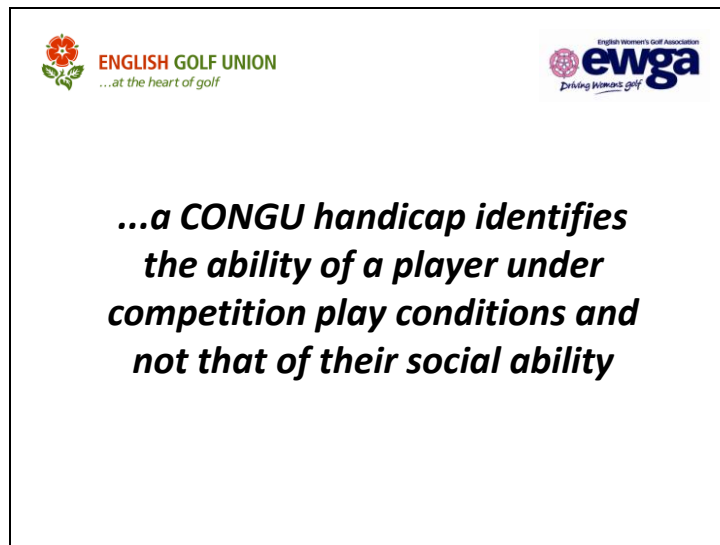




**CONGU UNIFIED
HANDICAPPING SYSTEM (UHS)
&
R&A RULES OF AMATEUR STATUS
'Changes 2012-2015'**

Seminars Oct-Dec 2011



A CONGU handicap is based on the members ability in club qualifying competitions. Social scores returned are not applicable in the adjustment of a handicap and is contrary to the CONGU Unified Handicapping System (UHS).

Adjusting handicaps from social scores can result in the member being under handicapped resulting in a distortion of CSS calculations due to players being unable to 'play to handicap' in qualifying competitions. This in turn results in an increase in CSS and Reduction Only (RO) events and incorrect handicapping within the club.

It is preferable that members submit 7 qualifying scores per calendar year in order to provide enough statistical information on their playing ability.



2011 Changes

- **Supplementary Scores**
 - available to Category 1 (0-5)
 - no restriction based on previous qualifying scores (previously 7+)
- **9 Hole Qualifying Competition**
 - no restriction on number of events that can be run (previously 10)
 - no restriction on number of 9 hole courses
- **Active/Inactive**
 - Inactive players have now been removed from CSS calculations

Supplementary Scores

There have been isolated incidents that some players have used Supplementary Scores as a method of manipulating their handicaps. Clubs should be mindful that members wishing to submit scores do so under the following circumstances:

- playing from a measured course
- scorecard signed by both marker and the player
- player signifies intention of submitting a score prior to the round



Remember that no matter the weather conditions no one can guarantee that they will return a score below their handicap on any given day.

9 Hole Qualifying Competitions

Restrictions have been removed. Please remember that these competitions are in addition to and not to the detriment of 18 hole club competitions.

Active/Inactive Handicaps

Those members with an Inactive handicap will have their scores removed from the calculation of a CSS. Every opportunity should be given to those with Inactive handicaps to return the 3 qualifying scores required in order to achieve an Active handicap.




Allotment of Handicaps
Clause 16

Allocation of a CONGU handicap now permissible from the submission of 9 hole scores.

Clause 16 requires new members needing a CONGU handicap to submit 3 scores, preferably from a measured course. From the lowest of these scores (subject to nett double bogey adjustment) a CONGU handicap will be allocated.

It is now permissible to obtain a handicap from a series of 9 holes scores so long as the 9 and 18 holes submitted totals 54 holes.



Allotment of Handicaps
Clause 16



Examples
3 x 18 holes
2 x 18 holes plus 2 x 9 holes
6 x 9 holes

Handicap allocated based on the lowest 18 holes of the 54 holes submitted (not best individual holes).
Authorisation for a 9 hole SSS must first be obtained.

Clubs should encourage new members to submit 18 holes for the allocation wherever possible.

Should 9 holes be used the best two 9 hole scores shall be added together to determine the CONGU handicap.

