

ALVA GOLF CLUB

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

From 2nd November 2020 the **World Handicap System (WHS)** will replace the current CONGU system, objective of which is that a golfer will have a **Handicap Index** to compete on any course worldwide. This is being managed and introduced by Scottish Golf

Below is a basic introduction to **WHS** outlining the key changes and terminology. The system is new to us all and we will all be on a learning curve in the coming year particularly when the 2021 competition season starts for club fixtures and other away club Opens

A Handicap will be renamed **Handicap Index**. All members with a current handicap will be given a **Handicap Index**, allocated by Scottish Golf, on 2nd November 2020. A member **Handicap Index** maybe marginally different from their current handicap

Alva Golf Club has been allocated a **Course Rating** and **Slope Rating** which are taken into account when determining a member **Handicap Index**. The higher the **Slope Rating** the more difficult the course. Alva **Slope Rating** is 116 (white tees) which is average in the overall range of 55 - 155. These will be displayed in the clubhouse

Handicap Index

- new term for golfer handicap
- a member **Handicap Index** will be calculated on the average of the best 8 scores out of the last 20 returned scores
- only club competition and away scores will be used in **Handicap Index** calculations (no supplementary scores will be valid)
- a member **Handicap Index** will alter based on competition score returns, no limit to a decrease that may be applied, but increases are limited by **WHS** functionality
- competition scores returned from 2017 onwards will be used to determine a **Handicap Index**

Course Handicap

- takes account of an individual's **Handicap Index** and course **Slope Rating** giving a handicap for competition play

Note : for a member playing in a competition at another course the applicable **Course Handicap** may be lower or higher than their Alva **Course Handicap**

Playing Handicap

- only used when playing in competitions where fractions / percentages are applied i.e. matchplay

New Member Handicap Index

- to obtain a **Handicap Index** score cards for 54 holes must be returned in any combination of 18 or 9 hole play (must include one club competition return)
The player **Handicap Index** will adjust as more score cards are returned.

Competition Entry

- club competitions will be based on **Handicap Index** to create **Course Handicap**, these will be aligned with conditions of play for each individual competition e.g. a maximum **Course Handicap** limit applied to a particular competition
- away / Open competition entry conditions will be set by the individual host clubs

Playing Conditions

- adjustments to **Handicap Index** will take account of playing conditions e.g. bad weather / high winds and will be applied automatically based on the score returns of competitors

Handicap Master

- the club **Handicap Master** system will be used and operational for start of competition season in April 2021. In advance further information will be provided on the system and its use. No club competitions are held during winter months

Score Card Returns

- this information is essential for member **Handicap Index** accuracy only as **No Return** score cards are no longer valid. A score card return, should be made even if all holes have not been completed, the score card will be disregarded otherwise, the requirements are as below
- for a 9 hole competition all holes must be played
- for an 18 hole competition at least 10 holes must be played (ideally all 18 played), for any of the remaining 8 holes (dependant on number actually played) that a hole score is not returned the system will allocate a nett double bogey score
- competition results / winners are based on all holes being played
- a minimum of **8 acceptable score card returns** must be made for a competition to be held / results determined

Alva Golf Club - Committee Communication

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