

Handicap Report April 1, 2019

The basic premise that underlies the Handicap System is that each player will try to make the best score at every hole in every round and that the player will post every acceptable round for peer review.

I can't repeat this enough. **The handicap system was put into place to enable players to compete with others of different golfing abilities and at different courses of varying difficulties. The only way the system works fairly is if the players understand and use equitable stroke control, enter tournament scores when applicable, that the score is entered on the correct tees, and that it is entered in a timely fashion.**

Golfers also need to understand when to take maximum strokes and when to take estimated strokes to hole out. If a ball is put into play, you need to take the estimated number of strokes to hole out. If a ball is not put into play (rained out, halted by darkness, etc.) it is par "plus applicable strokes".

I have some golfers come to me inquiring about a player's handicap factor assuming it is incorrect. It is difficult to ensure that **every** score is entered and that it is correct other than ladies' day scores, which are monitored and will continue to be monitored. This will enable the system that is in place to work, and that is, to level the playing field. When golfers consistently win "low net" awards, it becomes questionable as to the accuracy of their factor. If you suspect a member of your club is not entering all scores copies of the tee sheets can be requested to ensure all scores are entered.

Another concern that has surfaced in the last couple of years is that rounds of golf played in the south are not always being entered. Those rounds of golf played in an area during their "open" season need to be entered. And as above they should be entered in a timely fashion, ie as soon as possible after the round. The internet allows this.

Over the years I have heard comments such as "I forgot to enter that score, oh well, it's only filler" however depending what score is dropping off, the potential for any score entered can change your factor, so please enter **ALL** scores.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Pierlot