

WHS SEMINAR QUESTIONS:

We are told that the new system will be your best eight cards from the last twenty, to determine handicap. Presumably we all start on our existing handicaps. Will it take the submission of twenty cards to be submitted by each individual before the system can kick-in fully? Or, will our previous twenty cards be valid and therefore each subsequent card affect the handicap?

The new system will kick in from the 2nd September 2020. Your last 20 cards, in all conforming competitions will be taken into consideration, going back as far as January 2019. If you haven't competed in 20 comps since that time, then your handicap will be calculated, as if you were new to golf, on a sliding scale of cards submitted.

Apparently there will be a transitional period of one month, so having asked if there could be a sudden drastic overnight change in a player's handicap, I wasn't entirely enlightened by the answer. Presumably all will become clear in time.

Will a decimal point still be used to give an exact handicap?

Yes.

What happens to anyone taking a year off due to health reasons etc. And then return to play, what handicap would they be expected to use? Can the local handicap Committee determine the handicap in such a case?

Your handicap will be active for all time. Gone is the need to submit three cards to keep it active. Should you have a long period of illness your handicap will be frozen, and reactivated upon your return. Should you find that your playing abilities have been severely compromised (you've had a leg chopped off?) then the Handicap Committee will have the discretion to make any adjustment needed.

Will there still be an annual review by the local handicap committee, to make adjustments? Presumably the same criteria will apply whereby players' abilities are not keeping pace with their handicap changes.

Yes.

Exactly which games will qualify for entering into the system? A knockabout with your pals with putter-length gimmies? My particular example is my weekly game with my Society chums, in which we play competitive golf for our Society comps.

All social games which are played under the Rules of Golf (no gimmies, etc) can count, but must be pre-registered, as currently, like Supplementary Cards.

When we have an 'Awayday' at another club, should our scores be entered into that course's system? Similarly any club playing our own venue, they would need to enter their scores via our touchscreen.

Yes, Awayday competitions need to be submitted, using the local software of the course played. (Methinks there will need to be a drastic software update to accommodate this).

What occurs with Matchplay games?

Matchplay games, along with some other formats, will not count as conforming formats. (Scrambles, Greensomes ... etc).

I was asked this week to raise the question of SSS. Not sure how to phrase this, but with the inception of Slope will this disappear? If not how would the varying, day to day, weather conditions affect Slope?

(We currently have CSS in the event of competition, but for Supplementary Cards, surely SSS will have a bearing?)

A calculation of Scratch Scores will be adjusted remotely by the software, each day, based on the total of ALL cards submitted that day, from all tees.