

World Handicapping System

To All Members of the HHMGA

Beginning in the middle of this month (December) the current USGA Handicap System will be shut down and will remain down while transitioning to the new **World Handicap System** (WHS) in the beginning of January, 2020. There are several things you should know prior to implementing the new WHC.

New handicaps are based on the best eight of the last twenty scores posted.

Handicaps for new players will be established after three rounds are posted.

You will probably see a change in your Handicap Index and Course Handicap due to the new automatic calculation. Also, your new Course Handicap will reflect the course you are playing (different tees). Because your new Course Handicap reflects the tees (or course) you are playing there will no longer be an adjustment when playing a mixed tee event since the adjustment was already made when the new system was implemented. Our MGA book, maintained in the Pro's Shop, will indicate your Course Handicap from each set of tees. When playing outside of Harbor Hills all you need is your Handicap Index.

The new system updates daily and means that scores are to be posted daily. Each group or foursome should have someone designated to post scores on the day the game was played. All scores are to be posted including match play and Stableford (points) games. The only scores which are not acceptable for posting are scores when playing alone and Four Ball (alternate shot) matches.

All players are encouraged to download the GHIN System app and beginning daily posting of all scores.

When playing games where participants are encouraged to "pick up" to save time, scores for each hole are now to be posted at a maximum of the handicap for the hole plus a double bogey. Example: If a player gets two strokes on every hole his maximum score on a par five will be 9 (his 2 strokes plus the double bogey). On a par 3 his maximum score will be 7 (his 2 strokes plus the double bogey). The acceptable guideline for a ball picked up is: if a ball is within 5 feet of the hole = 1 putt, from 5 feet to 60 feet = 2 putts, over 60 feet = 3 (or 4).

The "T", or Tournament score, in the new system is replaced with an "Exceptional Score" reduction. An Exceptional Score will have a maximum impact of -1 toward your Handicap Index, but will remain in the calculation for one year, unless replaced by a lower score.

The new system takes into account playing conditions based on at least ten scores posted that day. There are new terms which are also taken into consideration such as "Hard Cap", "Soft Cap" and "PCC" adjustment, none of which you need worry about. We have tried to outline the pertinent information for you and those things which are your responsibility. The most basic thing you can start to do immediately is to post your scores on the day you play to get into the habit of doing it.

The Handicap used in HHMGA events will be the current daily handicap on the day of the sign up deadline. Tues. for normal Wed. events. For other major HHMGA events it will be 3 to 5 days prior to the first day of play.

