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Handicap Committee Workshop

County to Club Workshop



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Let's Get Started

- Welcome – Introductions – Local Arrangements
- Questions – Lots of opportunities
- Terminology – Key words and phrases may be used
- Supporting documents via EG website



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County Objectives

Provide underpinning knowledge, resources, materials & training to club handicap committees. Who directly support all their members on the subjects of WHS and course rating.

Golfer

**Club
Handicap
Committee**

**County
Advisor**

**Regional
Advisor**

**England
Golf**



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Differences to Remember

- Rules of Handicapping
- Rules of Golf (including any Local Rules)
- Terms of Competition (Event)
- Course Rating Standards
- Players Have Responsibilities: Appendix A of the WHS Rules
- WHS embraces digital technology



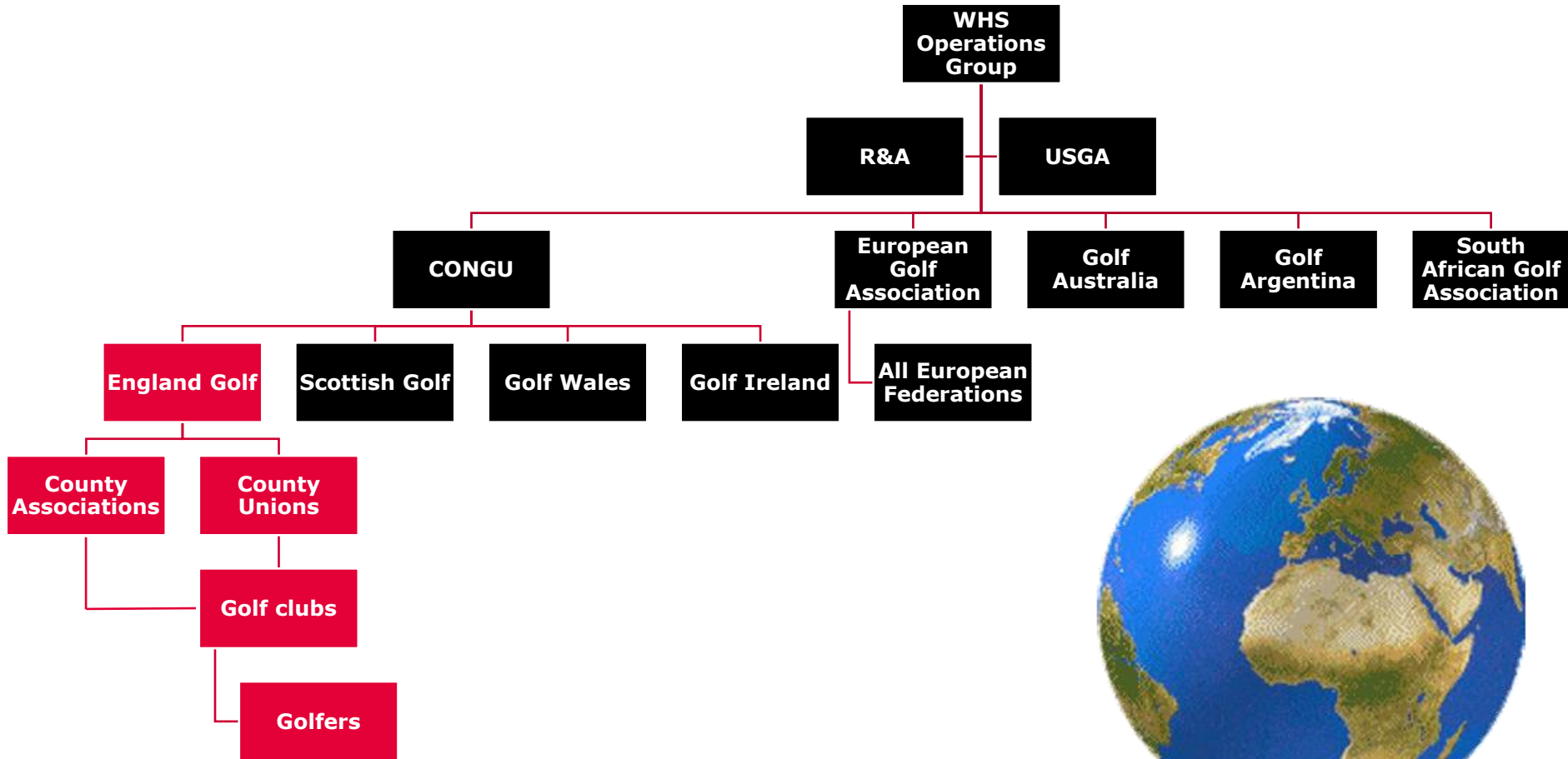
Agenda

- WHS Structure
- Interoperability
- WHS in Numbers & Top Queries
- The responsibilities of the golfer
- Volunteering
- Handicap Committee Responsibilities
- Explanations
- Course Rating
- Using the WHS portal - GDPR & integrity of WHS
- MyEG app
- Competitions and their terms
- Communicating with members



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WHS Global Structure





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Interoperability

What is this?

The global merger of WHS. A project which is managed by the USGA & R&A





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WHS in Numbers

Average 18-hole course
length:

Men: 5861 yds

Women: 5353 yds

Average Handicaps:

