



Southport Old Links Golf Club

Gentlemen's Competitions' Committee Notice

A message from the Gents' Competitions Committee / Chairman

With the IMMINENT return of golf , we have put together a short "laymans guide" to how things have changed when we get back to competition golf.

So what has changed with the implementation of the World Handicap System?

1. You no longer have a "**HANDICAP**"!
2. In competitions, there is no longer a "**BUFFER ZONE**"
3. You will not get 0.1 back on your handicap for above par rounds, or .2/.3/.4 reduction if you beat par.
4. You cannot now submit an "**N.R.**" card, as all incomplete holes will be awarded a nett double bogey.

So how will the new system work?

1. You now have a "**HANDICAP INDEX**" -calculated from your best 8 score differentials from your previous 20 rounds. (See the table below to see the calculations if you have submitted less than 20 cards since 2018)
2. Your handicap index is portable and you take it to every course you play. Before you arrive at the course you are going to play you need to check your current handicap index on Howdidido / Members Hub.
3. All courses now have slope rating charts at the first tee and you will use these to determine your "**PLAYING HANDICAP**" for that day, based upon the tees you are playing that day and whether you are playing 9 or 18 holes.

The Club for Everyone





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4. You can now submit cards which are not in competition, every day if you wish, but you must **PRE-REGISTER** before you play using Howdidido. You must play with at least one other person and if you register **YOU MUST** submit your card.

5. The CSS buffer zone will be replaced by a **PCC (PLAYING CONDITIONS CALCULATION)** for that day and ALL players who play on that day, either in competition or not, will have their score adjusted **AUTOMATICALLY** dependant on how hard or easy the course played.

6. As soon as you submit a card it becomes one of your "**LAST 20**" cards, so by definition, the 21st score on your list will be eliminated. Your handicap index will alter if a card becomes one of your best 8, or you eliminate one of your best 8 as you add more scores.

3 score cards submitted	Lowest 1 used to determine handicap index	Adjustment of –2.0
4 score cards submitted	Lowest 1 used to determine handicap index	Adjustment of –1.0
5 score cards submitted	Lowest 1 used to determine handicap index	0
6 score cards submitted	Average of lowest 2 score differentials	Adjustment of –1.0
7 or 8 cards submitted	Average of lowest 2 score differentials	0
9 to 11 cards submitted	Average of lowest 3 score differentials	0
12 to 14 cards submitted	Average of lowest 4 score differentials	0
15 or 16 cards submitted	Average of lowest 5 score differentials	0
17 or 18 cards submitted	Average of lowest 6 score differentials	0
19 cards submitted	Average of lowest 7 score differentials	0
20 cards submitted	Average of lowest 8 score differentials	0

Useful Guides via these Links on the England Golf Website

<https://www.englandgolf.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Rules-of-Handicapping-Player-Reference-Guide.pdf>

https://www.englandgolf.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/WH5_070_Golfers_Toolkit_FINAL.pdf

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