

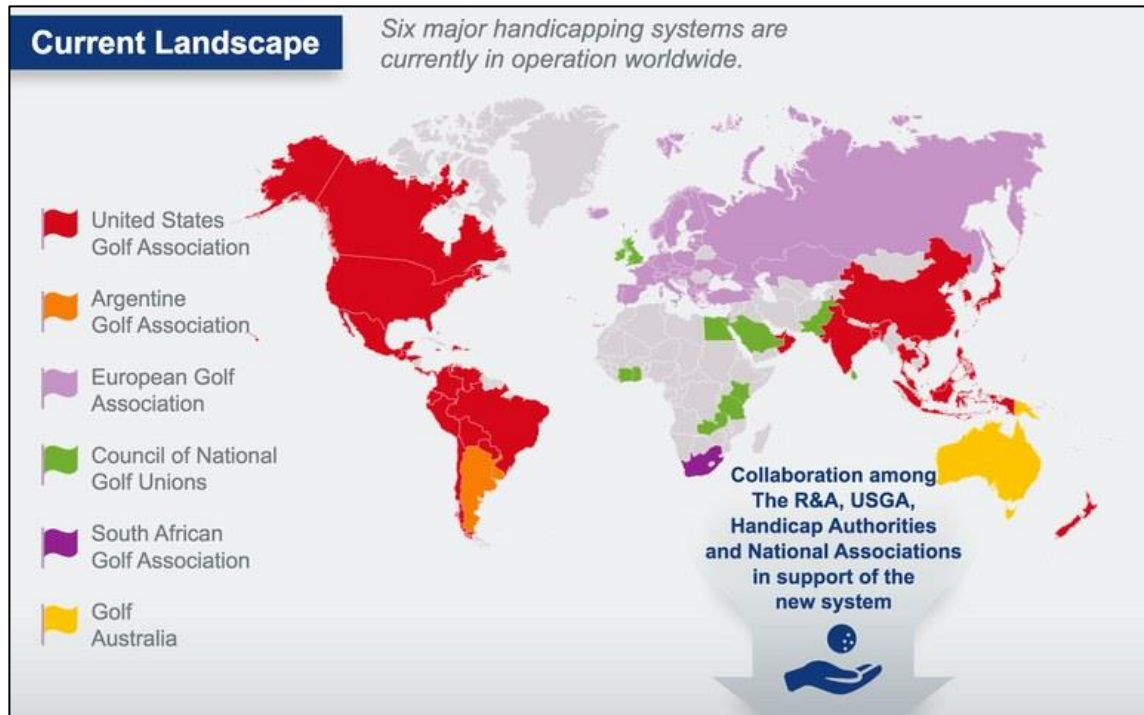


Burghill Valley Golf Club

World Handicap System Brief

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The World Handicap System (WHS) has been developed to amalgamate 6 different handicapping systems into a single worldwide system



- 1.2 The WHS will go live on 2nd November 2020 and will involve a number of changes for Clubs and individual players.

2. What it means for you ...

- 2.1 The WHS will introduce a number of new terms with which you should familiarise yourself:
- 2.2 As from 2nd Nov 20 you will no longer have a Handicap that is used on every course you play. Instead you will have a **Handicap Index** that you will use to identify a **Course Handicap** which can be different depending on which course and tee you play.
- 2.3 Your Handicap Index will be the Course Handicap you could expect on a course of neutral slope (113) [see para 2.9 below] calculated to the nearest 0.1.
- 2.4 Your Handicap Index will be the average of the best 8 **Score Differentials** from the last 20 rounds for which an **Acceptable Score** (see para 2.17 below) is recorded. Score Differentials will be calculated by the Club V1 system but, for those interested, the method of calculation can be found at the bottom of page 4.
- 2.5 Don't worry if you don't have a recent history of 20 rounds as a Handicap Index can be calculated off just 3 rounds, or any number of rounds between 3 and 20.

- 2.6 Each course will now have a **Course Rating** which will replace the Standard Scratch Score (SSS) so, as now, there will be a different rating for each Tee.
- 2.7 The **Course Rating** is the score a Scratch golfer should achieve playing in ideal conditions.
- 2.8 The factors considered when assessing each Course Rating were as follows:

Length	Playability Factors	
Measured length of hole	Topography	Penalty Areas (Lateral)
Roll	Fairways	Penalty Areas (Crossing)
Elevation (of hole)	Green Target	Trees
Dog Legs/Forced Lay-up	Recoverability from Rough	Green Surface
Wind	Bunkers	Psychological
Altitude of Course		

- 2.9 Each tee will also have a **Slope Rating** which will be a numerical rating of the playability of the course from that tee. Courses will be rated between 55 and 155 with a world average of 113 and an average in Great Britain and Northern Ireland of 125.
- 2.10 Each tee will also have a **Bogey Rating** which is the score a **Bogey Golfer** should achieve playing in ideal conditions.
- 2.11 A typical female **Bogey Golfer** is a 24 handicapper who hits a driver 150 yds and fairway wood 130 yds.
- 2.12 A typical male **Bogey Golfer** is a 20 handicapper who hits a driver 200 yds and fairway wood 170 yds.
- 2.13 The Competition Scratch Score will disappear and, in its place, will be a **Playing Conditions Adjustment** which assesses whether conditions (e.g. weather or course set-up) on the day were 'normal' or significantly harder or easier than normal.
- 2.14 The calculation of a Playing Conditions Adjustment will require at least 8 Acceptable Scores to be submitted in the day by players with Handicap Index of 36.0 or less.
- 2.15 The Playing Conditions Adjustment will be calculated once a day and will be able to adjust scores within range of -1 to +3.
- 2.16 **Acceptable Scores** are basically any individual stroke play format. Team games, at present, do not count. Scores should be entered for every competitive round. Social golf need not be recorded.
- 2.17 **Pre-Registered** is the new term for Supplementary Rounds and players should register in the Pro Shop their intention to play a pre-registered round.
- 2.18 Committees may deem regular organised "Roll-Ups" etc., played under the rules of competitive golf, to be "pre-registered" without the need to inform the Pro Shop and the scores for such rounds should be entered on the players scoring record.

