

## World Handicap System (WHS) Summary Chart

Topic	New Feature	What I Need to Know
1. Effective Date of WHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GHIN will be down from January 1 through January 5</li> <li>• WHS debuts on January 6</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last handicap update on old system will be December 15</li> <li>• Any data desired from current system must be downloaded by December 31</li> </ul>
2. GHIN app/website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New GHIN app/website               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Will allow entry of scores by round or by hole</li> <li>◦ App will update from old app on mobile devices</li> <li>◦ GHIN site to be updated</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With daily handicap updates, importance of day-of-play score input increases</li> <li>• Hole-by-hole data input is optional for those that want to do detailed tracking of their play</li> </ul>
3. Frequency of updating a Handicap Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Daily</b></li> <li>• Added emphasis for score input on day of play, both for index accuracy and for application of Playing Conditions Calculation (PCC).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scores must be input by midnight on day-of-play for Playing Conditions Calculation to apply</li> </ul>
4. Basis of calculation of Handicap Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple average of the <b>best 8 of last 20 score differentials</b></li> <li>• Today, handicap indices are the average of the 10 best of the last 20 differentials multiplied by .96</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Score differential calculation</b> is (Adjusted Gross Score – Course Rating – PCC adjustment) X (113 / Slope Rating)</li> <li>• The differential for each score currently appears in the GHIN scoring record</li> </ul>
5. Minimum number of scores to establish a Handicap Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 scores (54 holes) as a minimum, in 9 or 18 hole segments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For new players</li> </ul>

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6. Maximum Handicap Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>54.0</b>; Same for men and women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a recommendation to allow more players to enjoy the game of golf</li> <li>• Clubs can modify the handicap index limit for particular events</li> </ul>
7. Acceptability of scores for handicap purposes	<p>Rounds which are played:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In accordance with the Rules of Golf</li> <li>• In an authorized format</li> <li>• Over a minimum number of holes</li> <li>• With at least one other person</li> <li>• On a course with a current course rating and slope rating</li> <li>• During an active season</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is the same criteria as today</li> </ul>
8. Course Rating and Slope Rating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Course Rating</b> is the anticipated score for a scratch golfer from a given set of tees</li> <li>• <b>Bogey Rating</b> is the anticipated score for a bogey golfer from a given set of tees</li> <li>• <b>Slope</b> is a formula-based relationship between the Bogey rating and Course rating</li> </ul>

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<p>9. Course Handicap</p>	<p>Calculated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiply index by slope of course to be played</li> <li>• Divide by 113 which is slope for a course of "standard difficulty"</li> <li>• <b>Subtract par from course rating and add the result</b></li> </ul> <p>Example: 18 index, 121 slope, par 72, course rating 69</p> $18 \times 121 / 113 = 19.3$ $69 - 72 = -3$ <p>Course Handicap = 16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course Handicap currently represents the strokes necessary to shoot the course rating</li> <li>• Under WHS, Course Handicap represents the score necessary to shoot par</li> <li>• <b>At Palmira, if you play Blue tees or shorter, your course handicap under WHS will go DOWN</b></li> <li>• <b>Why?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Course rating is the score a scratch golfer is expected to shoot</li> <li>◦ As shorter tees are played, the score needed to shoot par goes down</li> <li>◦ For non-scratch golfers, the slope rating adjusts for their expected higher score</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The further the course rating from your tee is from 72 (par), the greater the reduction</li> </ul>
<p>10. Calculation of a Playing Handicap</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes application of "handicap allowance," e. g., 85% for two better ball games</li> <li>• Under WHS, these are the same for men and women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A "Handicap Allowance" is a percentage reduction in course handicap applied to reduce the impact of high-handicap player score volatility</li> </ul>

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<p>11. Adjustment for "Players Competing from Different Tees or Men and Women from Same Tees" – Section 3-5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The process for adjusting course handicaps for the difference in course rating among competitors has been discontinued</li> <li>• Under the World Handicap System, whenever par is the same from all tees, your course handicap will change based on tee played, but will not vary based on what tee your competitors or partners are playing</li> </ul>
<p>12. Playing Conditions Calculation (PCC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automatic, daily calculation that compares expected scores from a club to actual scores and adjusts if needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This calculation, using a non-disclosed algorithm, MAY modify scores by a range of -1 to +3</li> <li>• Golfers' GHIN scoring records will be flagged for rounds affected by PCC</li> </ul>
<p>13. Maximum hole score for handicap purposes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Net Double Bogey"                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Par plus 2 plus handicap strokes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replaces "Equitable Stroke Control" (ESC)</li> <li>• Under current handicap system, maximum score is based on course handicap range, e.g., 10-19 handicap = ESC score of 7</li> </ul>
<p>14. Most Likely Score for holes begun, but not completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>On the putting green within 5 feet of the hole</b> – add one stroke to total strokes taken so far</li> <li>• <b>Over 5 feet to 20 yards from the hole</b> – add 2-3 strokes to total strokes taken so far</li> <li>• <b>Beyond 20 yards from the hole</b>, add 3-4 strokes to total strokes taken so far</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These new guidelines require application of common sense and restraint</li> <li>• <b>Golfers should avoid "automatic" use of the highest number of strokes allowed</b></li> </ul>

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<p>15. Score Reporting when round not completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If <b>seven to 13</b> holes are played, report a <b>9-hole score</b></li> <li>• If <b>14 or more</b> holes are played, report an <b>18-hole score</b></li> <li>• For holes not played, your score is par plus any handicap strokes you would have received on those holes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change from 13 to 14 holes for recording of an 18-hole round</li> <li>• In the scoring record, an "N" will be used to designate a score from combining two 9-hole scores</li> </ul>
<p>16. Exceptional Score Reduction (ESR)</p>	<p><b>Applies to ALL 18-hole scores</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a score is posted where the differential is <b>seven</b> points or more different from the 8 of 20 average, the handicap index is decreased by 1.0 points.</li> <li>• If a score is posted where the differential is more than <b>ten</b> points different from the 8 of 20 average, the handicap index is decreased by 2.0 points.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Replaces Tournament (T) Scores</b></li> <li>• <b>ANY</b> score can now trigger the handicap adjustment</li> <li>• The adjustment of 1 or 2 strokes is applied to the most recent 20 scores, impacting the golfer's index until those 20 scores work out of the handicap index calculation</li> </ul>
<p>17. Competition Score Designation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new designator to allow clubs to "flag" competition rounds</li> <li>• Will be noted by a "C" in the scoring record</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is purely an analysis designator to allow review of scores in competition versus all other</li> <li>• The designation has no effect on the handicap index calculation</li> </ul>

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<p>18. Caps on Handicap Increases – Hard Cap &amp; Soft Cap</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Soft Cap</b> suppresses increases in handicap index that are more than <b>three strokes</b> above lowest handicap index in past 12 months.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Subtract Low12 from current index</li> <li>○ Subtract 3 from the difference</li> <li>○ Multiply result by 50%</li> <li>○ Subtract result from current index</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hard Cap</b> – Handicap Index cannot increase more than 5 strokes from lowest index in past 12 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intent is to limit extreme upward movement in handicap index over a 12-month period</li> <li>• Calculation example for 15.2 current index (best 8 of last 20 average) and 10.0 Low12:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Subtract 10.0 from 15.2</li> <li>○ Result is 5.2</li> <li>○ Subtract 3 from 5.2 = 2.2</li> <li>○ 50% of 2.2 is 1.1</li> <li>○ 3 plus 1.1 is 4.1</li> <li>○ Added to 10, new handicap index is 14.1</li> </ul> </li> </ul>