An SSS for the 9 holes must first be obtained, an application form is available by visiting www.englishgolfunion.org



9 Hole Qualifying Competitions
Clause 22



9 hole qualifying competitions may now
be submitted at any club in which the
player holds playing membership

Previously Home Club Only

It is now permissible for Away members of the club to submit 9 hole scores for handicap purposes. The members exact handicap is required.

Handicapping software will send scores back to home clubs via the CDH in the same manner as 18 hole qualifying scores.

Remember 9 hole SSS must first be obtained.



Clause 25

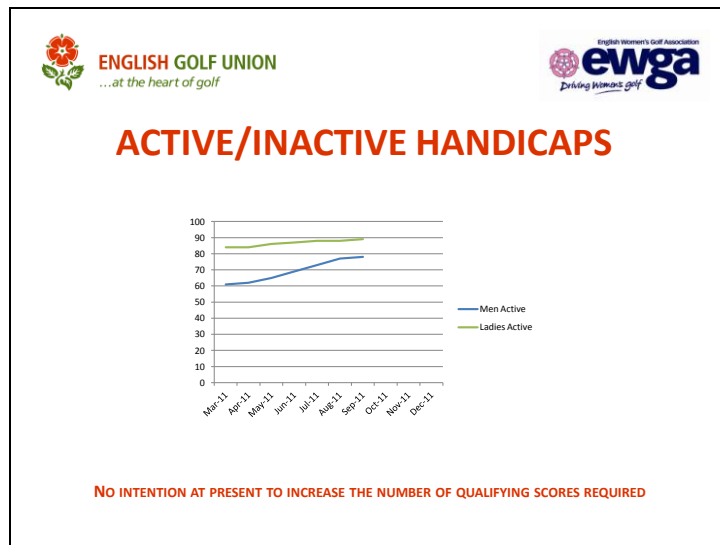
Now referred to as '**Status of Handicap**'
and makes reference to Active/Inactive
handicaps

England, Scotland and Wales are now all applying the Active/Inactive system, albeit using different terminology, and is now included in the CONGU UHS.

System introduced on request of our golf clubs at previous handicap seminars whereby clubs wanted a system to identify the playing history of a player without lapsing a handicap.

Reference to lapsing, which was a Scottish requirement only, has been removed.

Remember it is not permissible to remove a handicap of a member for failure to submit qualifying scores. A CONGU handicap is retained so long as they continue playing membership of an affiliated golf club.



Since its inclusion 80+% of men and 90+% of ladies have Active handicaps.

Statistically 7 qualifying scores are required to give an accurate reflection of playing ability. It has however, by request of the clubs, to retain 3 qualifying scores needed for an Active handicap.





**COMPETITION STANDARD
SCRATCH (CSS)**

*“Identifying the difficulty of the course on
the competition day”*

The CSS was initially introduced in 1989 and at that time all handicap categories had the same Buffer Zone (SSS+2).

Handicap BZ then changed but the use of SSS+2 for CSS was retained.

This was because typically a men's field comprised of approx 40%-50% cat 2 (where SSS+2 is the BZ) and so adjustment to tables was not felt unnecessary.





CSS CALCULATION

Generally works well for men.

The Problem
Produces too many occasions where CSS goes up or becomes Reduction Only for ladies.

WHY?

With the introduction of the ladies into the handicapping system it resulted in too many competitions where the CSS increased or became Reduction Only (RO). This was because a typical ladies field differed to that of the men and includes a higher percentage of Category 4 golfers.



CSS CALCULATION



The CSS algorithm was not designed for fields with Category 4 players who are more volatile than the other Categories.

Composition of ladies fields are different to men and contain a relatively large number of Category 4 players. They also have a high number of very small fields.

CSS calculation derived from men's scores and as such was not intended to include Category 4 golfers.

Analysis of scores has indicated that using SSS+BZ would improve precision of the CSS particularly for fields containing few Cat 1 and 2 players.

Same statistical model used for the current CSS was used to derive new BZ target percentage values. Data from actual competitions used.



