



On November 2nd 2020 England Golf will be adopting the World Handicap System (WHS). The whys, wherefores and hows of all this can be a bit intimidating and complex but what we as golfers have to do differently is quite simple.

You won't have a straightforward Handicap anymore but will have a **HANDICAP INDEX** instead. New terms you'll hear are:

Handicap Index	This will be based on an average of the best 8 rounds of the last 20 rounds played. It will be calculated for you by EGL and be available on Handicap Master.
Course Rating	Pretty much the same as the Standard Scratch Score (SSS) is now.
Slope Rating	A measure of how difficult the course is. An average course will be 113 whilst Oundle's white tees have an interim rating of 126 meaning it's harder than average.
Course Handicap	You will find this by looking at the charts, that will be available around the club house, which tell you what playing handicap you get based on your Handicap Index.
Handicap Allowance	The percentage to be applied to your Course Handicap for the specific competition format. You only get 100% of Course Handicap for Singles Match Play. Other Single formats are 95%, Pairs 85%, etc.
Playing Handicap	This is (finally) the number of strokes you get for the competition

So, what will you have to do from November 2nd.....

1

Check your Handicap Index by looking on Handicap
Master or asking at Reception. This is just like checking your handicap now.

2

Find one of the Slope Rating charts that will be positioned at various places around the Club House

3.

Look up, using your Handicap Index, to see what your Course Handicap is

4.

Adjust the Course Handicap depending on the format you're playing to get your Playing Handicap. You have to do this now for anything except Singles.

5.

Go out and play golf just like you do now.

6

Enter your score in Handicap Master as you do now

If you want to go into the detail of how your Handicap Index is calculated, how the course is assessed for Course and Slope Rating there are links on the member's area of the website including a frequently asked questions document. There are also guides to explain in more detail about getting to your playing handicap and entering a score.

