

FRIDAY EMAIL 24/04/2020

Well, the news we have all been waiting for is finally here, and I have stalled writing this email so I can bring you the most up to date information regarding being able to play golf under Level 3.

First and foremost the emphasis is on keeping safe and maintaining social distancing, but below I outline the expectations from both NZ Golf and our Management Committee. NZ Golf had 20 items on the list of recommendations, but I will outline how they will affect you.

Please read these, and abide by them so we can get through this period of limited play safely, and get back to normal golf.

THIS APPLIES TO MEMBERS ONLY, PLEASE NO VISITORS ON THE COURSE

If you decide to open your course for play, you must do so under the following operational guidelines:

1. Players must adhere to regional travel restrictions.
2. All players must be registered to enable contact tracing if required (I will have a form up to record your membership number and name)
3. Golfers must arrive ready to play and leave the facility immediately after play.
4. Play is only possible for those playing alone or playing with others from within their bubble. Do not arrange to meet anyone else to play.
5. **At risk players (such as those over 70) may need to take extra measures to protect themselves. The Ministry of Health are developing further guidelines for at risk groups.**
6. All clubhouse, pro shop, changing room, toilets and any other facility at the golf course must be closed to players and visitors (only available to be accessed and used by essential staff on site).
There will be no merchandise or takeaway food and beverages. . Players cannot enter premises.
7. Scorecards cannot be physically issued prior to play nor returned after play. No scores will be accepted by the NZG handicapping system at Alert Level 3.
8. An appropriate interval between tee times must be observed to ensure distancing between groups is maintained. A 6 minute interval between solo players is recommended. An interval of 10 minutes between groups that have two or more players is recommended. Golf courses might like to consider specific times of each day for groups of different sizes.
9. Players must maintain a minimum distance of at least two metres between themselves and other players on course who are not in their bubble.

10. Equipment cannot be shared. If golf carts are to be used, they can only be used by people inside the same bubble.

11. If there are pins in the greens, do not handle these. Tukai is making it so your ball doesn't go right in the hole, and you can retrieve it with your club.

12.. All drinking fountains, ball washers, shared sunscreen stations and on course toilets are closed.

LONG STORY SHORT:

Play in your bubble, maintain social distancing (2 metres) from any-one else on the course.

Put your name and membership number on the form provided for contact tracing.

Allow 10 minutes between playing pairs, and if you all arrive at the same time to play, use your common sense and space yourselves out when waiting to tee off, and once on the course.

There will be no scorecards, ball washers, drinking fountains, food or drinks available, so be prepared.

Don't touch any pins, flags, rakes etc while on the course.

And lastly, enjoy.

Well, there you go.

Grounds staff will be out and about on the course, and I am sure you realise that the course won't be in its usual pristine condition due to the previous restrictions about being able to work, but will appreciate any and all work done so you can play.

I will be out there a couple of times over the next couple of weeks, but will be shut in the office as the building will be closed.

Dear Member

On Tuesday 14 April New Zealand joins over 40 countries that have already introduced the World Handicap System (WHS).

This email is to inform and prepare you for some of the changes. Together, the R&A (our governing body) and the USGA govern the game worldwide, including writing and interpreting the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status and Rules of Handicapping. The two bodies have now collaborated to issue the Rules of Handicapping which introduces a new WHS which they will oversee jointly throughout the world.

New Zealand Golf has used the USGA Handicap and Course Rating system for the last 20 years and we are fortunate that the changes introduced under WHS are minimal however some of the changes need explanation.

1. YOUR HANDICAP INDEX MAY CHANGE ON 14 APRIL You may have seen that for some weeks now we have been running a parallel WHS calculation on your My Golf section of www.golf.co.nz This is to give you an indication of your expected handicap index on 14 April. Points to note include:

- All historic scores will be recalculated using the new formulas.
- Your new WHS handicap index on 14 April is more likely to reduce slightly but if you are a higher handicapper it may increase.
- An exceptional score component will be in effect which is referenced in the formula section below.
- Your low handicap index will show and this will determine the upward movement of your handicap index based on this figure, as explained in the formula section below.

2. LIVE HANDICAPPING Under the current handicap system your handicap index is renewed every two weeks. Under WHS we move to daily updates of handicaps which means each time you submit a score; your handicap index will be updated the following day.

Daily handicap updating, points to note include:

- It is unlikely your club will be printing out a daily handicap listing, therefore, particularly if your club does not have a scorecard printing system, it is important you know your current handicap index before competing in any competition, especially if competing at another club.
- If your club uses a scorecard printing system, updated handicaps will be printed on the day of play.
- We are planning to add a 'playing handicap' calculator to the New Zealand Golf app, which will assist members to easily calculate their playing handicaps when playing at courses which do not have a score card printing system.

• You will still be able to text your membership number to 3673 to get your latest handicap index.