2.19 The introduction of the WHS will also see a change in the **Handicap Allowance** for competitions.

2.20 The following chart details the various allowances for different formats, the biggest being that individual Medals and Stablefords will be played off 95% of your Course Handicap instead of the current 100%.

Formats of Play	H'cap Allowance	Formats of Play	H'cap Allowance
Individual Strokeplay	95%	Best 1 of 4 Strokeplay:	75%
Individual Stableford	95%	Best 2 of 4 Strokeplay	85%
Individual Par/Bogey	95%	Best 3 of 4 Strokeplay	100%
Individual Max Score	95%	Best 4 of 4 Strokeplay	
Fourball Strokeplay	85%	Scramble (4 players)	25%/20%/15%/10% from lowest to highest handicap
Fourball Stableford	85%	Scramble (2 players)	35% low/15% high
4 Ball Par/Bogey	100%	Total score of 2 Match play	100%
Individual Matchplay	100%	Best 1 of 4 Par/Bogey	75%
4 Ball Matchplay	95%	Best 2 of 4 Par/Bogey	80%
Foursomes	50% of combined team h'cap	Best 3 of 4 Par/Bogey	90%
Greensomes	60% low + 40% high h'cap	All 4 of 4 Par/Bogey	100%
Pinehurst/Chapman	60% low + 40% high h'cap		

3. How to find your Course Handicap ...

3.1 Every club will now display charts for each tee showing Handicap Indices ranging from '+' handicaps to the upper 40s handicaps. An extract of the BVGC chart is shown below:

Red Tees – Slope 135				Yellow Tees – Slope 131				White Tees – Slope 133			
Handicap Index		Course H'cap		Handicap Index		Course H'cap		Handicap Index		Course H'cap	
18.0	to	18.8	22	17.7	to	18.5	21	17.5	to	18.2	20
18.9	to	19.6	23	18.6	to	19.4	22	18.3	to	19.1	21
19.7	to	20.5	24	19.5	to	20.2	23	19.2	to	19.9	23
20.6	to	21.3	26	20.3	to	21.1	24	20.0	to	20.8	24
21.4	to	22.1	26	21.2	to	21.9	25	20.9	to	21.6	25
22.2	to	23.0	27	22.0	to	22.8	26	21.7	to	22.5	26
23.1	to	23.8	28	22.9	to	23.7	27	22.6	to	23.2	27
23.9	to	24.6	29	23.8	to	24.5	28	23.4	to	24.2	28
24.7	to	25.5	30	24.6	to	24.5	29	24.3	to	25.0	29

- 3.2 To find your **Course Handicap** simply locate your **Handicap Index** within the appropriate range for the Tee you will be playing and read across to the Course Handicap you will play. For example, a player with a Handicap Index of 22.3 playing off the Yellow Tees will play off a Course (i.e. playing) Handicap of 26.
- 3.3 **NOTE:** The appropriate **Handicap Allowance** will need to be applied to this Course Handicap so, for an individual Medal or Stableford where the allowance is 95% (see para 2.19 above) the final playing handicap will be $26 \times 95\% = 24.7$ rounded to 25.
- 3.4 As explained at para 2.2 above, your Handicap Index will enable you to play with a different playing handicap for every course/tee. For example, a male 20 handicapper would play off 21 on White Tees at the Herefordshire, off 24 at Burghill and off 25 at the Worcestershire. Similarly, a female 24 handicapper would play off 24 at the Herefordshire, 29 at Burghill and 28 at the Worcestershire.

Course Slope Ratings >	The Herefordshire			Burghill Valley			The Worcestershire		
	Red 112	Yellow 118	White 119	Red 135	Yellow 131	White 133	Red 134	Yellow 133	White 141
Male 20 H'cap	-	21	21		23	24		24	25
Female 24 H'cap	24	-	-	29	-	-	28	-	-

4. And finally ...

4.1 There is a lot more to the World Handicapping System than is outlined above but most of the detail will be managed by the computer systems, by the club or by the committee(s). All you have to remember is:

- **Look up your Handicap Index on a chart for the tee you will be playing off ...**
- **Read off your Course Handicap ...**
- **Make any Handicap Allowance adjustments ...**
- **Play your round ...**
- **Enter score in the computer ...**

John Clark
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Handicap Secretary

Calculation of Score Differential

Score Differential = $(113 \div \text{Slope Rating}) \times (\text{Adjusted Gross Score}^* - \text{Course Rating} - \text{Playing Conditions Adjustment})$

[* Adjusted Gross Score = Gross Score – any shots over Nett double bogey]