualifying competitions (i.e. the total of the 4 best rounds irrespective of how many were played) would qualify to go through to a match play knockout stage, two semi-finals followed by 3rd and 4th place playoff and the final.

In 2013 Ray Feldwick donated a new trophy to be presented to the winner. Prizes for the Club championship are awarded at the awards evening hosted in early October.

THE EJ HARDING

The EJ Harding Trophy was purchased by the Club in 1973, to mark Mr Harding's long outstanding service and devotion to the Club.

It was his wish that entry in to this event would be restricted to members who finished in the first three places in the respective divisions of the Monthly Medals, played during the months of April to September inclusive.

Should a player qualify on more than one occasion any other member cannot fill the qualifying place/s.

The names of the qualifiers are posted after the September Medal with qualifiers then ticking their attendance to play for the trophy. Any members that has finished in the top 3 in their respective division, 1, 2, 3 or 4 should look out for the list posted in the Gents locker room. Playing partners are drawn, and the competition is played in the afternoon, commencing at 12.30pm all starting from the first tee.

01928 722021

Helsby Golf Club, Towers Lane, Helsby, Chester, Cheshire, WA6 0JB | Telephone: 01928 722021 | [Email us](#)

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