

# League Scoring using the World Handicap System (WHS)

Liz Granitz and Maureen Mahoney

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# Why Handicap?

- **Handicapping allows players of different golfing abilities to compete in a more equitable way.**
- **The handicap system provides a method to adjust scores based on the players' relative skills and the difficulty of the course being played.**

# Handicap Index vs. Course Handicap

**Handicap Index (H.I.)** is the measure of a player's *potential scoring ability* on a course of “**standard difficulty**”, which is a Slope is 113 and a Rating is equal to the Par of the course.

**Course Handicap (C.H.)** is the number of handicap strokes a player receives on a **particular** golf course from a **specific set of tees**.

The new World Handicap System (WHS) updates handicaps every night. Scores should be posted on the day of play.

The Handicap App you use to post your scores will calculate your C.H. for you.

# Calculation of the C.H.

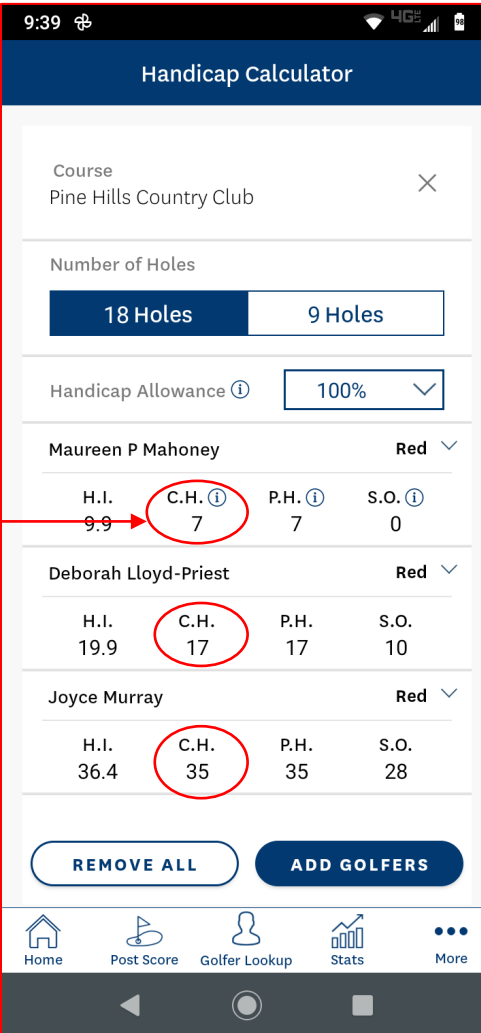
(for those who are interested)

- Here is the formula for the Red Tees at Cherry Creek the Woods with a Slope of 118, a Rating of 69.6, and a Par of 71.
- $C.H. = H.I. \times (118/113) + (69.6-71)$
- $C.H. = H.I. \times (\text{slope correction}) + (\text{rating} - \text{par})$
- This is then rounded to a whole number
- If your H.I. = 24.7 then:
- $C.H. = 24.7 \times (118/113) + (69.6-71) = 24$

**A player's Course Handicap will usually be somewhat higher or lower than her Index depending on the difficulty of the course being played, as indicated below.**