Men – 17

Women – 27.2



Over 485,000 App
Users

Over 18,000 sets of
tees

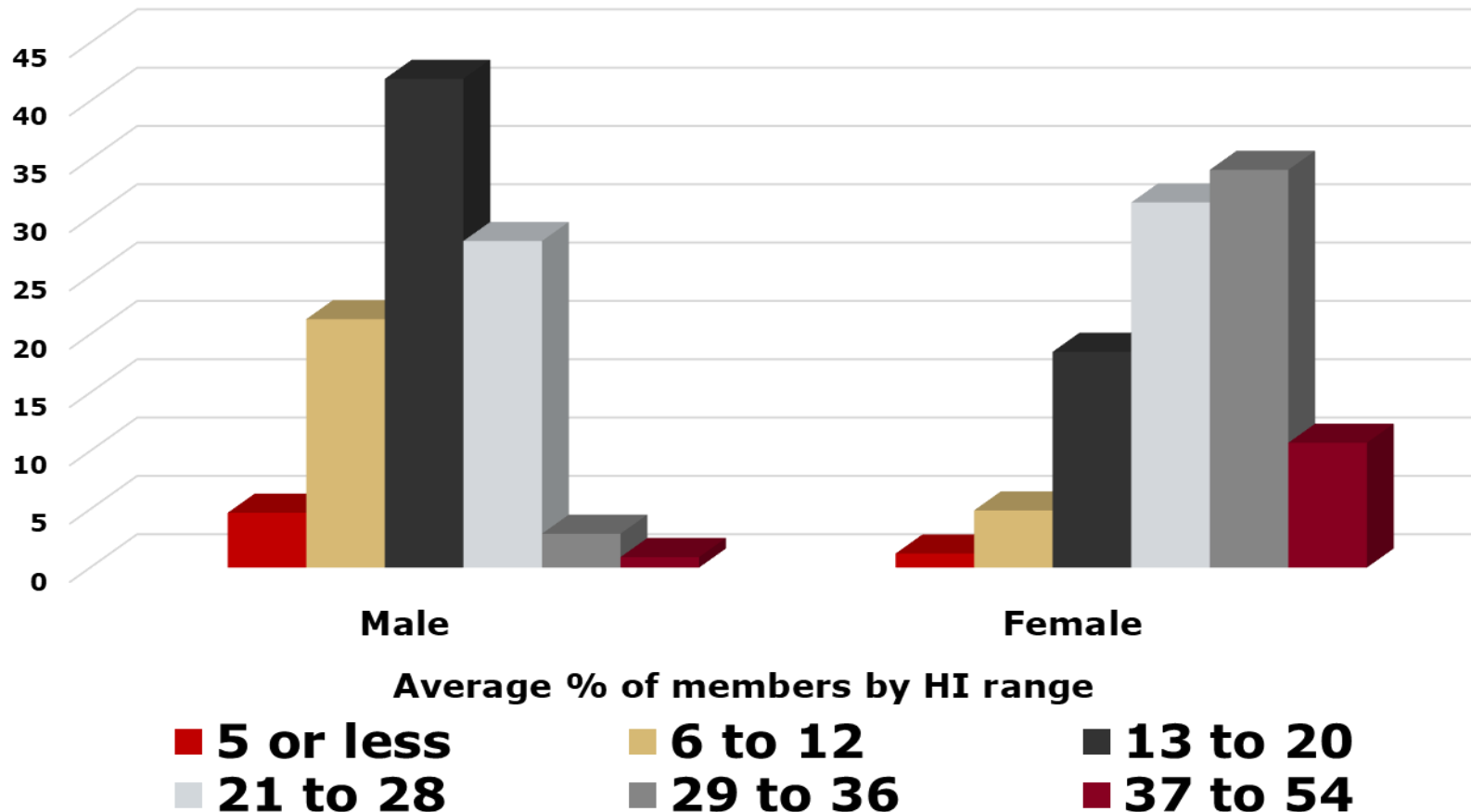
15 million total scores
returned

93% 18 Holes – 7%
9 Holes



WHS Numbers - Reality or Perception?

Average Percentage of Members by HI Range





Top queries received by the WHS team

Password
Reset

MyEG app

HI Query

Penalty Score

International
Scores

Resigned
Record

Membership
Number

Submitting
Scores

Terms of
Competition

Home Club
Change





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Responsibilities of the Golfer

Appendix A of the WHS Rules of Handicapping

- Make the best score possible on each hole
- Pre-register any intent before starting play
- Return all acceptable scores
- Submit competition scores promptly after play





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Responsibilities of the Golfer

- Play to the Rules of Golf
- Certify scores for fellow players after witnessing the round
- Submit scores
- Act with integrity following all relevant rules, and refrain from using or overcoming any rule to any gain or unfair advantage
- Have only one handicap record, administered by a home club

****If a player is not following their responsibilities the committee must act.***



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**LEARN &
DEVELOP**



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Creating and sustaining a strong Handicap Committee

Diversity

Recruitment

Volunteer experience &

Recognition

Recruitment Tips

1. Promote your club's **culture**
 - Tell the **volunteer** stories
2. Sell the **benefits**
3. **OPENLY RECRUIT**
 - **Be creative** in getting the message out
 - Follow up with *The Ask*
4. Be **flexible** where possible
5. Promote **diversity** ambitions



Consider the volunteer experience

- What are the benefits of volunteering at your club?
- Are volunteers supported in their role?
- Is member engagement positive?
- Further support is available via the Club Support network and Matt Bloor (National Volunteer Manager – England Golf)
- Term of office, liaising with an appointed chair

www.englandgolf.org/volunteering/club-volunteers/



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The Handicap Committee:

A collective small group, who have been chosen to represent a larger group making, informed and fair decisions.

