
2024 Rules of Handicapping Changes from 1/4/24

Course Rating-Par

- The 18-hole Course Handicap calculation will include the difference between the CR and the Par from 1 April 2024.
 - Benefits:
 - Same calculation as is being used for the 9-hole calculation
 - Brings us into line with the majority of countries using the system.
 - Produces bigger differences in Course Handicaps from different sets of tees.
 - Target score now Par + Course Handicap
 - Makes the target 36 points to play to handicap, which players are familiar with.
 - No need for an additional adjustment if playing in mixed tee stableford events.
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Examples

Previous Calculation of CH = HI x (SR/113)

New Calculation of CH = (HI x (SR/113)) + (CR-PAR)

Player A

- H.I. is 18.0 and playing from the green tees with a CR/SR of 70.2/125 and par of 72.
- Without CR-Par (current method) the player will get a CH of 20.
- $(18.0 \times 125/113)$
 - 19.9115
- With CR-Par the player will get a CH of 18.
 $(18.0 \times 125/113) + (70.2-72)$
 - $19.9115 + (-1.8) = 18.1115$

Player B

- H.I. is 18.0 and playing from the blue tees with a CR/SR of 75.2/141 and par of 73.
- Without CR-Par the player will get a CH of 22.
- $(18.0 \times 141/113)$
 - 22.4601
- With CR-Par the player will get a CH of 25.
- $(18.0 \times 141/113) + (75.2-73)$
 - $22.4601 + 2.2 = 24.6601$

Four Ball Scores (Rule 5.10)

- New Rule included to allow Four Ball scores be accepted for handicap purposes.
 - Conditions
 - Total pair score of 42 points or 6 under par
 - A player must score on at least 9 holes
 - A player must have at least 36 points
 - Where a player's score counts, they are given the appropriate number of s/f points
 - Where a player's score doesn't count, add 1.5 s/f points except if partner's score is 1 s/f point, the player also receives 1 s/f point.
 - Where team score is 0, both players score zero s/f points.-
 - Where players both score same number of points, both scores used to create individual 18-hole score.
 - Benefits:
 - The number of acceptable score formats on a player's record will increase.
 - Captures scores from different formats of play, where a player might perform significantly better.
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Example Scorecard

18 holes Fourball Betterball Acceptable for Handicapping – Example

Hole		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	P L A Y E R	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Tot	Hcp	Net		
Blue	71.9/122	333	473	155	460	386	541	155	384	144	3031		528	134	337	392	381	152	581	425	380	3310	6341				
White	69.0/120	322	458	146	440	370	531	140	374	135	2916		455	126	322	381	323	139	566	410	372	3094	6010				
Gold	65.1/105	278	441	138	425	286	429	130	272	126	2525		381	118	277	293	312	111	483	326	336	2637	5162				
Index		12	8	16	14	10	2	6	4	18			9	13	15	7	17	11	1	3	5		Team 42pts - Player A 15 Player B 27				
A CH9/PH8			*				*	*	*						*			*	*	*							
A Gross		x	-	3	6	-	-	4	4	3			-	-	4	-	3	-	-	-	-						
A Stbl pts		-	-	2	1	-	-	2	3	2	10		-	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	5	15				
Par		4	5	3	5	4	5	3	4	3	36		5	3	4	4	4	3	5	4	4	36	72				
B CH20/PH17		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*						
B Gross		x	5	-	-	4	5	4	-	-			6	3	-	5	-	3	5	5	4						
B Stbl pts	Ind	0	3	1.5	1	3	3	2	1.5	1.5	16.5		2	3	1.5	2	1.5	3	3	2	3	21	37.5	3	40.5		
	Team										9												18				
Team score: 42pts. Player A = 7 Holes - Player B = 11 Holes																						27					

Recalculated Individual Score for Player B: 40 Stbl Points

Notes:

If two identical net scores are recorded by partners on a hole, both scores count (hole 7)

The difference between the Playing Handicap and the Course Handicap will be added to the final recalculated individual stbl score (3)

If a half appears in the total, the value is rounded to the next lower whole number (37.5)

The final Stbl result is converted to the equivalent AGS with the following formula: AGS = Par + Course Handicap + (36-Stbl score)