CSS CALCULATION



CSS = SSS + Handicap Buffer Zone:

Example – SSS 72

Cat 1	Nett 73 and better
Cat 2	Nett 74 and better
Cat 3 [&4]	Nett 75 [76] and better

Previously 74 for all categories

CSS now based on SSS+ Handicap Buffer Zone rather than SSS+2. Still only scores returned by players in Categories 1, 2, 3[4].

CSS CALCULATION

Comparing a typical Ladies' field (0/10/90)

	R/O	SSS+3	SSS+2	SSS+1	CSS=SSS	SSS-1
SSS+2	0-4%	5-7%	8-11%	12-15%	16-32%	33+%
SSS+BZ	0-6%	7-9%	10-15%	16-22%	23-45%	46+%



Comparing a typical Mens' field (10/40/50)

	R/O	SSS+3	SSS+2	SSS+1	CSS=SSS	SSS-1
SSS+2	0-5%	6-9%	10-14%	15-20%	21-41%	42+%
SSS+BZ	0-6%	7-11%	12-17%	18-25%	26-49%	50+%

So although you might expect more players in a typical field to play within their BZ than would play to SSS+2, the target has become proportionately tougher to allow CSS to remain as SSS.

Analysis indicates there will be minimal change on the general CSS outcome for a typical men's competition.

Ladies' fields should see a healthy number of lower CSS outcomes, including slightly fewer Reduction Only competitions.

Appendix B

New Table A (Extract)

Table A								
Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	R/O	SSS+3	SSS+2	SSS+1	CSS = SSS	SSS-1
0	0	100	0 to 6	7 to 9	10 to 15	16 to 22	23 to 45	46+
0	10	90	0 to 6	7 to 9	10 to 15	16 to 22	23 to 45	46+
0	20	80	0 to 6	7 to 9	10 to 15	16 to 22	23 to 45	46+
0	30	70	0 to 6	7 to 10	11 to 16	17 to 23	24 to 47	48+
0	40	60	0 to 6	7 to 10	11 to 16	17 to 23	24 to 47	48+
0	50	50	0 to 6	7 to 10	11 to 16	17 to 23	24 to 47	48+
0	60	40	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 49	50+
0	70	30	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 49	50+
0	80	20	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 49	50+
0	90	10	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 49	50+
0	100	0	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 18	19 to 26	27 to 51	52+
10	0	90	0 to 6	7 to 9	10 to 15	16 to 22	23 to 45	46+
10	10	80	0 to 6	7 to 10	11 to 16	17 to 23	24 to 47	48+
10	20	70	0 to 6	7 to 10	11 to 16	17 to 23	24 to 47	48+
10	30	60	0 to 6	7 to 10	11 to 16	17 to 23	24 to 47	48+
10	40	50	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 49	50+
10	50	40	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 49	50+
10	60	30	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 49	50+
10	70	20	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 49	50+
10	80	10	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 18	19 to 26	27 to 51	52+
10	90	0	0 to 6	7 to 11	12 to 18	19 to 26	27 to 51	52+

There may be a possible increase in CSS in challenging weather conditions due to a more difficult Category 1 target - their target becomes SSS+1 instead of current SSS+2. Percentages in the new table are therefore easier:



Comparing a Category 1 field (100/0/0):

SSS+2 targets from current CSS table:

R/O SSS+3 SSS+2 SSS+1 **CSS=SSS** SSS-1
 0-9% 10-15% 16-24% 25-36% **37-68%** 69+ %

SSS+BZ targets from new CSS table:

R/O SSS+3 SSS+2 SSS+1 **CSS=SSS** SSS-1
 0-7% 8-12% 13-19% 20-29% **30-57%** 58+%



**CSS CALCULATION FOR SMALL
FIELDS**

*“Defined as competitions in which there are
less than 10 competitors (Cats 1,2 3 [4])”*

CSS not envisaged to be used in competitions comprising fewer than 10 players on such a regular basis.

Long lasting problem for ladies.



