



Dear Member,

The World Handicapping System (WHS) was launched on Monday 2nd November, with the handicap records of nearly a million golfers from over 2,300 golf clubs uploaded, transferred and converted.

Whilst the vast majority of our members' data was transferred successfully there are still some issues to be resolved with historic data and links with away members' data. We are in constant contact with our handicap software supplier and England Golf to sort any problems out as quickly as possible.

Your Handicap Index

You should now be able to see your new **Handicap Index** on Master Scoreboard or via your My England Golf Account (see below for details).

Your handicap index is based upon an average of your **best 8 scores from your last 20 qualifying scores**, going back as far as January 2018. If you played regularly and submitted scores your handicap index is likely to come out close to your previous playing handicap.

If your handicap index seems lower than you expect, it may be because you have submitted fewer scores than 20 in that time. The table below shows how your handicap is calculated if you have fewer than 20 scores:

Number of scores in your record	Score differential to be used in calculation	Adjustment
3	Lowest 1	-2.0
4	Lowest 1	-1.0
5	Lowest 1	0
6	Average of lowest 2	-1.0
7 or 8	Average of lowest 2	0
9 to 11	Average of lowest 3	0
12 to 14	Average of lowest 4	0
15 or 16	Average of lowest 5	0
17 or 18	Average of lowest 6	0
19	Average of lowest 7	0
20	Average of lowest 8	0

Hopefully, this will encourage you to submit some more cards so that your handicap better reflects your current playing ability (see below for acceptable cards for handicap). As your handicap index is based on your best 8 scores from your last 20 rounds, your handicap will vary a lot more than in the past, so please check your handicap index on regular basis.

Course Rating & Slope Rating

Course Rating will be used to measure the playing difficulty of a golf course. It measures how many strokes a Scratch Golfer (a player who can play to a Course Handicap of zero on all rated golf courses) should take on any given course.

The rating does this by assessing two main types of challenges which, when combined, result in a common base from which to compare players' abilities:

- The playing length of the course
- The obstacles that a player will encounter (e.g. size of green and hazards)

Slope Rating is the number which indicates the relative playing difficulty of a course for Bogey Golfers, compared to Scratch Golfers. It is the difficulty comparison between a Bogey Golfer and a Scratch Golfer



from the same set of tees. The use of Slope allows a player's Handicap Index to be portable from course to course and country to country.

The Slope Rating is a key component in calculating the number of strokes each player receives to play a particular golf course. The higher the Slope Rating, the more additional strokes a Bogey Golfer will need to be able to play it. Slope Ratings can be anywhere between 55 and 155, with 113 being the neutral Slope Rating that indicates a course of equal difficulty for a scratch and bogey players.

At Pavenham Park, we have Course and Slope ratings as follows:

White Tee - Men	Course Rating 71.0	Slope Rating 128
Yellow Tee - Men	Course Rating 69.8	Slope Rating 123
Red Tee - Ladies	Course Rating 70.6	Slope Rating 130

Course Handicap

Course Handicap is the number of handicap strokes a player receives before Handicap Allowances, on a specific course and from a specific set of tees, as determined by the Slope Rating.

Pavenham Park Course Handicap tables are attached with this email. They are also on display on the main notice board and in the locker rooms. There will also be a board adjacent to the 1st tee very shortly, where you can look up your Course Handicap.

A player's 18 hole Course Handicap is determined by multiplying their Handicap Index by the the Slope Rating of the course/tees being played, dividing by the neutral Slope Rating of 113 and rounding to the nearest whole number. For example, for a Lady with a 20.1 Handicap Index playing from the Red Tees at Pavenham Park: $\text{Course Handicap} = 20.1 \times [130 / 113] = 23.1$ (23)

Handicap Allowance

Handicap Allowance is the percentage of Course Handicap for the format of play. The allowances for the most commonly used formats are designated as mandatory by England Golf, for example: 95% for individual stroke play and 85% for pairs and teams better-ball. All competition entry sheets will list the relevant Handicap Allowances.

Playing Handicap

Playing Handicap is the Course Handicap adjusted for any Handicap Allowance. It represents the actual number of strokes the player gives or receives for the round being played.

Acceptable Cards for Handicap

Scores that count towards your handicap are those from organised singles competitions or from 'Pre-registered' general play rounds. That means if you want to enter a general play score for handicapping you must pre-register the round with the Pro Shop before going out to play. (This replaces the old supplementary card system).

For a round to be acceptable for handicap it must meet the following criteria: -

- Organised singles (not pairs or team) competitions over 9 or 18 holes
- Or pre-registered general play score over 9 or 18 holes
- Play can be in any of the following formats: - medal, stableford, par/bogey, or maximum score.
- Played in the company of a 'marker'
- Played to the Rules of Golf (e.g. no gimmies!)



Accessing your Handicap Index

You should now be able to access your handicap record including your new handicap index using Master Scoreboard. Master Scoreboard displays your handicap index, your scoring history, and you can view all club competition results, and other members handicaps. It also allows you to enter your scores. To access Master Scoreboard, follow this link:

<https://www.masterscoreboard.co.uk/ClubIndex.php?CWID=2221>

Select your name and enter the default password of PPGC.

If you have any trouble accessing your Handicap Record please email office@pavenhampark.com for assistance.

Alternatively, or as well as, you can register with England Golf to have a "My England Golf Account" to view your handicap record. This is not essential but does provide more for those keen to know about which scores are used in their handicap calculations and their scoring trends.

Creating a My England Golf Account

To create an account, you will need your member ID which is your CDH number. This is shown on Master Scoreboard, on handicap certificates or can be requested from the office.

When setting up your My England account the only information that has to be completed is your email address and your DOB. All other fields are not required for registration, if you do not wish to enter them. Please also you make sure you read and are happy with the terms and conditions before accepting them.

If you wish to create an account then go to the website address below and follow the instructions. If you have any trouble accessing this site please email the office for assistance.

<https://members.whsplatform.englandgolf.org/>

England Golf have also developed an excellent app, which is available from the Apple App Store or the Android Play Store. The app contains all the same information as on your My England Golf Account but it also has a very useful Course Handicap Calculator, so you will be able to quickly know what your Course Handicap is wherever you are playing.

More Information

If you are unsure of any of the information above please do not hesitate in contacting the office or come into the Pro Shop for further explanation.

Alternatively, for more detailed information into the new handicap system please visit the England Golf website.

<https://www.englandgolf.org/whs/golfers/>

Kind regards,

Lee
Pavenham Park Golf Club