



Playing Handicap

EXPLAINED



ENGLAND
GOLF

What is it?

- A stroke allowance that a player will receive when playing in competition with or against other players

Why is it important?

- It allows for a level playing field that will promote both enjoyment and inclusivity

KNOW — THE —

SCORE

For more information visit:
englandgolf.org/whs

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

R&A USGA

NEW RULE

**Handicap
Index**

X

**(Slope
Rating
/ 113)**

=

**Course
Handicap
(rounded)**



KNOW
— THE —
SCORE
ENGLAND GOLF

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WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM
R&A **USGA**

What is Playing Handicap?

Playing Handicap is a stroke allowance that is implemented in order to maintain the integrity of the WHS when used in competition. It allows golfers to compete on a level playing field, regardless of their Handicap Index.

The Course Handicap converts to a Playing Handicap for competition purposes and changes depending on the format of play.

The four most important aspects of Playing Handicap to remember are:

It is only used for competition purposes

- **It ensures equity to calculate competition results**

(via Handicap Allowances)

- **Golfers do not need to calculate it (it is generated before their round)**
- **Golfers should continue to play in the mindset of their Course Handicap in competition rounds**