

THE WORLD HANDICAPPING SYSTEM AND THE IMPACT ON CLUBS

The new World Handicapping System will come into force in Australia late January 2020.
Good news is that the rest of the world thought our current system was the best !



We are grateful to these organisations
who made this presentation possible

The handicap calculation looks at a player's score, relative to the difficulty of the course played which is determined by the course



Round	Score	Handicap
1	72	15.7
2	75	15.7
3	78	15.7
4	76	15.7
5	74	15.7
6	77	15.7
7	73	15.7
8	71	15.7
9	79	15.7
10	75	15.7
11	76	15.7
12	74	15.7
13	77	15.7
14	73	15.7
15	71	15.7
16	79	15.7
17	75	15.7
18	76	15.7
19	74	15.7
20	77	15.7

Average of your best 8 scores from your last 20 rounds.

GA handicap is an indication of the scores that you would have on your better days.

HANDICAPPING REPORTS

1. The % of times that an Australian Golfer plays to his/her Daily Handicap or better (depending on their Daily Handicap)

2. The Average Net Score in Australian competitions (depending on the Average Daily Handicap of the field)

NOTES TO THE HANDICAPPING REPORT

- A player is considered to have played to their handicap when their net score is equal to or better than the Scratch Rating (or DSR), not when they have played to par or better
- The “Equivalent Stableford Score” for a Stableford event is adjusted for the difference between the Scratch Rating and the course par
- The “Equivalent Stableford Score” for a Par event is adjusted for the difference between the Scratch Rating and the course par AND it has had 36 added to the total (e.g. 2 down = 34, 3 up = 39)
- Figures for Stroke events are not shown in the following tables because DSR calculations (and handicapping for Stroke events in Australia) are all made on the Stableford score

Had a Bad Round?

Percentage of Rounds Played to Daily Handicap or Better					
MEN			WOMEN		
DHC	Par	Stableford	DHC	Par	Stableford
+5 to 0	19.5%	20.9%	+5 to 0	27.3%	25.8%
1 to 5	22.9%	20.6%	1 to 5	24.5%	20.2%
6 to 10	21.7%	17.6%	6 to 10	20.3%	17.3%
11 to 15	20.9%	15.6%	11 to 15	20.6%	15.4%
16 to 20	19.1%	14.5%	16 to 20	18.3%	13.8%
21 to 25	17.7%	13.7%	21 to 25	16.7%	12.4%
26 to 30	16.4%	12.4%	26 to 30	15.8%	11.8%
31 to 35	14.4%	11.6%	31 to 35	15.0%	11.3%
36	8.5%	5.5%	36 to 40	13.9%	11.1%
Overall	19.4%	14.9%	41 to 45	11.3%	8.4%
			Overall	16.3%	12.3%

Don't Worry

Aren't Statistics wonderful? They make you feel much better after a bad round

Average Equivalent Stableford Score					
Men			Women		
DHC	Par	Stableford	DHC	Par	Stableford
+3	30.1	34.2	+3		34.0
+4	31.1	35.0	+4		33.7
+5	32.2	35.9	+5		33.3
+2	32.6	32.8	+2	33.8	33.0
+1	33.0	32.7	+1	33.7	32.8
0	33.1	32.5	0	33.6	32.6
1	33.2	32.3	1	33.5	32.4
2	33.3	32.3	2	33.4	32.3
3	33.2	32.2	3	33.3	32.2
4	33.1	31.9	4	33.2	32.1
5	33.0	31.8	5	33.1	32.0
6	33.0	31.7	6	33.0	31.9
7	33.0	31.6	7	32.9	31.8
8	32.9	31.5	8	32.9	31.6
9	32.8	31.4	9	32.8	31.5
10	32.8	31.3	10	32.8	31.4
11	32.7	31.2	11	32.8	31.3
12	32.7	31.1	12	32.8	31.2
13	32.6	31.0	13	32.7	31.1
14	32.6	30.9	14	32.7	31.0
15	32.5	30.8	15	32.6	30.9
16	32.4	30.7	16	32.5	30.7
17	32.4	30.6	17	32.4	30.5
18	32.3	30.5	18	32.4	30.4
19	32.3	30.4	19	32.3	30.3
20	32.2	30.3	20	32.2	30.2