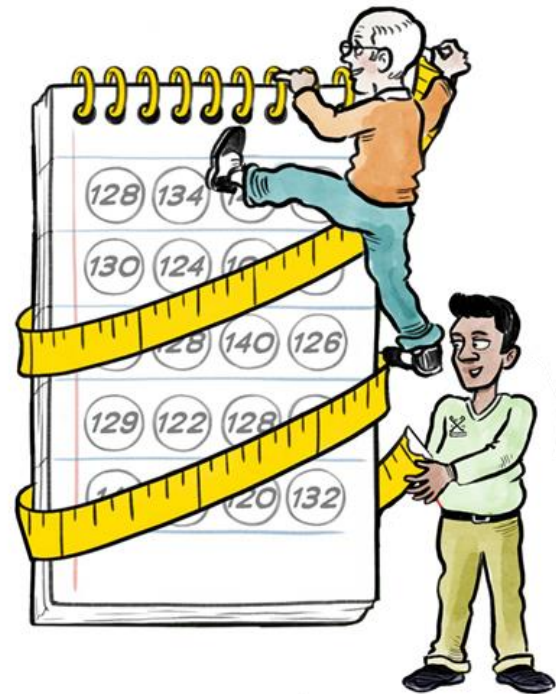




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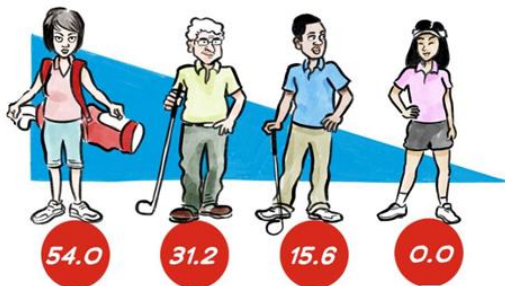
Responsibilities of the Handicap Committee

- Conduct a handicap review at any point
- Conduct an annual review – **Between 1st October & 31st December**
- Freeze a handicap index
- Withdraw a handicap index
- Add/edit a penalty score
- Adjust a handicap index
- Reinstate a handicap index



Responsibilities of the Handicap Committee

- Reset a low index value
- Ensure the course is marked as per the rules of golf
- Edit / amend scores
- Submit scores to WHS using approved software
- Manage membership list
- Maintain the course in a consistent manner





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Purpose of the Role

- Responsible for maintaining the handicap index of members
- Odd number of committee members (minimum of 3)
- Have appropriate representation





Disputes, Reviews & Penalties

Establish Handicap Appeals procedures (using England Golf's appeals procedures is advised)

<https://www.Englandgolf.org/resource-detail/handicap-appeals-procedure>



England Golf Handicap Appeals Procedure

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This Handicap Appeal Procedure should be used by all Members, Affiliated Golf Clubs, Area Authorities, and England Golf, where they are dissatisfied with a handicapping decision made by an Affiliated club or Area Authority's Handicap Committee.
- 1.2. Subscribers to the iGolf service operated by England Golf should also use this Procedure where they are dissatisfied with a Handicap Decision made by the iGolf Handicap Committee.
- 1.3. The Rules of Handicapping shall apply to this Procedure.
- 1.4. England Golf is an Authorized Association, within the meaning given in the Rules of Handicapping, with authorisation to implement and administer the Rules of Handicapping within the jurisdiction of England.

2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

- 2.1. The definitions set out in the Rules of Handicapping shall apply to this Procedure except in relation to the words listed at Rule 2.2 below.
- 2.2. The words and phrases listed in this Rule 2.2 shall have the following meanings:
 - 2.2.1. "Affiliated Club" shall mean any golf club which is affiliated to England Golf and to a County Golf Union, Association or merged Organisation, and which shall include the England Golf iGolf service, that is permitted to administer and manage the Handicap Index of those players who have designated it as their Home Club in accordance with the Rules of Handicapping.



Rules and Mandatory Requirements

- Ensure that tees are formally measured and rated
- Display the course rating certificate
- Use the mandatory playing handicap allowances
- Display Course Handicap tables
- Ensure players fulfil their responsibilities
- Ensure that default markers & available tees are set correctly





Let's Have a Comfort Break & Answer a Few Questions On Return

HAVE A QUERY ON WHS?

1 Speak to your...

Club Handicap Committee

WHAT TO DO NEXT IF YOU REQUIRE MORE INFORMATION

2 Speak to your...

County
Handicap
Advisor



3 They will speak to a...

Regional
Handicap
Advisor



4 Query raised with...

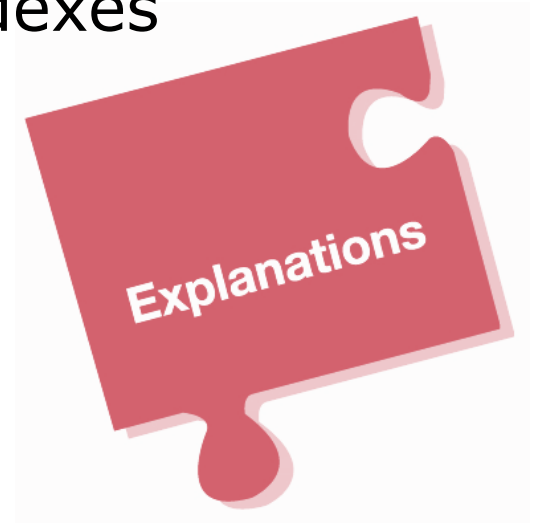
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Explanations