SMALL FIELDS

Problems

- CSS previously influenced by one player
- Too many Reduction Only (RO) events
- Self-perpetuating as players are then under-handicapped

For fields of 1-5 players, minimum CSS is SSS(as now)

If $CSS = SSS+3$ (R/O) refer to new Table B....

Precision of the calculation significantly affected by the number of competitors resulting in a high number of Reduction Only events even under 'normal' conditions.

- Handicaps not being correctly adjusted.

Analysis of 1198 ladies qualifying competitions across 183 clubs retrieved at random revealed that 47% consisted of 1-9 players and of those small fields 35% resulted in a Reduction Only CSS outcome.

Should the CSS result in $SSS+3$ (R/O) and there are less than 10 players in Categories 1,2,3[4] then we refer to Table B of Appendix A.

Appendix B – Table B

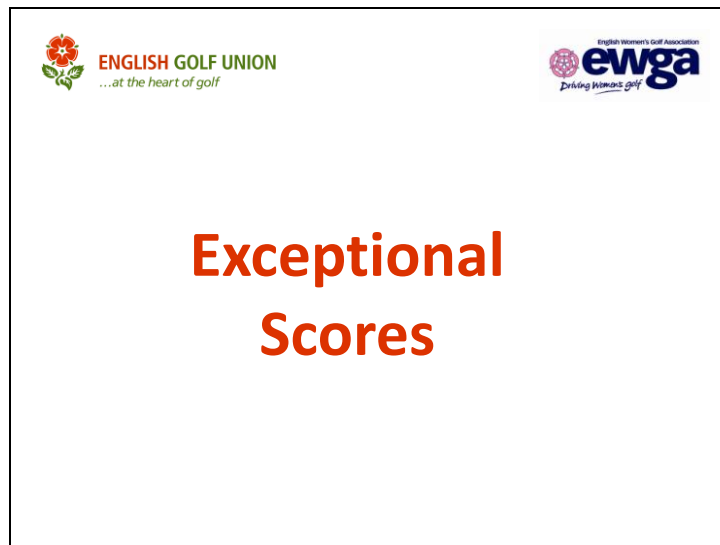
Best Nett Score Relative to Category Buffer Zone				Field Size
+4	+3	+2	+1	
R/O	SSS+3	SSS+2	SSS+1	1
R/O	SSS+3	SSS+2	SSS+1	2
R/O	SSS+3	SSS+2	SSS+1	3
R/O	SSS+3	SSS+2	SSS+1	4
	R/O	SSS+3	SSS+2	5
	R/O	SSS+3	SSS+2	6
		R/O	SSS+3	7
		R/O	SSS+3	8
		R/O	SSS+3	9

Example:
CSS = Reduction Only

Cat	Pts	BZ
3	32	+1
4	25	+11
5	37	-1
5	30	+6
5	28	+8
5	27	+9
5	20	+16

As an example a field of 7 players of which only 2 are in cat 1, 2, 3 or [4] produces a R/O CSS. As you can see one of the players achieved a nett score just 1 outside BZ. This is used to identify that CSS = SSS+1 and which the appropriate handicap adjustments are applied.

Reductions Only results will therefore be reduced both through use of “best score over buffer zone” in the very small field situation, coupled with the increased precision achieved through using the target of “SSS+ Buffer Zone”.



Historically clubs have been making knee jerk reactions to one off single good qualifying scores. This results in a handicap that is too low for their playing ability and is contrary to the CONGU UHS.

Clubs should be aware that everyone has their 'day in the sun' and is entitled to a good round. One good score does not suggest that a handicap is too high. Additional good scores within the playing season however may require a handicap reduction.

CONGU have created a facility which will be included within handicapping software that identifies an improving player and recommends an appropriate ESR (Exceptional Score Reduction) to their handicap. This will initially be trialled in England, Ireland and Wales.



Exceptional Scores

- Adjustment based on two nett scores better than -4 within a specified number of qualifying rounds.
- Suggests Additional Adjustment may be required (ESR).
- Not applicable to Category 1 and Category 2 can only be reduced to 5.5.

Remember one single -4 is not considered exceptional.

