



## **BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION**

---

### **USGA Course Rating report October 2019**

All courses in Bucks have now been rated under the USGA System – the 36 clubs have been visited and all 40 courses will have the necessary paperwork in place ahead of the implementation of the Worldwide Handicap System in November 2020. Nine courses were rated during 2019 – most have received their new Certificates; the remainder will be issued in the next few weeks.

I would like to thank all those who have assisted with the course rating since this new round of rating started in 2014. It was a big task to get all the courses done by the target date of December 2019. Working closely with the BB&O Union has enabled the rating to be carried out simultaneously for the men. I would like to record my thanks to the Union's lead raters for Bucks for ensuring that at least one of them was able to fit in with my schedule to visit each of the courses with me. This has shown that whilst not a Unified County, we have a good relationship with the BB&O Union and can pool our resources and work well together.

It is disappointing that the smaller counties of Berkshire and Oxfordshire have not been able to reach the target date. For those courses still to be rated they will be given a Provisional Rating by England Golf, which will be used until the actual rating has been carried out.

The new Standard Scratch Certificates are issued direct to the clubs as soon as the paperwork is complete. The new SSS figures have to be used immediately upon receipt from England Golf. The Slope Rating information is calculated at the same time as the SSS but the information is retained by England Golf. They will be releasing that information to all the clubs in early 2020 in readiness for the WHS.

I have been advised by England Golf that they will be running training sessions for new raters in 2021 once the WHS is up and running. Since I have been doing the rating since 2003 and just completed my second full round of the clubs, I will be looking for someone to take over this role from me. I would like to hear from anyone interested in taking this on so that they can do initial training with me next year and then full training with England Golf in 2021.

In the mean time I will continue to look at any reviews necessary for any club in Bucks that has had changes to their course.

Phillipa Cook  
USGA STANDARD SCRATCH COURSE ASSESSOR