- Playing handicap allowances
- PCC
- Hole not started
- Hole started and not completed
- Frozen / Withdrawn handicap indexes
- Penalty scores





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Playing Handicap Allowances

- Mandatory values used for competition results.

**WHY IS THERE A
95% HANDICAP
ALLOWANCE IN
INDIVIDUAL
STROKE PLAY?**

Playing Conditions Calculation

- A one off daily calculation used globally & it cannot be 'switched off'
- Its is a closed calculator managed by the USGA and their statisticians

****Average wind speed on a typical day is included in rating calculations***





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Hole Not Played

- A 'Hole Not Played' is only to be used in an unavoidable circumstance.
- Net Par is awarded for handicap purposes



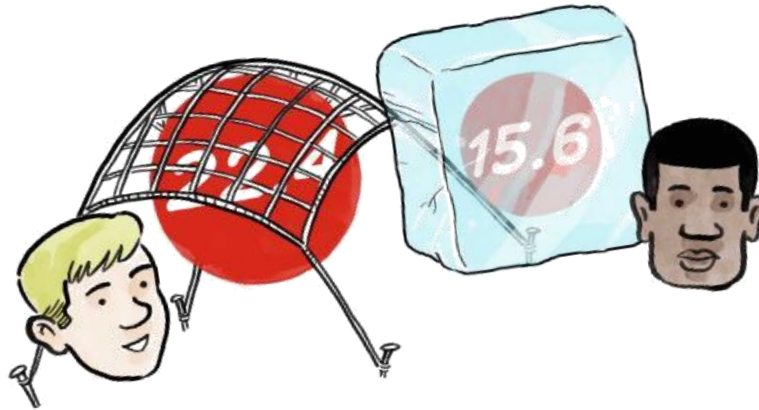


Hole Started & Not Completed

- For a hole started and not completed, the golfer will be awarded net double bogey for handicap purposes.
- The golfer will record this score as a NR, or 'picked up'; and continue scoring for the remaining holes.
- Players must not be allowed to manipulate their handicap index using the 'Not Started/Not Completed' options

Frozen and Withdrawn Indexes

- Withdrawals are utilised during investigations by Clubs, Counties and England Golf; as part of any disciplinary action.
- Any frozen or withdrawn handicap index **MUST** have an appropriately worded note added to the WHS Portal.





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Automatic Penalty Scores

- If a score intent is declared and the score not returned, WHS will look to add an automatic penalty score. Any score **MUST** be returned by the same method any intent was declared.

****The committee can see all this detail and review, amend, or even take further action if needed.***





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Course Rating



It is a mandatory requirement that scores for handicap purposes are played over a measured & rated tee set.



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Question

What is used as a measure of difficulty for a tee set?