**Exceptional Score Table
Additional Decreases**

Average of the two scores	4 or fewer qualifying scores between scores	5 to 9 qualifying scores between scores	10 or more qualifying scores between scores
-4.0 to -5.0	1 shot	0.5 shot	No change
-5.5 to -9.5	2 shots	1 shot	0.5 shot
-10 or less	3 shots	2 shots	2 shots

A player returning a -4 or better score is monitored within the system for future good scores. The second -4 or better score results in an adjustment in accordance with the table. Committees are required to authorise this adjustment. Please **DO NOT** decline this adjustment.

The adjustment is referred to as ESR adjustment and will appear on the players handicap record.


All qualifying scores (including Supplementary Scores), both home and away, are subject to an ESR adjustment.

Exceptional Score

Present System				Exceptional Score Process			
ND	Hncp	Change	New Exact	ND	Hncp	Change	New Exact
-5	16.2	-(5*0.3)	14.7	-5	16.2	-(5*0.3)	14.7
-7	14.7	-(7*0.3)	12.6	-7	14.7	-(7*0.3)	12.6
				Average -6 over 2 scores results in further adjustment under ESR of 2.0			10.6
5	12.6	0.1	12.7	7	10.6	0.1	10.7
		-(1*0.3)					
-3	12.7	+2*0.2)	12.0	-1	10.7	-(0.2)	10.5
6	12.0	0.1	12.1	7	10.5	0.1	10.6
7	12.1	0.1	12.2	8	10.6	0.1	10.7
-5	12.2	-(5*0.2)	11.2	-4	10.7	-(4*0.2)	9.9
				Average -5.5 over 6 scores results in further adjustment under ESR of 1.0			8.9

Slide shows what would happen to a player returning the same scores but with the appropriate ESR adjustment being applied.

The player upon ESR adjustment will now no longer appear at the Annual Review as the adjustment has been applied at the appropriate time i.e. As the good scores have been returned.



Mixed Golf 'Appendix O'

The Equality Act does not require Clubs to run all their competitions as mixed competitions.

Should clubs run mixed competitions an adjustment is required to take into account the difference between the SSS/Par of the courses being used.

No Equality Act issues clubs are still permitted to run separate men's and ladies competitions.

Adjustments are made for result purposes only. Handicapping is still based on their actual playing handicap.



Mixed Golf

Example:

	SSS	Par	'to handicap'
Men	71	72	nett 71 (37pts)
Ladies	74	74	nett 74 (36pts)



For result purposes only the ladies would have a reduction of 3 strokes in a Stroke play competition and 1 stroke added to their handicap in a Stableford.

ADJUSTMENT IS MANDATORY

Players to play from their respective tees using their own SI in all qualifying competitions.

In match play competitions the Committee are required to identify the Stroke Index that all competitors shall use.

Joint CSS adjustment now mandatory.



Mixed Golf



Gross Competitions
For result purposes only an adjustment equivalent to the difference in SSS is to be applied to the gross score

Example

	SSS	Gross Score
Men	72	71
Lady	74	72

Ladies gross score adjusted to 70 declaring her the winner

In any mixed gross competition, including match play, an adjustment should be applied depending on the difference in the SSS of the courses being used.



**THE ANNUAL REVIEW &
GENERAL PLAY**


Clause 23

....the Clause to ensure that all playing members have handicaps that are reflective of their competitive playing ability

Annual Review required to take place prior to 1st March and must be conducted by the Handicap Committee, not a single individual. The Handicapping Committee must comprise of a minimum of 3 persons who should be playing members of the club.

All CONGU licensed software provides an Annual Review report that determines, through qualifying scores returned, whether or not the members handicap is reflective of their playing ability.

Annual Review

EXCLUDE		LESS THAN 3 SCORES		
DECREASE WITH CAUTION	MEDIAN 3+ BETTER THAN TARGET	3 SCORES	MEDIAN MORE THAN 6 WORSE THAN TARGET	INCREASE
DECREASE WITH CAUTION	MEDIAN 3+ BETTER THAN TARGET	4 or 5 SCORES	MEDIAN MORE THAN 5 WORSE THAN TARGET	INCREASE
DECREASE WITH CAUTION	MEDIAN 3+ BETTER THAN TARGET	6 SCORES	MEDIAN MORE THAN 4 WORSE THAN TARGET	INCREASE
	AS NOW	 7 SCORES PLUS	AS NOW	

Annual Review widened to accommodate for the introduction of Active/Inactive (3 scores).

