

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

Welcome to the world handicap system which started in January, 2020. This is a culmination of work from the six major handicap systems in the world working together to come up with one system. So here are some of the key changes (but not all of the changes):

- Your handicap will be recomputed every day you turn in a score. Since it is computed on a daily basis and there may be an adjustment for playing conditions you need to submit your scores on the day you play.
- Your handicap index will be computed like in the past except it will use only your top 8 scores instead of your top 10 scores thus your index may change even if you haven't played or turned in any scores.
- You will have a course handicap (number of strokes you get in an event) based on the tee you play with no other adjustments assuming the par rating on all tees is the same like at Eastwood. This handicap calculation now includes an adjustment for par and course rating for the course as opposed to just the slope rating. What this means is most likely everyone's course handicap will go down even if your handicap index hasn't changed because par is usually higher than the course rating.
- The maximum score you can take on a hole for handicap purposes is net double bogey (par on the hole + 2 + any handicap strokes you received on the hole). So if you are playing a par 4 that you get a stroke on and have an out of body experience (played poorly) you would record a net double bogey or 4 (par) + 2 (double bogey) + 1 (the handicap stroke you got) or in other words record a 7. This is the same for all handicaps.
- There are now safeguards in place to protect handicaps from going up too high and also from handicaps being too high and a player shooting an exceptional round demonstrating an ability to play better than their handicap.

COVID 19 update: Due to COVID 19 you will be unable to use the handicap computer in the clubhouse to report your scores. You have to report them either through the free GHIN mobile app which you can download to your smart phone or through the GHIN.com website. I would recommend the app since it's really straightforward.

More information on this system can be found on the USGA.org website. If you still have any questions after looking at the website please let me know.