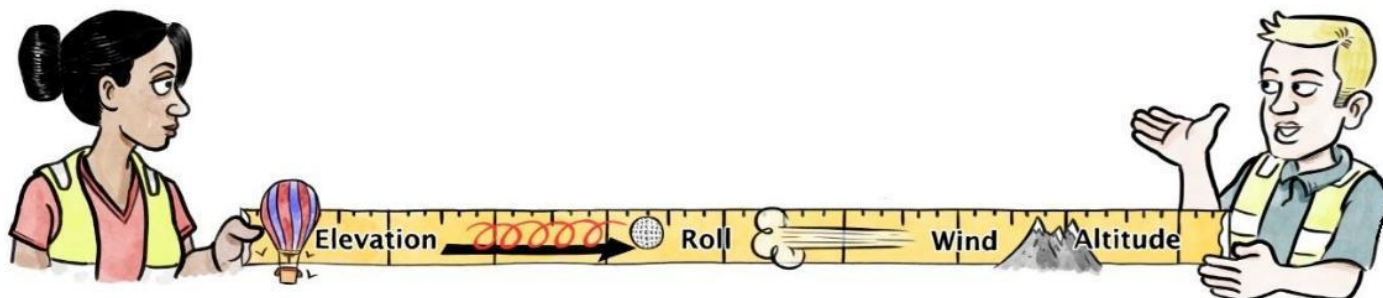
A – Slope

B – Rating

Answer; A tee set rating value is a measure of difficulty. A slope value refers to how many shots the golfer receives for the tee set being played and should not to be used to compare one tee set against another.

Top 6 Things to Know & Have in Place

- Valid & in date course measurement certificate
- Setting of default and active markers
- Tee markers placed as per the rules of handicapping
- WHS does not have an off season – see winter checklist
- Have accurate SI values in place
- Know who your County Rating team are





Common Course Rating Questions

- **My course is much more difficult than a neighbouring course, but our slope rating is lower, why is this?** A course rating is a measure of difficulty, not a slope value.
- **Why can we not have Junior tees like we used to?** Tee sets are rated for women/girls & men/boys.
- **We cannot find our Measurement certificates – can you supply us with a copy?** Speak with the provider the club used to obtain a copy.
- **What do we need to do to get the tee sets at my club rated for mixed gender competitions?** Speak with the County Rating Team as the first contact point.
- **We are going to introduce some new tee sets – do they have to be rated?** YES. Speak with the County Rating Team for further support and guidance.



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The WHS Portal

There are different levels of access at Club level. All access is managed and administered by the Super Admin user at each club.

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WHS PLATFORM ▾

ENG - Test Club Golf Club

HOME MEMBERS SCORES REPORTS SETTINGS

Membership Overview

CATEGORIES	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
CLUB MEMBER	14	5	19
Total	14	5	19

[Secondary Member Count: 0](#)

[View all members...](#)

Test Club Club Contacts

20% Complete

Manager: David Parker

Email: TestclubManager@englandgolf.org

[Update Contacts...](#)

WHS World Handicapping System

WHS is active for England.

Handicaps are now revised daily.

Inbox (12)

[View Sent Items \(9\)](#)

FROM	SUBJECT	RECEIVED	
MIDDLESBROUGH MUN...	Home club change notification - Hogan...	Thu 28/07/2022 10:45	View...
MIDDLESBROUGH MUN...	Home Club Change Request - Hogan, Tiger	Thu 28/07/2022 10:42	View...
Test Club Golf ...	Home Club Change Request Accepted -	Fri 7/01/2022 10:13	View...

GDPR & Integrity of WHS

- The sharing of member details is not allowed
- Each portal user **MUST** have their own unique logins
- All records must have correct First Name, Last Name, email and DOB as a minimum for integrity purposes
- All golfers have only one unique lifetime membership number





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WHS Tutorial Videos





Example Tutorials

Tutorial videos can be found via this link:

<https://www.Englandgolf.org/resource-detail/whs-handicap-committee-resources>

Adding a new member - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jS79cS3yw6I>

Adding a score - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzfSv5retXQ>

Adjusting a handicap index - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UaGAZwjG6U>

Default markers - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Si9rDRdumEI>

Deleted score intent report - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g0ZGPW2mTE8>

Hole statistics report - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTct_y5ezm8