Average Equivalent Stableford Score					
Men			Women		
DHC	Par	Stableford	DHC	Par	Stableford
21	32.1	30.1	21	32.1	30.0
22	32.0	30.0	22	32.0	29.9
23	31.9	29.9	23	31.9	29.8
24	31.9	29.8	24	31.8	29.7
25	31.8	29.7	25	31.8	29.6
26	31.8	29.6	26	31.8	29.5
27	31.7	29.5	27	31.7	29.4
28	31.7	29.4	28	31.7	29.3
29	31.6	29.3	29	31.6	29.2
30	31.6	29.2	30	31.6	29.1
31	31.5	29.1	31	31.5	29.0
32	31.4	29.0	32	31.4	28.9
33	31.4	28.9	33	31.4	28.8
34	31.4	28.7	34	31.4	28.7
35	31.3	28.6	35	31.3	28.6
36	31.3	28.5	36	31.3	28.5
Overall	31.4	30.5	37	31.3	28.4
			38	31.3	28.3
			39	31.2	28.2
			40	31.1	28.1
			41	30.9	28.0
			42	30.9	27.9
			43	30.8	27.8
			44	30.7	27.7
			45	30.6	27.6
			Overall	31.4	29.4



The GA handicap also realises that a bad day or period of bad form is temporary, so the system keeps a memory of your lowest handicap in the last 12 months



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Additional reductions in a handicap occur for players that have a score 7 strokes better than their handicap



There is an opportunity for a Committee to adjust a handicap.