3. NEW PLAYING HANDICAP What you now know as your 'course handicap' will change to be known as your 'playing handicap'. $\text{index} \times \text{slope number of the tee marker being played} \div 113$ (which is the average slope number) + course rating - par of the relevant tee marker.

The advantages of this change are:

- 36 Stableford points will become the true measure of playing to your handicap.
- You can compete against other club members playing from different tee sets and the result is equitable – no more having to give/receive shots in a Stableford competition.

Example: Joe Handicap Index 18.0 Par 71, course rating 69, slope number 120 Joanne Handicap Index 23.0 Par 73, course rating 74, slope number 124 Joe's playing handicap becomes: $18.0 \times 120 / 113 = 19.12$ Joanne's playing handicap becomes: $23.0 \times 124 / 113 = 25.24$ $(69 - 71) + (74 - 73) = -2$ $19.12 - 2 = 17.12$ $25.24 + 1 = 26.24$ Playing handicap of 17 26.24 + 1 = Playing handicap of 26

IMPORTANTLY: If the course rating is higher than par, your playing handicap will go UP If the course rating is lower than par, your playing handicap will go DOWN

4. 9-HOLE SCORES, ELIGIBILITY OF A SCORE FOR HANDICAPPING

PURPOSES Whether you're a 9-hole member or 18-hole member, you have the opportunity to play nine holes and submit a score card for handicap purposes. (Note: All nine holes must be played for a 9-hole score to be acceptable for handicapping purposes).

The process has been to combine two 9's previously, but under WHS a 9-hole score will be scaled up to an 18-hole score eligible for handicapping.

The advantage is that an exceptional score over 9 holes, will have an immediate effect on a handicap index. The un-played holes are treated as:

- 1-8 holes played Not eligible for handicap purposes
- 9 holes played Un-played holes are entered as nett par, plus one
- 10-13 holes played Un-played holes are entered as nett par, plus one
- 14-17 holes played Un-played holes are entered as nett par

New Zealand Golf still expect all 9-hole scores, whether twilight or casual golf, be entered for handicap purposes.

5. WHEN A HOLE IS STARTED BUT PLAYER DOES NOT HOLE OUT When a player starts a hole but does not hole out for a valid reason, the player must record their most likely score or net double bogey, whichever is lower.

The most likely score is:

- The number of strokes already taken to reach a position on a hole, plus;
- The number of strokes the player would most likely require to complete the hole from that position, plus;
- Any penalty strokes incurred during play of the hole.

6. PLAYING CONDITIONS CALCULATION (PCC) The WHS introduces a daily analysis of scores known as the playing conditions calculation (PCC).

PCC is a statistical calculation that determines if conditions on a day of play differed from normal playing conditions to the extent that they significantly impacted players' performance. Examples of conditions that could impact include course conditions, weather conditions and course set-up. A PCC adjustment could be –

- -1 indicating the playing conditions are easier than normal relative to the course rating.
- 0 indicating the playing conditions are normal relative to the course rating.
- +1, +2, +3 indicating the playing conditions are more difficult relative to the course rating.

Your handicap record will show a column 'PCC Adjustment'.

If a PCC adjustment is applied, the adjustment will show in this column and your handicap index calculated accordingly. The PCC will be an automatic calculation in the DotGolf system and be calculated based on scores returned for the day's play. If you don't hand your score in on the day of play, it will not be used in the calculation of PCC but if there is a PCC adjustment applied for the day of play, your score will be adjusted accordingly when the score card is submitted. The PCC adjustment applies to all players who submitted scores on the day.

7. COMPONENTS OF THE NEW FORMULA

- A player new to golf can gain an official handicap after playing 54-holes of golf.
- The lowest 8 of the most recent 20 handicap differentials are used to calculate your handicap index.
- A reduction of -1 is automatic if you have an exceptional score 7.0-9.9 better than your handicap index.
- A reduction of -2 is automatic if you have an exceptional score 10 or more better than your handicap index.
- The system looks back 365 days preceding your last score and identifies your low handicap index. There are then controls on upward movement. If a handicap index is calculated to be over 3.0 higher than the low index, then outward movement slows.

A handicap index can only move up by 5.0 in comparison to the low index.

For more detailed information visit: www.golf.co.nz/whs We are confident that the overall result of WHS is a system more equitable and inclusive providing more enjoyment for all. Good golfing. Kind regards

Phil Aickin Handicapping and Golf Services Manager

Now that you have read and understood all that, I will get this out to you all.

Most importantly, is you are going out to play, stay safe, keep others safe and behave yourselves, 'cos I'll know if you don't.

TERESA

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 Harcourts ETB Realty
 From January 1st 2019
 New Anti-Money Laundering (AML) legislation requires that all real estate operators seek more information from clients relating to their identity and source of funds.