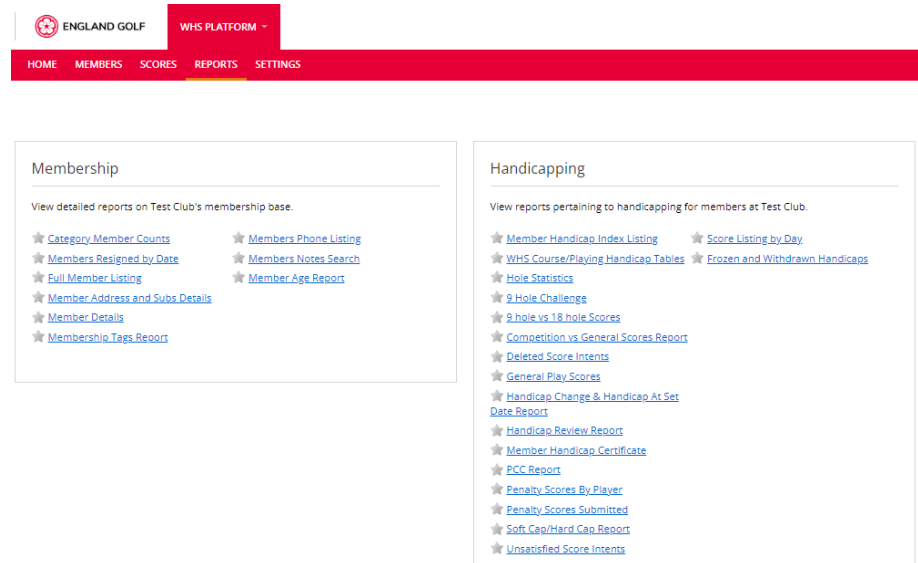
Password reset - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iDurQ04YtV4>

Resigning a member record - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Emvro0S53Yo>

Score intent - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6A-B2pP_HuU

Useful WHS Portal Reports

- Deleted Score Intents
- Unsatisfied Score Intents
- Full membership listing
- Hole Statistics
- Penalty Score by Player
- General Play Scores
- Handicap Review Report
- Last Played to Handicap
- Exceptional Scores Report



The screenshot displays the WHS Platform interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the England Golf logo and a 'WHS PLATFORM' dropdown menu. Below this is a red navigation bar with links for HOME, MEMBERS, SCORES, REPORTS, and SETTINGS. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'Membership', lists various reports such as 'Category Member Counts', 'Members Resigned by Date', 'Full Member Listing', 'Member Address and Subs Details', 'Member Details', 'Membership Tags Report', 'Members Phone Listing', 'Members Notes Search', and 'Member Age Report'. The right column, titled 'Handicapping', lists reports including 'Member Handicap Index Listing', 'Score Listing by Day', 'WHS Course/Playing Handicap Tables', 'Frozen and Withdrawn Handicaps', 'Hole Statistics', '9 Hole Challenge', '9 hole vs 18 hole Scores', 'Competition vs General Scores Report', 'Deleted Score Intents', 'General Play Scores', 'Handicap Change & Handicap At Set Date Report', 'Handicap Review Report', 'Member Handicap Certificate', 'PCC Report', 'Penalty Scores By Player', 'Penalty Scores Submitted', 'Soft Cap/Hard Cap Report', and 'Unsatisfied Score Intents'.

