

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM - WHS

WHS takes effect from 2nd November 2020 and supersedes the CONGU system.

Your Committee is supporting **Club Policy** by encouraging Members to have **20 x SCORE DIFFERENTIALS** [Qualifying Rounds] in place by the end of October this year.

COME NOVEMBER, YOUR 'HANDICAP INDEX' WILL BECOME THE AVERAGE OF THE LOWEST 8 of YOUR 20 MOST RECENT 'SCORE DIFFERENTIALS'.

Although some Members took steps towards achieving this goal through Competition and Supplementary Rounds during the 2019 Season, many of us still have a fairly long way to go - **BUT IT CAN BE DONE - AND WILL BE WORTHWHILE** - particularly for those of us who enjoy playing on neighbouring courses, with a different '**Slope Rating**' [difficulty factor] than Wrekin.

A '**SCORE DIFFERENTIAL**' can be recorded **over 9 or 18 holes**, providing it's played within the Rules of Golf and in an 'Authorised Format' - which includes **ORGANISED COMPETITION or PRE-REGISTERED GENERAL PLAY - CAN BE EITHER 'MEDAL' OR 'STABLEFORD'** - provided that it's an **INDIVIDUAL SCORE** based **PERSONAL PERFORMANCE** - so, for example, Pairs Competition, Match Play and Scrambles are excluded. **Scores achieved over 9 holes are automatically 'doubled-up' to represent an 18 hole round.**

Scores achieved in **SINGLES COMPETITION ROUNDS MUST BE RECORDED**, whilst those resulting from **Pre-Registered Social or General Play are ACCEPTABLE** [Organised 'Roll-Up's can be deemed Pre-Registered - otherwise Register in Golf Reception beforehand [as now]

When a 'Round' is entered into the Computer, software will **automatically generate** a '**Score Differential**' based on the Member's **Adjusted Gross Score**, and take into account the **Course and Slope Rating**. It will **identify the lowest 8 of the 20 MOST RECENT 'Score Differentials'** and **allocate the Member's CURRENT 'Handicap Index'** - bear in mind that the process is **dynamic** and that '**Round 21**' will become '**Round 20**' when the '**earliest**' [Round 1] '**falls-off the system**' and is no longer part of the '**20 MOST RECENT**' calculation.

So, a Member's '**Handicap Index**' will fluctuate, dependant on adjustments applied when a new '**Score Differential**' is recorded.

In effect, **the Computer Software does the work - and the Member's only responsibility** is to enter their **Gross Score** into the Computer, Hole by Hole, and **check their Handicap Index before their next round** [via the Computer Terminal, HowDidIDo or England Golf]

One of the undoubted **BENEFITS** of **WHS** is the introduction of a '**SLOPE RATING**' which is based on **DIFFICULTIES PRESENTED BY EACH COURSE**. A '**COURSE HANDICAP**' LOOK- UP TABLE will be available at **EACH CLUB AND WILL CONVERT A PLAYER'S 'HOME 'HANDICAP INDEX' INTO A 'PLAYING HANDICAP' FOR THE COURSE BEING PLAYED**.

HOW WILL OUR SECTION HELP MEMBERS ACHIEVE 20 RECENT 'SCORE DIFFERENTIAL' BY THE END OF THE 2020 SEASON ?

We have about 60 or so active Members - with about 30-35 playing in competitions most weeks. We were scheduled to hold 12 x 15 hole and 6 x 18 hole 'Board' Competitions during the forthcoming 'season', plus 7 x 15 hole Winter Stablefords, the Thursday 'Roll-Up' and a few Texas Scrambles. **Winter Golf will remain unchanged.**

WHS recognises 9 hole Rounds as acceptable 'Score Differentials' - in fact, a '**Handicap Index**' could be based **ENTIRELY on 9 hole Golf** ! Whilst this may be an acceptable, painless and fairly quick way of building a 'Handicap Index' - there is a **DOWNSIDE**, particularly here at Wrekin, **where it's fairly well accepted that the FRONT 9 is EASIER, AND LESS PHYSICALLY DEMANDING, THAN THE BACK 9 - PRODUCING LOWER SCORES** - and therefore a **LOWER 'HANDICAP INDEX'** than might be the case if the Member completed **FULL and CONTINUOUS ROUNDS of 18 HOLES**.

Taking all things into account, **the Seniors Committee have decided** that for the 2020 Playing Season at least, **the 6 rounds of the 'Parton Jamieson' Trophy will be played over 18 holes, rather than 15, supplementing the 6 x 18 hole rounds of the 'Derek Taylor' Trophy**. This will give Members the potential to play 12 x 18 hole rounds of Senior 'Board' Competition [off Club Handicap] towards their 20 'Score Differentials'

There will still be 7 x 15 hole competitions, played off Seniors Handicap and scored on the Seniors 'Card'. However, Dave Pegge will enter the Members **GROSS SCORE FOR THEIR 'FRONT 9'** onto their 'Playing Record' and **THESE 9 HOLE ROUNDS will form part of their 20 'Score Differentials.'**

Members are also reminded that they CAN, if they so wish, **play the 15th, 16th and 17th as additional holes during a 15 hole competition round** - in which case they should complete both their 15 hole card **AND an 18 hole card**. **The latter will take precedence over the 15 hole card for the purpose of recording a 'Score Differential'** - but should always be **Pre-Registered as such**.

Ian Bullock [Seniors Chairman]
Dave Pegge [Competitions Secretary]
8th February 2019