

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

## 2024 World Handicap System Revisions

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Change Summary - There are 4 areas of updates, as listed below. Numbers 1 and 2 below are the most important to us, as golfers with a handicap index and golfers who use the GHIN reporting system (which follows the rules of the World Handicap System).

### 1. Treatment of 9-hole Scores

- ***Rule prior to the 2024 revision:*** For a 9-hole score to be acceptable for handicap purposes, a player was required to play at least 7 holes under the Rules of Golf and could apply net par (in “our terms, that is par plus dots) for any holes not played. Under this old rule, this 9-hole score would then need to wait for another 9-hole score to be entered, and then the two would be combined to produce an 18-hole score differential.
- ***Rule change for the 2024 Revision:*** For a 9-hole score to be acceptable for handicap purposes, a player must play all 9 holes from tees with a published 9-hole Course Rating and Slope Rating. You enter the 9-hole score as you did previously. Now, the WHS will automatically calculate an 18-hole Score Differential for the round, based on the player’s 9-hole Score Differential and expected Score Differential based on their current Handicap Index. This allows for the 9-hole round to be considered in the player’s Handicap Index calculation right away.

### 2. Treatment of Scores When 10 to 17 Holes are Played

- ***Rule prior to the 2024 revision:*** When 10 to 13 holes were played, scores made on holes 10 through 13 were discarded and a 9-hole Score Differential was created from the scores on the 9 holes played. When 14-17 holes were played, net par was used for the remaining holes not played to allow an 18-hole Score Differential to be created.
- ***Rule change for the 2024 Revisions:*** When 10-17 holes are played, a Score differential will be created based on the holes played, and the player’s expected Score Differential for the number of remaining holes will be added to that value to produce an 18-hole Score Differential. Now, when a player plays between 10-17 holes, they will be required to post their scores using the hole-by-hole options. This allows a Score Differential to be calculated based on the specific holes that were played, which is then combined with the player’s expected score for the number of holes not played.

### 3. Minimum Length to Obtain a Course Rating and Slope Rating

- Please use the below link to review this change, if interested

### 4. Additional Handicap Review Tools for Club Use

- Please use the below link to review this change, if interested.