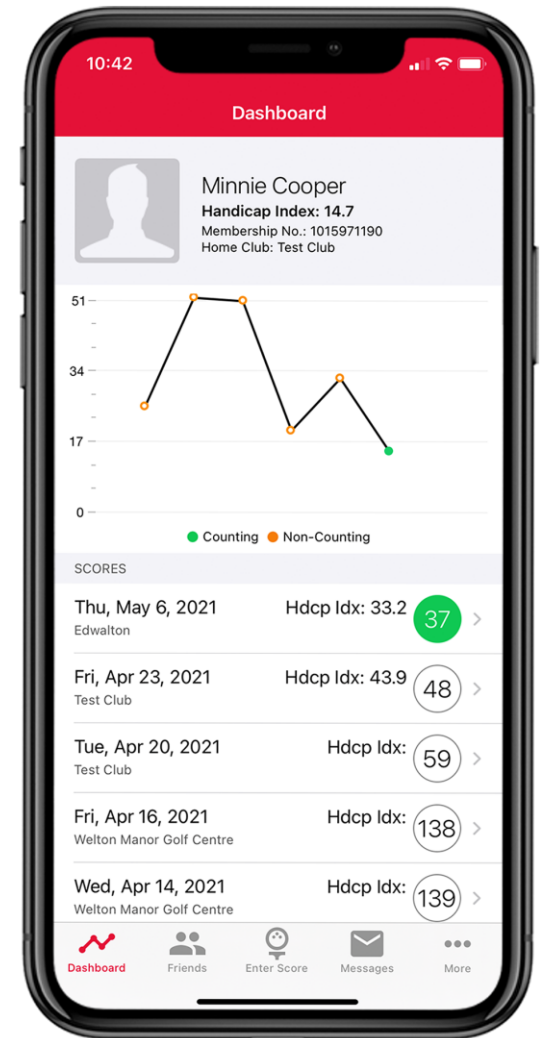


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MyEG app



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MyEG App - Benefits

- Instant score returns
- Identified attestor
- Date and time stamps
- Free to use for all members
- Local rules can be displayed, with the Rules of Golf within the app
- Player Search / Peer review, via the 'Friends' functionality
- Course handicap calculator
- Return general play scores from home and away clubs
- Links to further members benefits
- Live evidence of actual handicap index



Terms of Competition

- Competition terms are set, managed and administered by organisers, not England Golf
- Terms should be robust and available for all participants to read
- All terms should be reviewed annually.

Activity – Terms of Competition

Terms of Competition – Guidance Document

Official Guide to Rules of Golf 2019, Setting the Terms of the Competition, contains detailed instructions about setting up Terms of Competition. Unauthorised Local Rules are not permitted - Section 8L Model Local Rules.

This guidance document has been produced to support golf competition and event organisers/committees clarify specific detail and criteria for their own events. Examples of Terms for a singles stableford and a team competition are also provided separately.

<u>COMPETITION</u>		<u>Notes</u>	<u>Examples</u>
GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS	The competitions shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and Local Rules approved by the Committee. The competition committee of ***** GC consists of (names/ positions)	In the case of a golfer with a disability, he/she can apply to the Committee for adoption of the Modification to the Rules for Golfers with Disability. The Definitions in the Rules of Golf 2019 provides a definition of Committee. The Committee is the person or group in charge of the competition, or the course.	Full details available in Official Guide under Committee Procedures, Before the Competition Section 5A Setting the Terms of the Competition. https://www.randa.org/en/roq/2019/rules/committee-procedures/5a Competitions Committee are members of the ladies committee, 3 to form a quorum to include either Handicap Secretary or Competitions Secretary, whose decision shall be final.

Communicating with Members

- Club to consider having a generic contact email address for queries.
- Include WHS updates and information in members newsletters.
- Issue a Membership Number to new members on day one
- Recognise the commitment volunteers provide at club and county level (celebration events).





Supporting Tools & Resources

- WHS Rules of Handicapping
- CONGU Reference Document
- Winter Checklist
- CR00 Forms – changes/updates to a course
- WHS Portal User Guide
- WHS Portal Reports
- WHS Club Toolkit
- Mixed Tee Calculator
- Handicap Review Guidance



County Contact Details



- **County Handicap Advisor**

Guy Merry (Hampshire Golf – whs@hampshiregolf.co.uk)

Di Stock (Hampshire Ladies Golf – cjrstockdi@aol.com)

- **County Course Rating Lead**

Jackie Keay (Hampshire Ladies Golf – jackie.keay@ntlworld.com)

Nicky Harden (Hampshire Golf – courserating@hampshiregolf.co.uk)

- **County Rules Of Golf Advisor**

Di Stock (Hampshire Ladies Golf – cjrstockdi@aol.com)

Matt Williams (Hampshire Golf – matt.williams@btconnect.com)

- **County Secretary**

Richard Arnold (Hampshire Golf – secretary@hampshiregolf.co.uk)

Frances Crummay (Hampshire Ladies Golf – admin@hampshireladiesgolf.com)

**** The County team are always the first contact point for queries should a club need further support***