### Easier Course

**A Course Handicap is adjusted to be lower than the Handicap Index on an easier course.**



Handicap Calculator

Course: Pine Hills Country Club

Number of Holes: 18 Holes (selected), 9 Holes

Handicap Allowance: 100%

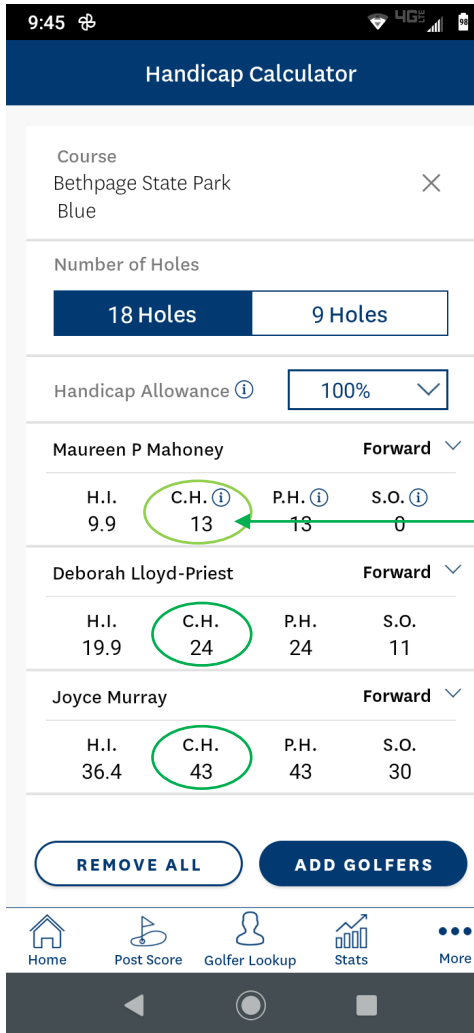
Name	Handicap	Course Handicap (C.H.)	Par Handicap (P.H.)	Stroke Out (S.O.)
Maureen P Mahoney	Red	7	7	0
Deborah Lloyd-Priest	Red	17	17	10
Joyce Murray	Red	35	35	28

Buttons: REMOVE ALL, ADD GOLFERS

Bottom navigation: Home, Post Score, Golfer Lookup, Stats, More

### Harder Course

**A Course Handicap is adjusted to be higher than the Handicap Index on a harder course.**



Handicap Calculator

Course: Bethpage State Park Blue

Number of Holes: 18 Holes (selected), 9 Holes

Handicap Allowance: 100%

Name	Handicap	Course Handicap (C.H.)	Par Handicap (P.H.)	Stroke Out (S.O.)
Maureen P Mahoney	Forward	13	13	0
Deborah Lloyd-Priest	Forward	24	24	11
Joyce Murray	Forward	43	43	30

Buttons: REMOVE ALL, ADD GOLFERS


Bottom navigation: Home, Post Score, Golfer Lookup, Stats, More

# Using your Course Handicap during a round

- If your C.H. is 18, you get one (1) stroke per hole, so your net score on a hole is the total strokes you scored minus 1.
- If your C.H. is 36, you get two (2) strokes per hole.
- If your C.H. is not a multiple of 18, you will employ the Stroke Index information to apply strokes appropriately. For a C.H. of 24, you get one (1) stroke per hole and an additional stroke on the six (6) most difficult holes, for a total of 24 strokes.

# Stroke Index

- **Stroke Index** is a ranking of the relative difficulty of each hole on a course, with the front 9 ranked with odd numbers and the back 9 with even numbers. This information appears on the scorecard in the row usually titled Handicap or Hcp.
- The most difficult hole on the front will be assigned a stroke index of 1. The easiest hole on the back 9 will have a stroke index of 18.
- Our player with a C.H. of 24 will have get one stroke on each of the 18 holes and then a second stroke on the holes with a stroke index from 1 to 6. Three of these holes will be in the front, and three will be on the back.
- The Cherry Creek Woods scorecard is used for the following example.



Hole	Rating/Slope	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Tot	Hcp	Net
Maple	71.3/132	372	202	555	359	364	178	422	164	538	3154		328	322	473	202	442	575	310	194	550	3396	6550		
Oak	69.9/128	354	178	535	345	350	158	406	150	518	2994		314	308	443	189	425	561	296	174	525	3235	6229		
Pine	67.1/123	348	166	462	335	340	150	355	144	450	2750		310	305	365	180	355	468	290	170	430	2873	5623		
Handicap		9	13	1	7	11	17	3	15	5			12	14	2	18	8	4	10	16	6				
		*	*	**	*	*	*	**	*	**			*	*	**	*	*	**	*	*	**				
Par		4	3	5	4	4	3	4	3	5	35		4	4	4	3	4	5	4	3	5	36	71		
Cherry	69.6/118	294	132	455	240	265	135	348	132	430	2431		240	293	362	147	350	460	230	121	425	2628	5059		

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Scorer: \_\_\_\_\_ Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

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Stroke Index

Handicap 1 is the hardest hole, 18 is the easiest.

