

Handicap Report April 2018

In April, the Lady Captain, Myra, and I went to a handicap meeting in Woodhall Spa, where we were given an overview of the World Handicap System .

The main principles of the system are as follows:

- 1.To enable as many golfers as possible to obtain and maintain a handicap.
- 2.To enable golfers of differing abilities, gender and nationality to compete anywhere in this country and abroad on a fair and equal basis.

Key elements to setting up this system are that every course must have a recent measurement certificate and a slope rating. Regional teams are in the process of measuring and rating every course. South Kyme has been done, but the slope rating will not be revealed until all have been done and the system is in place.

In brief, all golfers will be given a Handicap Index (instead of a handicap) based on the average of the best 8 results from their most recent 20 scores entered on the system. Each time a new result is entered the first one drops off, maintaining a rolling 20 scores from which the average of the best 8 will be taken and handicap index calculated. This index is what each player holds. It is what goes with you wherever you play, and is combined with the slope rating at each course to give you your playing handicap for that course.

Each club will have charts on display, adjusted to that course slope rating, so you can find your handicap index and move along the line to the course handicap appropriate to you on that course.

Golfers will be encouraged to have 20 scores in the system before the new scheme begins. As most of us play regularly this should not be an issue. All golfers will be encouraged to enter scores on most occasions.

The World Handicap System will be introduced, provided there are no hiccups, in March 2020.

This was the first of several meetings, the next one being in November. Further updates will be delivered to you as soon as information becomes available to me.

Since my last report there has been only one handicap reduction and that is for Sue Annibal, who is now playing off 21