

HCER Senior Men's Golf League Handicap Method

A System Using the Lowest FOUR "Handicap Differentials" From the Last EIGHT Rounds Played

(1) After each round, calculate the "**Handicap Differential (D)**" for that round using the "**Course Rating (R)**" and "**Slope Rating (S)**" for the tee played. Each tee at most courses has its own course rating and slope. We use a simplified "Equitable Stroke Control" concept—all hole scores greater than 2 over par will be changed to 2 over par for handicap purposes only. This modified gross score is called the "**Adjusted Gross Score (A)**." In formula form:

$$D = \frac{(A - R) \times 113}{S}$$

The value of 113 is the USGA "average" slope rating. The handicap differential is **rounded** to the nearest tenth.

(2) Then, calculate the "**Average Handicap Differential**" for each player based on the number of rounds played [see (5) below]. For a player with an established handicap, this would be the sum of the lowest four Handicap Differentials (D) from the last eight rounds, divided by four.

(3) Then, calculate the "**Handicap Index (H)**" for each player by **truncating** (not rounding) the "**Average Handicap Differential**" to the tenths place. For example, the value 13.49 is truncated to 13.4. This value will be published for each player after each League round. The current USGA maximum "Handicap Index" is 54.0 for 18 holes.

(4) Then, for the next round to be played, calculate the "**Course Handicap (C)**," the handicap a player uses on a specific course based on his "**Handicap Index (H)**" and the "**Slope (S)**" for the tee being played. In formula form:

$$C = \frac{H \times S}{113}$$

The course handicap is **rounded** to nearest whole number. For example, the value 13.4 would be rounded down to 13, and the value 19.5 would be rounded up to 20. This value will be published for each player before each League round.

(5) Treatment Based on Total Number of Rounds Played, Including Carryovers from the Previous Season

Players will not have a **Course Handicap** until they have completed a total of four rounds of individual play, including the previous and current season (Note 1). Thus, players who played less than four rounds of individual play in the previous season must establish their Course Handicap in the current season. Players without a Course Handicap are not eligible for net prizes. Beginning with their **fifth** handicap round, they will become eligible for prizes in net games. The handicap calculation schedule is shown below. After 8 rounds are played, players may be eligible to play from the Forward tees based on the age plus handicap criteria.

<u>Round Being Played</u>	<u>Handicap Basis</u>
Round 5	Low 2 of Last 4 Handicap Differentials
Round 6	Low 3 of Last 5 Handicap Differentials
Round 7	Low 3 of Last 6 Handicap Differentials
Round 8	Low 4 of Last 7 Handicap Differentials
Round 9 and greater	Low 4 of Last 8 Handicap Differentials

(6) All League rounds in which each player plays his own ball exclusively, excluding team events, will count in the handicap calculations. "Road trip" rounds and "Wednesday" rounds will not be counted.

Note 1. Under some circumstances, such as significant personal or health concerns preventing a player from participating in the previous season, the Leadership Team may approve the use of scores from two previous seasons to be included in the handicap calculations.