

4 February 2020

**MEMO: WORLD HANDICAPPING SYSTEM
RULES OF HANDICAPPING – LEAGUE FIXTURES**

TO: Club Representatives, Club Captains, Lady Captains, League Co-Ordinators

We recently sent out a note to the Handicap and Senior Scratch League Co-ordinators stating that temporarily league players must enter a No Return for league fixtures into the handicap system due to some queries raised with regard to capturing scores for matchplay into HNA. We have subsequently received feedback from GolfRSA and can confirm the following:

- **Rule 26 of the league rules cancelled:** -
'Players MUST enter scores for handicapping purposes when competing in league. Where holes are conceded, the most-likely score as per the WHS stipulation must be entered. Once a match is completed, nett par scores to be entered for the remaining holes.'

This league rule is incorrect and hereby cancelled as it goes against the WHS Rules of Handicapping.

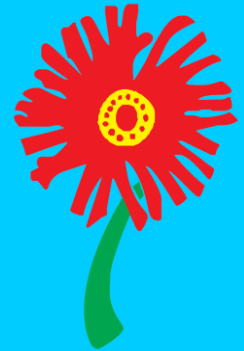
Rule 3.2 of the Rules of Handicapping must be applied as follows: -

Rule 3.2 allows that, should a match end, players may complete the remaining scores and the actual scores for those remaining scores must be recorded.

Note: It is the responsibility of the opponent / marker to certify the player's score and challenges or disputes must be raised with the player and / or handicapping committee for consideration.

- **Rule 3.2 – Holes Not Played:** -
If 9 holes are played: The adjusted gross for 9 holes must be entered.
If 10 – 13 holes are played: Scale up to 18-hole score. Add nett par for each hole not played, plus one additional stroke for the first hole not played.
At least 14 holes played: Scale up to 18-hole score. Add nett par for each hole not played.
- **Opening of rounds:** -
Clubs should be responsible for opening of all league players rounds prior to play.
- **Handicaps:** -
Rule 19.1 of the league rules states –
'The player with the lowest handicap in each 2 or 4 ball shall play off scratch with the lowest handicap then being subtracted from the remainder of the players' handicaps.'
In order to determine handicaps, players must obtain their *course handicap* (100%) for the day. Handicaps are then adjusted by the lowest handicap going to 0. This new handicap for each player would then be the players *Playing Handicap* for the fixture. In league, players need to ensure scores entered for handicapping purposes are based on their Course Handicap and not on their Playing Handicap. Ie. If a player does not finish the hole, they need to work out their adjusted gross based on their course handicap.
- **Most Likely Score:** -
Rule 3.3 When a hole is started but a player does not hole out –
Eg. Hole conceded / partner has already posted a better score

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- Player must record the *most likely score*. The marker / opponent should agree to the *most likely score*.

Most likely score is –

The number of strokes already taken to reach a position on a hole, plus the number of strokes the player would most likely require to complete the hole from that position, plus any penalty strokes incurred.

Position of the ball	Strokes to be added
If the ball lies on the putting green, no more than 1.5 metres from the hole:	Add one additional stroke.
If the ball lies between 1.5 metres and 20 metres from the hole:	Add 2 or 3 additional strokes, depending on the position of the ball , the difficulty of the green and the ability of the player .
Beyond 20 metres from the hole:	Add 3 or 4 additional strokes, depending on the position of the ball , the difficulty of the green and the ability of the player .

NB – The maximum score players can enter for handicapping purposes is a nett double bogey – based on Course Handicap.

- **Entering of Scores on HNA System: -**
 - Players are requested to enter scores before 9pm on the day of play.
 - Failure to enter scores within 24 hours after 9pm on the day of play will result in a penalty score.
 - Not entering a score when playing again the following day:
If golfers are planning on playing two days in a row, they **must** enter their first day's score before 9pm on that day so that they will be playing off the correct Handicap Index and Course Handicap the following day. Failure to do so could result in a player playing off the incorrect course handicap.