Society/Alliance Scores

- Players are responsible for returning scores from any organised competition which is:
 - played in an authorised format,
 - from a rated set of tees,
 - on any rated golf course,
 - played by the Rules of Golf
 - including when that competition has been organised by an Unaffiliated Organisation, i.e. an Alliance, Society or internal club group.
 - Where an Unaffiliated Organisation consists of golf club members, they should be accommodated on the club computer software to enable them to return scores.
 - They will be deemed to have pre-registered their round (in the same way as for a club competition).
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Clarification on Scores from Society events

- Rule 2 Clarification: A player is considered to have pre-registered if playing in a regular organized event with other players for a prize and to the ROG (e.g. roll-ups, society events)
 - Rule 2.1/a. Scores from authorised formats of play must be submitted.
 - Clubs can intervene and enter the score from these events or apply a penalty score if necessary.
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Method of scaling up 9-hole scores/Holes not played (Expected Score)

- Definition of Expected Score: A score a player is expected to achieve, over a specified number of holes, on a course of standard difficulty.
 - Benefits:
 - Makes handicaps more accurate and simplifies the current method
 - Current scaling up method adds net par + 1 additional stroke (17 stableford points) to the back 9 holes.
 - New Expected Score method uses the Score Differential for the actual 9 holes played and adds an Expected Score Differential for the back 9 holes.
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Expected Score Differential

- The Expected Score method can be used for scaling up competitions over non-standard number of holes which can be used as a further demonstration of a player's ability.
 - For 12 or 14 hole competitions, the club sets up an 18-hole competition as normal and the player adds 'Hole Not Played' or 'Hole Not Started' for the remaining 4 holes on the software.
 - Note: The Computer software will work out the calculations for you.
 - The following is an example of scaling up a 9 Hole Score. An example can also be found in the CONGU/WHS handicapping advice document.
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Combining 9-hole Score with an Expected Score

Example Calculation for 9 holes played

Sunnyside Golf Club

Bronze Tees Course Rating (F9): 36.0 (B9): 36.4

9-hole Slope Rating (F9): 125 (B9): 126

Name of Player: Jane Smith

Course Handicap: 16

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out
Par	4	4	5	4	3	5	4	4	3	36
S.I.	7	13	3	9	15	1	11	5	17	
Score	4	5	6	5	3	5	6	4	4	42

Calculation of 9-hole Score Differential

$$\begin{array}{l} (113 \div 9\text{-hole Slope Rating}) \\ (113 \div 125) \end{array} \times \begin{array}{l} (\text{Adjusted gross score} - \\ \text{9-hole Course Rating}) \\ (42 - 36.0) \end{array} = 5.42$$

Combining 9-hole Score with an Expected Score

Example Calculation for 9 holes played

First 9-hole Score Differential

$$= (113 \div 125) \times (42 - 36.0)$$
$$= 5.42$$

Expected Score

Uses Player Equation for player with Handicap Index of 16.0

$$= 9.52$$

The 18-hole Score Differential is calculated by combining the first 9-hole Score Differential from the 9-holes played with the expected Score Differential for the hole or holes not played (calculated based on a given Handicap Index and a course of standard difficulty).

First 9-hole score differential

5.42

+

Expected 9-hole score differential



9.52

=

Equivalent 18-hole score differential

14.9

Combining 9-hole Score with an Expected Score

Example Calculation for 9 holes played

Sunnyside Golf Club

Bronze Tees Course Rating (Front 9): 36.0

9-hole Slope Rating: 125

Name of Player: Jane Smith

Course Handicap: 16

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out
Par	4	4	5	4	3	5	4	4	3	36
S.I.	7	13	3	9	15	1	11	5	17	
Score	4	5	6	5	3	5	6	4	4	42
Pts.	3	2	2	2	3	3	1	3	2	21

Calculation 9-hole Score Differential

$$\begin{array}{l} (113 \div 9\text{-hole Slope Rating}) \\ (113 \div 125) \end{array} \times \begin{array}{l} (9\text{-hole par} + 9\text{-hole CH} - \\ (\text{points scored} - 18) - 9\text{-hole Course Rating}) \\ (36 + 9 - (21 - 18) - 36.0) \end{array} = 5.42$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{First 9-hole score differential} \\ 5.42 \end{array} + \begin{array}{l} \text{Expected 9-hole score differential} \\ 9.52 \end{array} = \begin{array}{l} \text{Equivalent 18-hole score differential} \\ 14.9 \end{array}$$

Note: Expected Score is a closed calculation.