Our player will get 2 strokes on holes 3, 7, 9, 12, 13, 18.

One stroke on all other holes for a total of 24.

Rating/Slope

(Varies by Tee Box)



# Net Double Bogey

- **Net Double Bogey** is a player's maximum hole score for **handicap purposes**. This value replaces Equitable Stroke Control in the previous handicap system.
- **Net Double Bogey** is a score equal to the par of a hole plus two strokes (double bogey) plus any adjustment for handicap strokes applied on that hole.
- **Net Double Bogey = Par + 2 + any strokes applied on the hole.**
- If you record your scores using the **Hole-By-Hole** option in your handicap app, the net double bogey correction is automatically applied.

# Pine Hills

Dots indicate where strokes apply

HOLE #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOT	RATING SLOPE								
Gold Tees	400	510	185	405	395	430	430	540	470	3765	415	435	515	320	220	510	400	215	485	3515	7280	74.9/132								
Green Tees	385	495	170	390	380	395	370	500	450	3535	385	415	500	305	200	490	365	160	460	3280	6815	73.0/130								
Blue Tees	360	460	145	365	350	360	340	460	425	3265	360	385	485	280	165	465	340	145	395	3020	6285	70.1/129								
White Tees	330	440	130	350	330	335	310	425	375	3025	340	365	465	260	145	430	320	120	300	2745	5770	67.9/122								
Men's Hcp	5	17	15	1	9	11	13	3	7		10	6	12	18	14	2	8	16	4											
LLOYD- PRIEST	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.			20								
→	7	8	6	8	7	7	7	8	7		7	7	8	7	6	9	7	6	7											
Par	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	5	4	37	4	4	5	4	3	5	4	3	4	36	7	HCP ADJ								
MAHONEY	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.			10								
→	7	7	5	7	6	7	6	8	7		6	7	8	6	5	8	7	5	7											
MURRAY	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"		"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"			37								
→	8	9	7	9	8	8	8	9	8		8	8	9	7	7	9	8	7	8											
Red Tees	310	415	110	295	290	295	275	395	315	2700	300	310	440	225	125	385	295	100	300	2480	5180	69.2/120								
Ladies' Hcp	5	11	17	1	15	9	13	3	7		12	8	4	18	14	2	10	16	6											
Scorer:	Date:										Attest:										Tee Time:									

\*Note: This scorecards lists a different Stroke Index for ladies playing from the forward tees. Many cards will not include this detail.

Pine Hills **Front 9**

Dots indicate where strokes apply

Use ½ Course  
Handicap to  
apply strokes

HOLE #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOT	RATING SLOPE			
Gold Tees	400	510	185	405	395	430	430	540	470	3765	415	435	515	320	220	510	400	215	485	3515	7280	74.9	132		
Green Tees	385	495	170	390	380	395	370	500	450	3535	385	415	500	305	200	490	365	160	460	3280	6815	73.0	130		
Blue Tees	360	460	145	365	350	360	340	460	425	3265	360	385	485	280	165	465	340	145	395	3020	6285	70.1	129		
White Tees	330	440	130	350	330	335	310	425	375	3025	340	365	465	260	145	430	320	120	300	2745	5770	67.9	122		
Men's Hcp	5	17	15	1	9	11	13	3	7		10	6	12	18	14	2	8	16	4						
LLOYD- PRIEST																								20	
→ 7 8 6 8 7 7 7 8 7																									
Par											4	4	5	4	3	5	4	3	4	36	7	HCP ADJ			
MAHONEY																							10		
→ 7 7 5 7 6 7 6 8 7																									
MURRAY																							37		
→ 8 9 7 9 8 8 8 9 8																									
Red Tees	310	415	110	295	290	295	275	395	315	2700	300	310	440	225	125	385	295	100	300	2480	5180	69.2	120		
Ladies' Hcp	5	11	17	1	15	9	13	3	7		12	8	4	18	14	2	10	16	6						
Scorer:											Date:					Attest:					Tee Time:				

