ENGLAND GOLF

BRING YOUR
G8ME

World Handicap System (WHS)
Coming into play 2nd November 2020

**BRING**

YOUR **8**

G **A**

M **E**
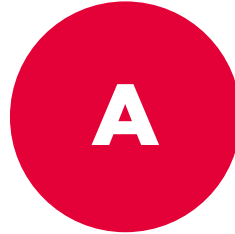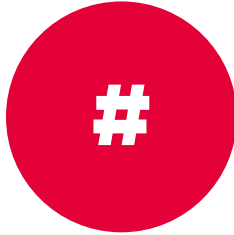
Handicap Index

Golfers in England will now have a Handicap Index, calculated from the best eight rounds from their last 20 scores. A Handicap Index is portable on any course around the world and will promote inclusivity within the game.

To find out more on the WHS visit:

englandgolf.org/whs

#KNOWTHESCORE

IN CONJUNCTION WITH

KNOW *THE* **SCORE**

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM
R&A   USGA

HANDICAP INDEX

What is handicap Index?

Golfers will consider the Handicap Index to be the most important element of the WHS.

The Handicap Index will:

- Measure the ability of a player
- Be portable from course to course
- Allow players to complete fairly and therefore promote inclusivity within the game

A Handicap Index is calculated from the best eight scores from the last 20 rounds.

As a new score is submitted, a player's Handicap Index will automatically update to the most recent 20 scores. A player's Handicap Index will update promptly overnight after the submission of an acceptable score and be ready before the next time they play.

Please see example on the next page.

How to obtain a Handicap Index?

When the new system comes into play most golfers can have a Handicap Index generated, based on their existing records.

For new golfers to gain their Handicap Index they will have to submit a minimum of 54 holes (using any combination of 9 and 18 holes). Their Handicap Index will be the lowest of their three rounds minus two strokes and continue to be built until the 20 scores are achieved.

A player's Handicap Index is calculated as a rolling average of the lowest 8 from the last 20 Score Differentials (highlighted yellow in the picture)

Example of 8 of 20 Calculation

Score No.	Date Played	Course	Course Rating	Slope Rating	Adjusted Gross Score	Score Differential
1	22/9/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	91	18.5
2	5/9/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	92	19.4
3	1/9/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	99	25.8
4	28/8/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	89	16.7
5	23/8/20	River GC	71.3	127	92	18.4
6	26/7/20	Meadow GC	72.2	131	87	12.8
7	14/7/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	97	24.0
8	4/7/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	88	15.8
9	19/6/20	River GC	71.3	127	87	13.5
10	16/6/20	Valley GC	69.9	118	95	24.0
11	12/6/20	Forest GC	70.1	115	86	15.6
12	5/6/20	Meadow GC	72.2	131	85	11.0
13	2/6/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	82	10.4
14	30/5/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	94	21.2
15	25/5/20	Valley GC	69.9	118	89	18.3
16	22/5/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	97	24.0
17	29/4/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	85	13.1
18	14/4/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	93	20.3
19	10/4/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	94	21.2
20	3/4/20	Meadow GC	72.2	131	86	12.1

- Adding together the best 8 differentials out of the last 20:

```
    12.8
+   15.8
+   13.5
+   15.6
+   11.0
+   10.4
+   13.1
+   12.1
```

And averaging the total: = 104.3 / 8

Handicap Index of **13.0**

Each time a new score is submitted the average of the lowest 8 from the last 20 is re-calculated overnight, which may or may not lead to a change of Handicap Index.

A new score is submitted at the top of the list and the oldest score drops off the bottom. Each time a new score is added the Handicap Index is re-calculated, but the index will only be revised if there is a change to the best 8 scores. For example, if the player above returns a new Differential of 14.5, that replaces the 12.1 that has dropped out of the last 20. The effect of this is to increase the Handicap Index from 13.0 to 13.3

Example of 8 of 20 Calculation

- Adding together the best 8 differentials out of the last 20:

```
    14.5
+   12.8
+   15.8
+   13.5
+   15.6
+   11.0
+   10.4
+   13.1
```

And averaging the total: = 106.7 ÷ 8

Handicap Index of **13.3**

Score No.	Date Played	Course	Course Rating	Slope Rating	Adjusted Gross Score	Score Differential
1	25/9/20	Meadow GC	72.2	131	89	14.5
2	22/9/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	91	18.5
3	5/9/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	92	19.4
4	1/9/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	99	25.8
5	28/8/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	89	16.7
6	23/8/20	River GC	71.3	127	92	18.4
7	26/7/20	Meadow GC	72.2	131	87	12.8
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18	29/4/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	85	13.1
19	14/4/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	93	20.3
20	10/4/20	Hill GC	70.5	125	94	21.2
21	3/4/20	Meadow GC	72.2	131	86	12.1

You can get an indication of any potential Handicap Index change be subtracting a displaced best 8 Differential from the new Differential and dividing by 8. In the case above 14.5 - 12.1 = 2.4. 2.4 / 8 = 0.3