No adjustment was previously recommended for players who had failed to return at least 7 qualifying scores (the amount required to accurately assess a handicap).

The review is based on a mathematical model that compares ACTUAL performance versus TARGET performance (for a statistically perfect player).

The process calculates the Median Gross Differential (MGD) from the player's scores and subtracts their Final Handicap (FH) to arrive at their 'Nett of the MGD' ACTUAL.

This is then compared to their statistical TARGET (an approximation of which can be calculated as $(0.237 * FH) + 1.57$).

Slide 27

Gross Score	Hncp	Nett Score	Stab Adj 19.1	Adj Gross Score	SSS	Gross Diff	Nett Diff	Hcap Adj	Rev Exact	Rev Play
100	24	76	0	100	72	28	4	0.0	24.0	24
102	24	78	-6	96	72	24	0	0.0	24.0	24
89	24	65	0	89	72	17	-7	-2.8	21.2	21

Number of Scores	Start Handicap	Finish Handicap	Handicap Change	MGD	Actual Nett Median Differential	Target Nett Median Differential (FH*0.237)+	Difference(Actual minus Target)
NS	SH	FH	FH-SH	MGD	MGD-FH	1.57	ANMD-TNMD
3	24	21.2	2.8	24	2.8	6.59	-3.79

Performance Against Target

In the example a reduction would not be recommended (unless other data was available) due to the few qualifying scores returned and that a substantial adjustment has already been applied from the last qualifying scores returned.



The slide features the English Golf Union logo on the top left and the EWGA logo on the top right. The title 'ANNUAL REVIEW' is centered in red. Below the title, four case studies are listed in two columns, each with a title and a description.

ENGLISH GOLF UNION
...at the heart of golf

ewga
English Women's Golf Association
Driving Women's Golf

ANNUAL REVIEW

Case Study 1 – Handicap 8
25 qualifying scores returned
wins club singles match play
competition

Case Study 2 – Handicap 20
2 qualifying scores returned
wins club singles match play
competition

Case Study 3 – Handicap 15
Member diagnosed with arthritis
in hands. Requests handicap
increase.

Case Study 4 – Handicap 6
Wins club singles and better ball
match play competitions. Played
few qualifying rounds.

Case Study 1

No – qualifying scores sufficient to identify correct handicap. Qualifying competition results overrides good performances in match play competition.

Case Study 2

Yes – Few qualifying scores to assess ability. Match play event won off high handicap, which statistically is not expected.

Case Study 3

Yes – absolutely. Always adjust to a figure appropriate for their condition. Does not apply to a temporary illness/injury. Identify previous scores returned.

Case Study 4

No – not permitted to reduce into category 1 without county authority approval (which you will not get).



ENGLISH GOLF UNION
...at the heart of golf



English Women's Golf Association
ewga
Enriching Women's Golf

GENERAL PLAY

Case Study 1 – Handicap 10
Member recovering from broken arm requests an increase during the rehabilitation period?

Case Study 2 – Handicap 16
Member competes in Society day and wins with 45pts. Submits card for handicap reduction?

Case Study 3 – Handicap 20
Member who frequently plays in qualifying competitions requests playing handicap reduction due to performing well in friendly games and 'taking the money'?

Case Study 4 – Handicap 28
Member allocated initial handicap of 28. Enters match play competition and wins 2 or 3 matches against lower handicap opponents?

General Play now only applies under exceptional circumstances. Remember social scores not applicable in the adjustment of a CONGU handicap.

Case Study 1

No – recovering from injury does not require handicap adjustment. Player decides whether to play in qualifying competitions, and suffer the handicapping consequences, or not.