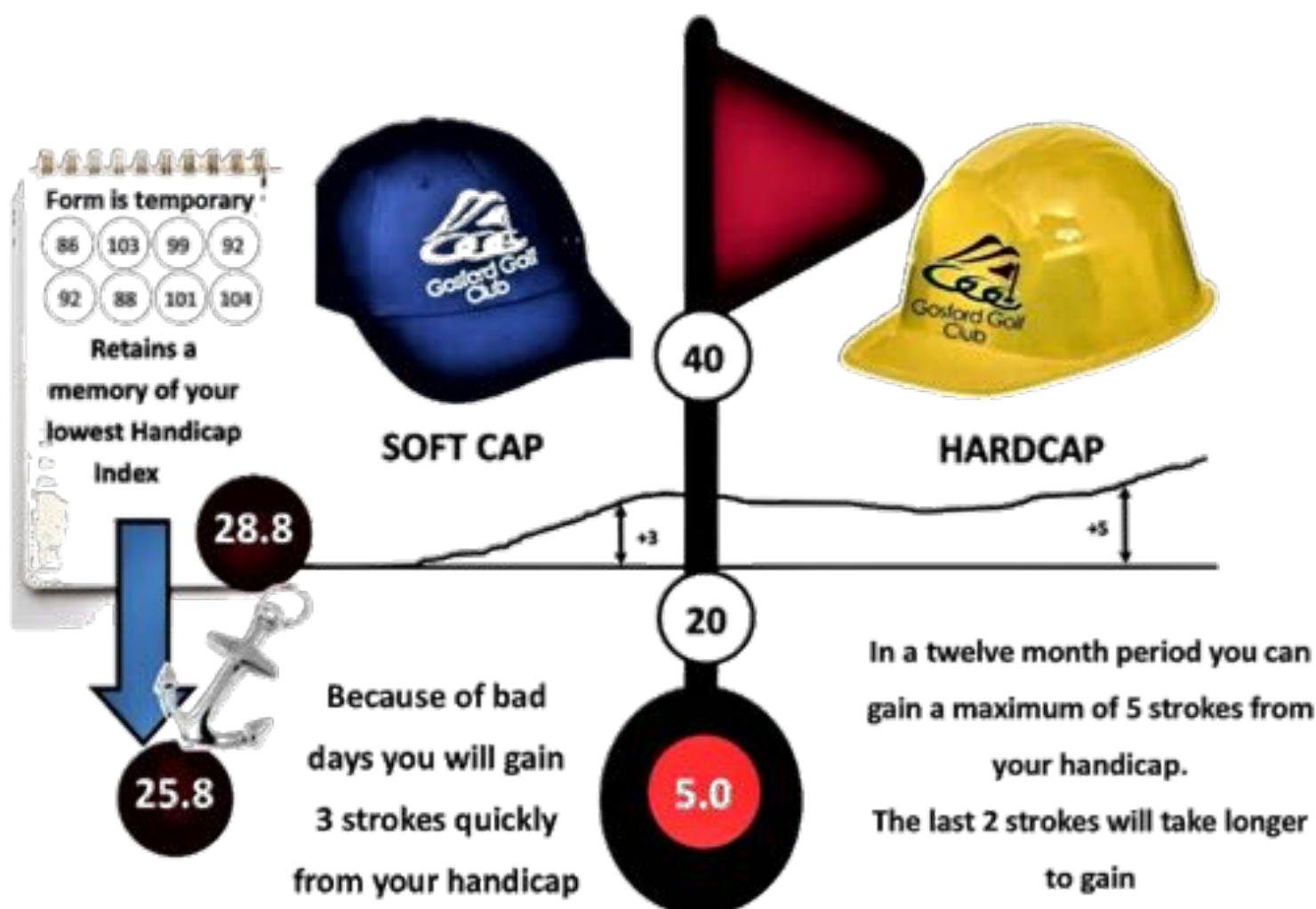
World Handicap System

INCLUSIVE 54 ACCESSIBLE
MODERN ENJOYABLE

WHAT WILL WE NOTICE IN AUSTRALIA?

Daily rating now called PCC
(Playing Conditions Calculation)

- A handicap is adjusted according to the difference between the scratch rating and par
- Soft Cap and Hard Cap
- Maximum Handicap of 54 strokes, although Clubs can modify for their own competitions
- Automatic application of the exceptional score



I am confused
Soft cap? Hard cap?

Let me explain



HARD CAP

All players have an anchor - Your best point for the previous 12 months



Example

Your Best point (Anchor) is 12.2 that means
your hard cap (gain of maximum 5 strokes)
is 17.2 for 12 months



SOFT CAP

From January 30th 2020 a SOFT CAP will be introduced

Once you have gained the first 3 strokes of your handicap the SOFT CAP will take effect. That means that once a player is in the SOFT ZONE your GA handicap will only be allowed to increase by 50% of the calculated amount.

That means that you will gain 3 strokes quickly as now but the last 2 slowly.

EXAMPLE

A player's '8 of 20 scores' calculation is 17.2, but their best GA Handicap from the previous 12 months is 11.2, which is 6 strokes less.

Their GA Handicap calculation becomes $11.2 + 3 + (50\% \text{ of } 3)$ to equal 15.7.

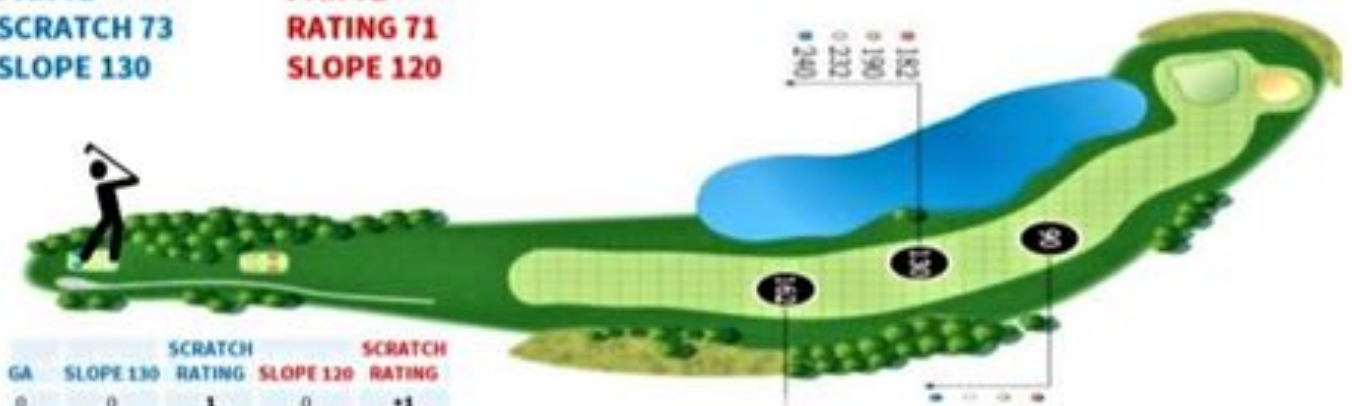
CONFUSED

Don't worry
Mi-Club will calculate it all for you.
All you have to look at is the handicap on your scorecard.

