

Do you know the score with the new World Handicap System (WHS)?

2ND NOVEMBER 2020



What are Acceptable Scores for Handicap Purposes?

The current term *Qualifying Score* is replaced by a new term in the WHS; **Acceptable Score**.

- 9 hole and 18 hole Singles Competition Rounds in **Authorised Formats** must be submitted for handicap purposes, subject to the round being played to the Rules of Golf and over a measured course with a current Course Rating and Slope Rating.
- The only exception to this is in the winter months when the Competitions Committee may declare that the course conditions are unsuitable for submitting Acceptable Scores.
- Scores from team comps and match play will not be acceptable in England initially, but this may change based on feedback from other countries that currently include those formats.
- Scores from General Play, called **Social Scores**, may be submitted, subject to preregistration, in much the same way as you currently do with Supplementary Scores.
- The recommendation from **England Golf** is that scores from regular organised less formal competitions amongst members (Swindles and roll-ups) are considered preregistered and are submitted for handicap purposes.

This is to enable players to have more scores in their Record - the more scores that you submit, the more reflective your Handicap Index will be of your ability.

Submitting a score for handicap should no longer be considered to be a 'special event'. Your Handicap Index calculation needs your scores to work properly.

Authorised Formats of Play

The authorised formats of play for Acceptable Scores are 9 hole or 18 hole singles rounds in the following formats:

- Stroke play (Medal)
- Stableford
- Par/Bogey
- Maximum Score

Click here to watch a short [Acceptable Scores video](#) (but ignore the bit about “Active Season” which is not applicable in England).

How your score counts towards the WHS?

Acceptable formats of play:

- Pre-registered general play 'social' scores
- All individual competition rounds, both 9 and 18 holes, whether played at home or away

Non-acceptable formats of play:

- Scores from fourball better ball
- Other matchplay events

Coming Next:

The next “*WHS: Know the Score*” article describes the minimum number of holes that must be completed for the round to be an **Acceptable Score** for handicap purposes.