

HANDICAPPING – PLAYERS’ RESPONSIBILITIES 2024

Purpose and Authorization; Obtaining a Handicap Index

The World Handicap System includes the *Rules of Handicapping* and the Course Rating System. Its purpose is to enhance the enjoyment of the game of golf and to give as many golfers as possible the opportunity to:

- Obtain and maintain a *Handicap Index*,
- Use their *Handicap Index* on any *golf course* around the world, and
- Compete, or play a casual round, with anyone else on a fair and equal basis.

All Ladies’ Club Members must have an active GHIN.

Once you join the Ladies Club and if you do not have a GHIN number, the Pro-Shop will assign you a GHIN number. The cost of GHIN membership is included in your annual membership fee. Your GHIN number is unique and can follow you to any club or association that is on the GHIN System. You can use your GHIN number to post scores at your home course or any course around the world. When you post as a guest at other courses, your scores are routed back to your home club using your GHIN. If you have belonged to a club in the past and had a GHIN number, be sure to give that information to the Pro-Shop when you pay your membership dues. GHIN retains golfer records for 24 months after a golfer has been deleted. So, even if you have not been a member for a year, GHIN will still have your score history and you won’t have to start over to establish a handicap.

A player must designate one golf club as their *home club* to be responsible to maintain their *Handicap Index*. When a player is a member of more than one golf club, the player must ensure each golf club knows the details of:

- Which other golf clubs they are a member of, and
- Which golf club they have designated as their *home club*

As a member of the Golf Club at Redmond Ridge Ladies Club, you can obtain a *Handicap Index*. A *Handicap Index* will be issued to a player after three 18-hole scores (54 holes) are submitted and a revision takes place.

- Scores can be made up of any combination of 9-hole and 18-hole scores (54 holes).
- Revisions will be daily, so a player’s *Handicap Index* will become active the day after their third 18-hole score (54th hole score) is submitted.

Player Responsibilities

A Player is expected to:

- Act with integrity by following the *Rules of Handicapping* and to refrain from using, or circumventing, the *Rules of Handicapping* for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage,
- Attempt to make the best score possible at each hole,
- Submit *acceptable scores* for handicap purposes as soon as possible after the round is completed and before midnight local time,
- Submit *acceptable scores* to provide reasonable evidence of their demonstrated ability, • Play by the *Rules of Golf*,
- Certify the scores of fellow players.

Scores Acceptable for Handicap Purposes

A score is acceptable for handicap purposes if the round has been played:

- In an authorized format of play over at least the minimum number of 9-holes or a 10 - 17-hole score to be posted "Hole by Hole" if all 18 are not played.
- In the company of at least one other person who may also act as a marker
- By the *Rules of Golf*
- On a golf course with a current Course Rating and Slope Rating, where length and normal playing difficulty is maintained at a consistent level.
- On a golf course during its *active season*

In addition, the player's score must always be certified in accordance with the *Rules of Handicapping*.

If one or more of the requirements set out above are not met, the score is not acceptable for handicap purposes.

The WSGA Active Season - Posting date starts March 1st and the final day of score posting is November 14th. Scores played in year-round locations (i.e. Arizona, California, Hawaii, etc.) must be posted before midnight on the day of play.

Adjustments of Hole Scores

Maximum Hole Score for Handicap Purposes (Net Double Bogey) (posting to GHIN)

Maximum hole score for each player will be limited to a "Net Double Bogey" calculated as follows:

Double Bogey + handicap strokes a player receives based on their Course Handicap (Par +2 strokes +Handicap Strokes a player receives) "Posting your "Actual" score in your GHIN mobile App will adjust your allowed score on any hole. "

2024: Treatment of Hole(s) Not Played

Beginning in 2024, when a player with a Handicap Index[®] plays 10-17 holes, a Score Differential™ will be created based on the holes played, and the player's expected Score Differential for the number of remaining holes not played will be added to that value to produce an 18-hole Score Differential.

To facilitate this change, when a player plays between 10-17 holes, they will be required to post their scores hole-by-hole so the appropriate Score Differential can be calculated from the holes that were played to combine with the expected score for the holes not played.

2024: Treatment of 9-hole scores

Beginning in 2024, when a player posts a 9-hole score, the WHS will automatically calculate an 18-hole Score Differential for the round, based on the player's 9-hole Score Differential and expected Score Differential based on their current Handicap Index[®], allowing the 9-hole round to be considered in the player's Handicap Index calculation right away.

As part of this change, golfers will be required to play and post all 9 holes with a valid 9-hole Course Rating™ and Slope Rating™ instead of the previous minimum of 7 holes.

The important take away's for these changes are you must post a minimum of 9-holes and you must post hole by hole. The app will do the rest.

Submitting a Score

1. A score posted into the player's *scoring record* (GHIN) must be:
 - An *acceptable score*.
 - Recorded in the correct chronological order, even if the score is submitted on a day later than the date the round was played, make sure you use the correct date played.
2. An actual score should be posted - "Hole by Hole".
3. Upon submissions of a score, a player must ensure that the following information is provided for inclusions in their *scoring record*
 - Golf Course played
 - Set of tees played,
 - Date of round played

There are 2 ways to post your acceptable score:

1. GHIN Mobile App – (download from APP Store) **on the day of play.**
2. Online at wsga.org/handicapping-home/post-a-score **Post scores before Midnight**

When a score is submitted, it will be converted to a Score Differential based on the Course Rating and Slope Rating of the tees that were played. In addition, a Playing Conditions Calculation will be included to account for any abnormal course or weather conditions. A Player's *Handicap Index* will be update daily, provided the player submitted a score the day before. On days where the player does not submit a score, no update will take place.

A Handicap Index will then be calculated by averaging a player's 8 best Score Differentials out of their most recent 20.

The player and the player's Handicap Committee have joint responsibility for adhering to these premises: **To ensure an accurate handicap, players must post all 9 or 18-hole scores from any other courses played. If a player fails to post an acceptable score as soon as practicable after completion of the round, the Handicap Chair has three options: 1. Post the actual score made by the player; 2. Post a penalty score equal to the lowest/highest Handicap Differential in the player's scoring record; 3. Post the actual score and a penalty score.**

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