



Rockledge Men's Club



2024 Changes to the World Handicap System (WHS)

- Posting 9-Hole Scores
 - Do this immediately after each 9-hole round (just as one would do for 18-hole scores)
 - Must be a rated 9 holes (front nine/back nine)
 - The WHS will automatically calculate an 18-hole score differential for the round.
- Playing less than 18 holes (but more than 9)
 - Post scores hole-by-hole.
 - The WHS will automatically produce a score differential for the holes played to determine a score differential for the holes that were not played.
 - Must be valid reasons for not finishing round; if reason is invalid score should not be posted but HDCP Cmte could post a penalty score

Key Data

- "Interpretations" are now "Clarifications"
- Both genders "required" to have ratings up to 6000 yards; "recommended" up to 6500 yards
- If a golfer is a member of more than one club, one must be designated at their home club and all clubs of which they are a member should be aware.
- Acceptable scores:
 - "The round was played in an authorized format of play which includes stroke play, match play, and team competitions where the player plays their own ball."
 - "Scores where a player did not hole out on every hole can provide reasonable evidence of the player's ability and can be used for handicap purposes." Player should post "most likely score" (putts within 5 feet should = one additional stroke).
- Unacceptable scores: when a round is played alone; therefore, not able to be verified
- Max hole scores
 - Player establishing a new handicap: par plus 5 strokes (HDCP Cmte can establish a lower max score at their discretion); minimum 54 holes to qualify for a new handicap
 - Player with existing handicap: Net double bogey

- Maximum index is 54.0 but Tournament Committee can set a lower maximum index
- Playing Conditions Calculation (PCC): if many players score above/below their expected score the system will adjust scores automatically (this happened in last round of club championship).

Handicap Committee

- Can “freeze” an index at a number selected by the committee for up to one year. Player must be informed and be given opportunity to respond to committee before a handicap is modified.
- Failure to post scores:
 - 1st failure to post: written warning
 - 2nd Failure to post: penalty score applied
 - Penalty score can be the highest or lowest score among last 19 depending if player is trying to have an artificially higher or lower handicap
 - 3rd failure: further disciplinary action
- WHS system will identify
 - “Players who are consistently scoring above or below their expected scoring range”
 - When a score is outside of the expected scoring range it will be flagged; this system takes into account players have good and bad days; the number of flags is a factor in the review procedures.
 - Make a recommended adjustment of a player’s handicap index (maximum: 2 strokes)

And Another Thing

- Club can contact Association to see which holes score highest relative to par – most difficult is not necessarily the lowest handicap holes