



Know the Score 12 – Playing Handicap

Handicap Allowance

Handicap Allowance is the percentage of the Course Handicap applied to create equity for all players participating in a specific format of play.

Playing Handicap

Playing Handicap is the Course Handicap adjusted for any Handicap Allowances or Terms of the Competition. It represents the actual number of strokes the player gives or receives for the round being played. Handicap allowance allows for equity to be achieved across all formats, giving all players an equal opportunity of success.

The following Handicap Allowances are mandatory within England: -

Singles Formats	H/C Allowance	Current CONGU allowance
Individual match play	100%	Same
Medal, Stableford	95%	100%
Bogey, Max Score	95%	100%
Team Formats		
Four-ball match play	90%	Same
Four-ball medal, stableford	85%	90%
Foursomes	50% combined	Same
Greensomes	60% low + 40% high	Same
Scramble (4 players)	25% + 20% + 15% + 10%	Not Defined

It is left to individual golf clubs to decide on Handicap allowances in other formats of play.

How to determine your Playing Handicap

Players will be able to look up their Playing handicap on charts at the golf club or on app. In singles events a golfer can play using their Course handicap and allow the software to adjust the strokes received.

Reasons for the chosen Handicap Allowances

Many years of experiencing using Course Ratings and Slope Ratings in other parts of the World has shown that the WHS best 8 from 20 average provides equity in head-to-head match play.

In singles stroke play however, WHS slightly favours the higher handicaps, hence the 95% handicap allowance to provide equity.

Strokes Received: Playing Handicap

<u>Singles Formats</u>	<u>Handicap Allowance</u>	<u>Team Formats</u>	<u>Handicap Allowance</u>
Individual match play	100%	Four-ball match play	90%
Individual stroke play	95%	Four-ball stroke play / stableford	85%
Individual stableford	95%	Foursomes	50% of combined team handicap
Individual par / bogey	95%	<u>Greensomes</u>	60% Low handicap + 40% high handicap
Individual Maximum Score	95%	Scramble (4 players)	25%/20%/15%/10% from lowest to highest handicap