Case Study 2


No – Society scores not acceptable. Likelihood they are not played under the Rules of Golf nor from a measured course.

Case Study 3

No – Qualifying scores returned identify correct playing handicap. Possibility it is not him that has a handicap that is too high but his friends having handicaps that are too low!

Case Study 4

Yes – Adjust to a suitable figure from all suitable information.



.....and some other stuff!

- *English version*
- *Online version*
- *Calendar Year*
- *Inclusion of CDH Clause*
- *16.3 (d) to be deleted*
- *Par 6 definition*
- *4BBB discussion*

English Version – details any directive issued by EGU/EWGA within each relevant Clause. No more grey boxes!

Online version – clubs will be able to view CONGU UHS online and the version applicable to the Country they are in. CSS tables not included.

Calendar Year - Everything amended to Jan 1st – 31st Dec for clarity

CDH - more information detailing the requirements of clubs and the ISV's in the operation of the CDH

- ISVs required to make sending scores simpler
- Option to transmit to CDH clear within close of competition process. Software to default to automatically send.
- Confirmation of successful transmission of scores to CDH


Par 6

New definition defining a Par 6 – men 661 yards+, ladies 561 yards +

4BBB discussion

General comment is that use of $\frac{3}{4}$ allowance may be too low and that 90% may be more appropriate. Simulations have been carried out but the findings were inconclusive. Further research to be carried out from actual 4BBB competitions before a decision is made. **Current allowances are mandatory and must still be used.**

<http://cdh.egu.org.uk>



**CENTRAL DATABASE OF
HANDICAPS (CDH)**

100098796 1001234567
1001234567 1001234567
1001234567 1001234567
1003546975 1003546975
1001478956 1003546975
1001478956 1001234567
1000145695 1000125689 1001234567
100098796 1001234567

Please encourage all your EGU affiliated members to join the English Golf Union Members Benefits programme (www.englishgolfunion.org/members). This programme is free of charge and provides members with the following benefits:

- Handicap card (showing CDH number) which is proof of your golf club membership and playing handicap. This is recognised as a Handicap Certificate.
- Online access to view your playing handicap.
- Free entry into weekly prize draws.
- Offers & Discounts on a range of services and goods.

CENTRAL DATABASE OF HANDICAPS (CDH)	
CDH Statistics	
Active Clubs	1904 [1881]
Men	666914
Ladies	107117
<small>As at 30th September 2011</small>	

Accessing the CDH

Affiliated Club – access to playing records of all its members and playing handicaps of all members of affiliated clubs in the Country.

County Union - access to playing records of all its members in their County and playing handicaps of all members of affiliated clubs in the Country.

National Governing Body – access to playing records of all affiliated members.

Only data held on CDH is Name, Club, Handicap, Status of Handicap, Year of Birth (if included in software), CDH No. No personal data held.

CENTRAL DATABASE OF HANDICAPS (CDH)

CDH Benefits

- Free of Charge
- Automatic transferral of qualifying scores
- No requirement for Away letters to be sent
- Updating of members handicaps
- Access to 750,000+ playing handicaps
- Opportunity for on-line entries
- No requirement for handicap certificates

Free of charge to all affiliated clubs. Only internet access and CONGU approved handicapping software required.

CDH Checklist
Has all members within the handicapping system been identified as either 'Home' or 'Away' players?
Has 'Away' players CDH numbers been included in your handicapping software?
Do you always ensure that ex-members are removed from your handicapping database?
Are new members always asked for their CDH number?
Is your handicapping data on multiple systems? If so do you ensure that multiple uploads of data is not occurring?
Is your system automatically set to send data to the CDH?
Do you check for Away scores on a regular basis?
Have you notified all your members of their CDH numbers?

