

CONGU Unified Handicapping System (UHS) 2016 Changes

Effective 1 January 2016

KEY SYSTEM CHANGES:

Adoption of the Calendar Year:

The handicapping year will in future adopt the calendar year - 1 January to 31 December. This change is effective 1 January 2016, with an implementation date for affiliated clubs of 1 March 2016.

Four-Ball Better Ball Handicap Allowance:

The Handicap Allowance for Four-Ball better ball is increased from 75% to 90% for both stroke play and match play formats of the game.

The back marker (lowest handicap player) shall now concede strokes to the other 3 players based on 90% of the difference between full handicaps.

Competition Scratch Score (CSS) Calculation:

The CSS calculation will now include Handicap Categories 1, 2, 3 and 4 for both men and women's qualifying competitions.

Initial Handicap Allocation:

A new methodology has been introduced for the initial allocation of a CONGU® Handicaps, aligned to the Annual Review procedures. This amendment reflects the expectations inherent within the CONGU® UHS of players playing within, or better than, their respective buffer zones.

A handicap may be allocated up to a limit of 54.

Handicaps allocated at or below the existing maxima of 28.0 for men and 36.0 for women will be allocated as CONGU® Handicaps and will be annotated with 'c' Competition Handicap Status.

Handicaps allocated higher than the existing maxima of 28.0 for men and 36.0 for women will be allocated as CONGU® Club Handicaps and will not be annotated with 'c' Competition Handicap Status.

Re-activation of handicap:

If a player leaves/resigns from a club with a 'c' handicap, the player's 'c' Competition Handicap Status will remain valid for the remainder of the year of resignation and for the full following calendar year, should a player join another affiliated club during this period.

Re-instatement of 'c' Competition Handicap Status:

The re-instatement of a 'c' status handicap now requires players to return 3 Qualifying Scores. Qualifying Scores include 9-hole Qualifying Scores and Supplementary Scores. Players returning social round scores for this purpose will have to adhere to affiliated clubs established procedures for the submission of Supplementary Scores.

Qualifying nine-hole score recording:

9-Hole Qualifying Scores are recorded as 18-hole equivalent scores on the Player's Handicap Record. This will continue with the following amendment:

- Player's returning 9-hole Qualifying Scores within their Buffer Zone or better will continue to have 18 points added to the actual points scored over 9-holes.
- Player's returning a 9-hole Qualifying Score outside of their Buffer Zone will have the points actual points scored over 9-holes doubled.

Supplementary Scores:

Additional Supplementary Score opportunities have been introduced:

- Acceptable to be returned from all GB&I clubs at which the player is a Member;
- Acceptable (in Scotland) for players with an Exact CONGU® Handicap of 2.5 and above;
- 9-hole Supplementary Scores now allowed for players with a CONGU® Handicap in Category 2 and above;

No restriction on the number of Supplementary Scores that can be returned annually by players holding a CONGU® Club Handicap i.e. 28.1 [36.1] to 54.