

## Handicap System Adjustment for 2024 Season

As you may be aware, the beginning of November 2021 brought in some quite drastic changes to both the rating of courses and the handicap system. During the last few years, I have been working on the new system to bring us in line with the World Handicap System.

Firstly, for all of you that are unsure on how things work, each course we play has had a standard scratch score assigned to it and a slope guide which indicates the difficulty of the course you are playing. The S.S.S. has always been associated with the course but the new slope system, although been in use in Spain for a while, was not something we used in our society. The slope system has a range of 55 up to 155 with the average standard course set at 113, the higher the number the more difficult the rating of the course.

The Handicap system now requires people to provide 20 cards of which the best 8 are taken for the calculation of your handicap. The next 12 cards will be added each time you play, once you have your 20 cards this will become your base handicap, each score will only count towards your handicap for 2 years from the date it is played, it will then automatically be replaced by your next best card. For the past 3 Years I have been unable to create a system able to work out these 20 gross scores, this year I have managed to create a system so starting from the first game this year your handicaps will be adjusted to your best 20 scores not 8. Handicaps will be set at a maximum of 54 for men and women (as outlined in the R&A Regulations 2020). All new members will have to submit 3 cards before they are eligible to compete for any trophies. They will be allowed to compete for the nearest the pins, front and back 9 and the two's pot on those three competitions. New members with up to date signed handicap certificates may be accepted with prior agreement of the committee. Cards marked by other members on Altorreal, Bonalba, Font Del Llop, El Plantio, Alicante and Las Colinas will also be accepted.

Your score on the day is calculated into strokes with the highest score on any hole being 1 shot over the hole e.g.

Par 3 with 1 shot (6) 2 shots (7) 3 shots (8)  
Par 4 with 1 shot (7) 2 shots (8) 3 shots (9)  
Par 5 with 1 shot (8) 2 shots (9) 3 shots (10)

Once you have your score e.g. 98, the calculation for Alicante would be  $98$  (gross score) -  $72.2$  (SSS) =  $25.8$  divided by  $136$  (slope) x  $113$  =  $21.4$ , once your handicap has been calculated it then has to be calculated on each course we play.

		Steve Day 43.7	Martin Gadney 18.5
Altorreal	slope 122, S.S.S. 72.1	50 shots	21 shots
El Plantio	slope 131, S.S.S. 72.1	51 shots	21 shots
Font Del Llop	slope 139, S.S.S. 71.5	54 shots	23 shots
Alicante	slope 136, S.S.S. 72.2	53 shots	22 shots
Bonalba	slope 131, S.S.S. 72.0	51 shots	21 shots
Roda	slope 135, S.S.S. 71.4	52 shots	22 shots

These calculations are for the yellow tees only and the ladies red tees are calculated from a different chart.

This system should help the less capable players by increasing their shots on the more difficult courses and bringing a more condensed field, when it comes to overall results.

Next, we address the adjustment of the handicaps from open play, as mentioned earlier. The grid below should explain the new banding and the degree to which shots will be reduced and those which increase your handicap through general play. There will be no reduction for the placing in a competition 1st, 2nd, 3rd any more.

6 Tier system.

Cutting	Band 1	0-5	every shot over 36	-0.1
	Band 2	6-12	every shot over 36	-0.2
	Band 3	13-20	every shot over 36	-0.3
	Band 4	21-28	every shot over 36	-0.4
	Band 5	29-36	every shot over 36	-0.5
	Band 6	37-54	every shot over 36	-0.6
Additions	Band 1	0-5	Buffer Zone 35-36	34 and below add 0.1 per point
	Band 2	6-12	Buffer Zone 34-36	33 and below add 0.1 per point
	Band 3	13-20	Buffer Zone 33-36	32 and below add 0.1 per point
	Band 4	21-28	Buffer Zone 32-36	31 and below add 0.1 per point
	Band 5	29-36	Buffer Zone 31-36	30 and below add 0.1 per point
	Band 6	37-54	Buffer Zone 30-36	29 and below add 0.1 per point

Maximum deduction for any one tournament is 5 shots

10 points or more over 36 points will have an extra 2 shot deduction

5 points to 9 points over 36 points will have an extra 1 shot deduction

Maximum addition for any one tournament is 1 shot

Finally, for the singles and doubles this will be played off your base handicap without any slope index adjustment the lowest handicapped player will play off zero with all other players receiving the difference between the 2 handicaps. i.e. player 1, 20, player 2, 36, player 2 will receive 16 shots.

Any issues or questions?

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