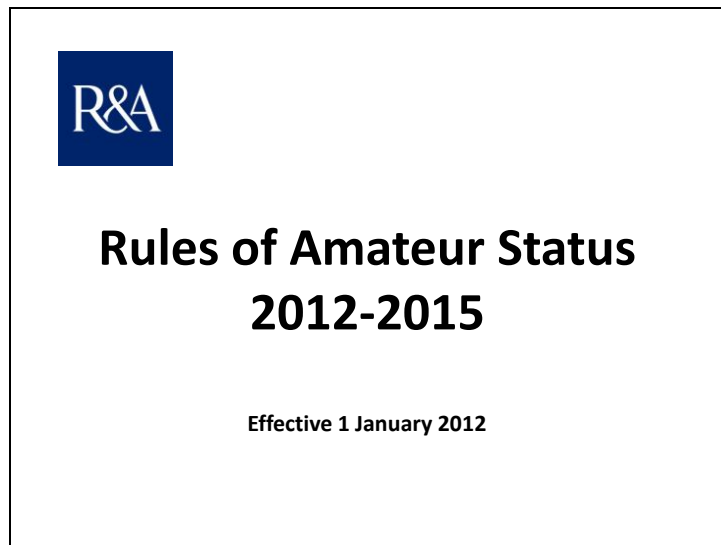
Many of the problems encountered has been relevant to the accuracy of the clubs handicapping database. It is imperative that only members of the golf club are maintained on the handicapping software.

CENTRAL DATABASE OF HANDICAPS (CDH)

New for 2012

- Identify that scores have been sent via CDH
- Facility to submit one single score rather than re-open the event and submit all scores
- Email to be received to identify submitted scores
- Home Club Not Set – numbers deleted after 6 months
- Retention of records – current and previous two calendar years (as per Clause 6.11)

A CDH User Guide is available on the EGU website (www.englishgolfunion.org).




First joint code between the R&A and USGA.



An “*amateur golfer*”, whether he plays competitively or recreationally, is one who plays golf for the challenge it presents, not as a profession and not for financial gain”

Under no circumstances can prizes be awarded to amateur golfers in cash.



PRINCIPLE CHANGES

- Rule 2-2 Contracts & Agreements
- Rule 4-3 Subsistence Expenses
- Rule 3-2 Hole in One Prizes
Prize Vouchers

Contracts & Agreements

New rule allowing players to enter into a contract and/or agreement with their National Union:

- repay the investment made whilst an amateur on turning professional or a % of the players future earnings.
- contracted to spend a certain amount of time on promotion or development activities upon turning professional
- to play in certain events and where the official national golf clothing when representing the union.

They may also enter into contract and/or agreement with Agents or Sponsors providing they do not receive any financial gain whilst still an amateur or do not infringe the Rules in other ways i.e. Lending name or likeness to promote or sell anything.

Contract must not stipulate which events they compete in whilst an amateur or require them to play certain branded equipment

Subsistence Expenses

Allows an amateur golfer to receive subsistence expenses to assist with general living costs, providing the expenses are approved by and paid through the national golf union.

Subsistence expenses must not be excessive and must not surpass actual expenses incurred and should assist with, rather than cover all, general living costs.

Cover basic essentials of food, clothing and shelter and should not provide an amateur golfer a luxurious standard of living or be a substitute for a working salary.



Rule 3-2 Hole in One Prizes

An amateur golfer may accept a prize in excess of the limit in Rule 3-2a, including a cash prize, for a hole-in-one made while playing a round of golf.

Must be made during a normal round of golf (9 or 18 holes). Driving range contests and golf simulators still apply and any acceptance of a prize in excess of £500 is a breach of the Rules.

Nearest Pin & Longest Drives are also still applicable to the maximum prize value of £500.



Rule 3-2 Prize Vouchers

Definition expanded to allow prize vouchers to be used for the purchase of goods or services from a golf club.

Previously vouchers had to be used only for the payment of goods within a pro shop or other retail source.

Money credited directly onto an account is still considered a prize voucher

Organising Committee to define accurately the purpose for which the voucher may be used....

Examples

- Purchase of goods in a professional shop or sporting goods shop
- Any goods and services from the club or from any retail or food and beverage source

A voucher may be credited to a Club account and may be used for items such as:

- Bar bill
- Club subscription
- Restaurant bill
- Payment of entry fees
- Practice area (Range tokens, lessons)
- Green Fees
- Buggy Hire

IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS

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