ADJUSTMENT OF HANDICAP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SCRATCH AND PAR

PAR 72
SCRATCH 73
SLOPE 130

PAR 72
RATING 71
SLOPE 120



GA	SCRATCH		SCRATCH	
	SLOPE 130	RATING	SLOPE 120	RATING
0	0	1	0	+1
10	12	13	11	10
20	23	24	21	20
30	35	36	32	31

GOSFORD
Golf Club

Naming Your Courses



GOSF
Golf

THE BENEFITS

FIRST KEY BENEFIT:

This change will eliminate the significant complexity involved with scoring for multi-tee and mixed competitions, and as a result, will be beneficial from a game participation and engagement perspective. This will also make it easier for Clubs to manage their legal risk around compliance with the 1984 Federal equal opportunity law. For more information see the Australian Human Rights Commission publication at:

www.golf.org.au/equalityguidelines



SECOND KEY BENEFIT:

This is all that needs to happen to enable 36 Stableford points (or net par) to become the equitable measure of whether a player has played to their handicap, irrespective of the course or set tees



THIRD KEY BENEFIT:

It will make Daily Handicaps and handicap scores more intuitive – thus eliminating a theme of negative feedback on the existing system





WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

R&A USGA

**What does it all mean
for Australian clubs and golfers?**

Most regulations will NOT change

- Slope is a part of the WHS.
- A player's handicap will continue to be updated by GOLF Link on the same day a score is processed.
- The WHS will feature a statistical daily rating system – the WHS daily rating formulas and regulations have been in full effect in Australia since May 2019.
- Whole number Scratch Ratings will be used (ie no change).
- GA's existing regulations will continue for the handicapping of 9-hole rounds.
- Stableford handicapping of all Stroke competitions will continue.
- The handicapping of 'pre-nominated social scores' is currently permitted in Australia – this will continue unchanged.
- There will be a Hard Cap of 5 strokes as per GA's current regulation. There will also be a Soft Cap at 3 strokes which will be a new regulation for Australia (see Part B below).
- There will be a maximum GA Handicap under the WHS of 54 for both men and women. However, your handicap & competition management software under the WHS will allow you to choose default handicap limits lower than 54 for any (or all) of your competitions. For example, you may choose to set your Daily Handicap limits at 36 for men and 45 for women. o The findings of GA's 2016 national handicapping survey suggest that most Australian clubs wish to retain the existing handicap limits of 36 for men and 45 for women. Under the WHS, your software will allow you to choose these Daily Handicap limits if you wish. o GA has also received feedback from some clubs indicating they would like to be able to increase their existing competition handicap limits. Your software will allow you to do this. This will provide for better engagement with many new players, and also with older members as average Australian ages continue to increase. o Where a club chooses to change its competition handicap limits it should consider the impact this will have on its stroke index and its scorecards.
- GA's existing four-ball handicapping regulations will continue without amendment.
- Handicapping of match play scores will not be permitted.

