

How to use your Handicap Index under the World Handicap System

Handicap Index

The single measurement of golfing ability used worldwide.

Course Handicap

The number used to adjust hole scores for handicap purposes.

Playing Handicap

The number used to PLAY!

It's typically the same as your Course Handicap but may be adjusted based on the terms of the competition or format of play.

Changes under the World Handicap System

Your Course Handicap (CH) now represents the number of strokes needed to play to Par.

How will this change affect you?

If the Course Rating is **HIGHER** than Par, your Course Handicap will go up:

| Course Rating | Par | Impact on CH |
|---------------|-----|------------------|
| 72.0 | 70 | 2 strokes higher |

If the Course Rating is **LOWER** than Par, your Course Handicap will go down:

| Course Rating | Par | Impact on CH |
|---------------|-----|-----------------|
| 68.0 | 70 | 2 strokes lower |

Set your Target!

$$\text{Target Score} = \text{Course Handicap} + \text{Par}$$

Your Target Score is the score needed to play to your handicap.



For more information or to learn more about the WHS, visit usga.org/whs

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