# Maximum Score of Par + 5

- All of our leagues are following the **Maximum Score** format (USGA rule 21.2.), that is you **must** pick up after your score equals **par plus 5 strokes** on the relevant game holes, rather than the old Double Par rule.
- **That means pick up after 8 strokes on a par 3, 9 on a par 4, 10 on a par 5.**
- Record your actual score or the par + 5 on the score card submitted to the league. Your score will count for the game even if you picked up the ball.
- If the score for a hole is above **Net Double Bogey**, you must adjust the score when posting it for your handicap. Using the hole-by-hole option in your app, automatically applies the net double bogey correction.
- When the format of play allows, or when playing a recreational round, you can pick up once you've reached your Net Double Bogey score.

# Most Likely Score – Holes Not Completed

If you start playing a hole and do not complete it, you can still post your score for handicap purposes, using your most likely score for the hole. This situation often occurs in match play or team play.

Your most likely score for the hole is equal to:

- The number of strokes already taken on the hole, plus
- Any penalty strokes incurred during the hole, plus
- The number of strokes you would most likely require to complete the hole.

# Most Likely Score

The most likely score is your reasonable assessment based what you would likely score **more than half the time** from the spot you stopped playing the ball.

The following guidelines should be used to make the assessment:

- If the ball lies on the putting green no more than 5 feet from the hole, add one stroke.
- If the ball lies between 5 feet and 20 yards from the hole, add 2 or 3 additional strokes depending on the position of the ball, difficulty of the green and your ability.
- If the ball lies more than 20 yards from the hole, add 3 or 4 additional strokes depending on the position of the ball, difficulty of the green and your ability.

# Special Competitions

- In some competitions, the player may be required to play the ball into the hole and record that score for the competition.
- As usual, the player should adjust her score back to the Net Double Bogey maximum when posting for handicap purposes.
- Posting Hole-by-Hole in the handicap application will ensure that no score above Net Double Bogey is included.
- Players should be sure to select 9 or 18 holes and the correct tee box when posting.

The screenshot shows the 'Round Setup' screen of a golf application. At the top, the status bar displays the time 12:23 and 4G LTE signal. The app header is dark blue with the text 'Round Setup'. Below this, the form is organized into sections: 'Course' (Smithtown Landing Golf Course with a close icon), 'Number of Holes' (with '18 Holes' selected and '9 Holes' as an alternative), 'Tees' (Red with a dropdown showing 70.6 / 121 / 72), 'Score Type' (with 'Home', 'Away', and 'Competition' options, where 'Competition' is selected), 'Date Played' (Sunday, July 19, 2020 with a dropdown), and 'Starting Hole' (Hole 1 with a dropdown). At the bottom of the form, it states 'Your Course Handicap™ is 9' with an information icon. A large blue button labeled 'ENTER HOLE-BY-HOLE SCORE' is positioned below this. The bottom navigation bar contains icons for Home, Post Score, Golfer Lookup, Stats, and More. The very bottom of the image shows the Android system navigation bar.

12:23

Round Setup

Course  
Smithtown Landing Golf Course

Number of Holes  
18 Holes 9 Holes

Tees  
Red 70.6 / 121 / 72

Score Type  
Home Away Competition

Date Played  
Sunday, July 19, 2020

Starting Hole  
Hole 1

Your Course Handicap™ is 9

ENTER HOLE-BY-HOLE SCORE

Home Post Score Golfer Lookup Stats More

# Fail to finish a round? (USGA Handicap Rule 3.2)

## You must still post a score for your handicap.

- Where the minimum number of holes has been completed and the reason for not finishing is valid.
- The player must use the following table to produce either a 9-hole or an 18-hole score:

Number of holes played	Scaling up	What score(s) to record for holes not played
At least 7 holes	Scale up to a 9-hole score	Add net par (par plus your course handicap strokes for the hole)
At least 14 holes	Scale up to a 18-hole score	Add net par (par plus your course handicap strokes for the hole)