



Club Handicap Secretary Report to the Annual General Meeting 2020

Operation of the Handicap Committee

During 2019, about 50 new handicaps have been issued (the same as in 2019 and up from 40 in 2018 and 2017). In addition, about 330 supplementary cards (up from 220 in 2019 and 2018 but up from 100 in 2017) have been posted. About 200 away scores (down from 370 in 2019 and about 260 in 2018 and 160 in 2017) have been accepted, where appropriate.

The Club Handicap Committee met on 6th January 2020 and quarterly afterwards, considering handicap revisions (whether upwards or downwards) for all members with active handicaps. The main consideration is whether a player's scoring record in qualifying competitions differs noticeably from the expected statistical pattern established by CONGU. Just over 40 handicaps have been reviewed in this way with a small majority of them being increases. Members get notified personally of any change. The process was mainly made challenging this year due to the switch from Club V1 to IG at the beginning of December 2019.

I would like to formally thank Jane Parrett (Ladies Section) and Charles Bone (Seniors Section) for all their guidance and support on the operations of the handicap system at SWGC over the course of this year; they've been so very helpful and I'm very grateful to them.

New World Handicap System (WHS)

The new World Handicap System (WHS) was implemented on 2nd November 2020 and frankly has created a mass of work for Handicap Secretaries; seamless it was not! We still have about 40 members who cannot download their handicap indices; about half because they have not accepted the sharing of data as part of the WHS Data Privacy requirement; the remainder through no fault of their own – the issue of the calculations relating to handicaps being taken over by England Golf from the service providers, like IG has led to many instances of the systems not 'talking to each other' well. I continue to chase England Golf at least twice a week.

The new system is undoubtedly more complicated than before and will take some time to settle. The Handicap Committee will continue to provide assistance as and when needed. I hope that the information has been adequate for Members so far however various matters were changing late on.

Once again, special thanks to Jane Parrett (Ladies Section) and Charles Bone (Seniors Section) for their diligence and hard work on this implementation over the last few months; it's been very challenging and their support has been exceptional.

Malcolm Berryman, SWGC Handicap Secretary
24th November 2020