Regulations that will change

- A. NEW REGULATION** | Bonus Reduction for Exceptional Net Score o GOLF Link will apply an automatic additional reduction to a player's GA Handicap if they have an 'exceptional score'.
- If the player's score is 7.0-10.0 strokes better than what their GA Handicap was at the time the round was played then GOLF Link will apply an automatic additional reduction of 1.0 strokes to their GA Handicap. If the player's score is more than 10.0 strokes better than what their GA Handicap was at the time the round was played, then GOLF Link will apply an automatic additional reduction of 2.0 strokes to their GA Handicap.
 - To establish whether a score is exceptional, GOLF Link will compare the player's GA Handicap at the time the round was played with the number in the 'Sloped Played To' column for that round. Note: The 'Sloped Played To' column is one of the columns that is displayed in a player's handicap record on www.golf.org.au.
- B. NEW REGULATION** | Soft Cap of 3 strokes. (To work in conjunction with the Hard Cap – see Part A above)
- A GA Handicap will continue to increase at the current rate of 100% of the '8 of 20 scores' calculation UNTIL it reaches 3 strokes above its best point from the previous 12 months. Once in this new Soft Cap zone, a player's GA Handicap will only be allowed to increase by 50% of the calculated amount.
 - Example: A player's '8 of 20 scores' calculation is 17.2, but their best GA Handicap from the previous 12 months is 11.2, which is 6 strokes less. Their GA Handicap calculation becomes $11.2 + 3 + (50\% \text{ of } 3)$ to equal 15.7.
 - Modelling indicates that the Soft Cap will impact up to 20% of the total number of handicap calculations performed by GOLF Link each year. The introduction of the Soft Cap will reduce the percentage of players impacted by the Hard Cap from 5% down to less than 1.5%.
 - GA has been aware for some time that our current handicap system produces a competitive advantage to the inconsistent player over the consistent player and we have been looking for a way to soften this outcome. The Soft Cap will improve this situation and will improve the equity of Australian handicapping.

Regulations that will change

C. 1ST CHANGE TO DAILY HANDICAP FORMULA | Transfer of 0.93 Multiplier

- The 0.93 Multiplier will be transferred out of the GA Handicap calculation and into the Daily Handicap calculation. (As a result, a GA Handicap will be calculated simply by averaging the best 8 of a player's most recent 20 results.)
- Note: Our statisticians confirm this change will have no overall impact on the handicaps players actually play off (ie Daily Handicaps). This is because the slight increase it will cause to GA Handicaps (by being removed from that formula), will be exactly the same as the decrease it will cause to Daily Handicaps (by being transferred into this formula). As a result there will be no overall impact. [See next page for the full new Daily Handicap formula.]

D. 2ND CHANGE TO DAILY HANDICAP FORMULA | Adjustment when Scratch Rating is different to Par

- *So what is the actual change?* The Daily Handicap formula will include an adjustment when the Scratch Rating is different to the Par. For example: Scratch Rating 73, Par 70 – Daily Handicaps will increase by 3* (ie $73 - 70 = +3$); Scratch Rating 68, Par 70 – Daily Handicaps will decrease by 2* (ie $68 - 70 = -2$). Note: *the Daily Handicap calculation usually produces a number with multiple decimal places, which is then rounded to a whole number; in some cases the rounding will soften the impact of the adjustment by 1.
- *Why is this change being made?* The constant feedback we receive is that it is challenging to explain to golfers that 36 points or net par is often not the measure of whether they have played to their handicap. It all depends on whether there is a difference between the Scratch Rating and the Par. Where Scratch Ratings are higher than Pars, some players do not get/accept that their handicaps do not increase even though their best scores are no better than about 32 points. Where Scratch Ratings are lower than Pars it can appear odd when regular scores of 37 or 38 points are not reducing handicaps. We appreciate that this appears to be inconsistent and confusing to many people – GA understands the importance of making the game less complex where we can.

BENEFITS

First key benefit.

This simple change will make 36 Stableford points the universal measure of whether a player has played to their handicap. Regardless of the course or set of tees.

Second key benefit.

Comparing results in multi-tee and mixed-gender competitions will be made simple – we've heard the feedback and we know the current complexities are a barrier for many clubs. The change will help to drive game participation and engagement initiatives. It will also make it easier for clubs to manage their legal risk around compliance with the 1984 Federal sex discrimination law (see the Australian Human Rights Commission publication titled 'Guidelines for the promotion of equal opportunity for women and girls in golf' – www.golf.org.au/equality-guidelines).

NEW DAILY HANDICAP FORMULA

⇒ $(GA \text{ Handicap} \times (\text{Slope Rating} \div 113) + (\text{Scratch Rating} \text{ minus Par})) \times 0.93$.

⇒ FULL EXAMPLE OF THE NEW DAILY HANDICAP CALCULATION (software will do all this for you). A player's GA Handicap is 15.2; Slope 124; Scratch Rating 72; Par 70. The WHS Daily Handicap is: $(15.2 \times 124 \div 113 + (72 \text{ minus } 70)) \times 0.93 = 17.37$ (which rounds to 17). If the player has 36 points off 17, they have played to their handicap.



Happy Golfing