

## British Columbia Golf World Handicap System (WHS) Implementation Frequently Asked Questions

**1. Can a person that does not belong to a golf course get a handicap thru the WHS and what is the cost?**

WHS does not change how a golfer gets a handicap, through a golf club or a public player club. Anyone in this situation can join directly via [golfcanada.ca](http://golfcanada.ca). See Rule 1.4a.

**2. "T" scores will still be entered with the "T" designation and what kind of events/tournaments should they be?**

WHS does not change the definition of a "T" score, therefore what is a "T" score now carries over to WHS.

**3. Is the course handicap calculation done by the computer? And will there be examples of this calculation in the manual when it is available?**

Yes, course handicap calculation will be done by software. Also, we will send updated handicap charts to all golf courses. See Rule 6.

**4. What is the proper procedure for determining pars?**

Appendix F in the Rules of Handicapping deals with establishing par. As in the current Golf Canada Handicap System, guideline yardages are provided to assist courses in determining par. Because par is an important part of WHS, authorised associations are responsible for adjudicating par under Rule 4.1a Interpretations.

**5. How is PCC applied if we play preferred lies in early spring or late fall?**

WHS anticipates application of preferred lies by providing that BC Golf has responsibility under Appendix A to determine eligibility period for preferred lies. PCC will still apply irrespective of preferred lies, therefore handicap committees would have to take PCC into account as one of the pitfalls when adopting preferred lies, in that preferred lies may not be necessary because of PCC. See Rule 5.6

**6. The implication is that posted scores will be dealt with overnight and the handicap index will be updated the next day. Does that mean when we post a score we will not immediately get a new index as we have for the last years. Will this really allow us to be strict about posting that day?**

Rule 5.4 provides that Handicap Indexes should be updated no later than the day after the score was submitted, or as soon as possible thereafter. Under the current Golf Canada Handicap System, Handicap Factors are updated instantly after posting. Under WHS Indexes will be updated instantly after posting and may/my not be further adjusted the next day depending on whether PCC adjustment is applied.

**7. So Tournament Score entry is gone?**

Tournaments as a Score Type will still be designated when entering scores, what is gone under WHS is the reduction of Indexes based on exceptional tournament scores. Under WHS reductions will be made for exception scores, but it will apply to any score, whether tournament or regular play. See Rule 5.9

**8. Stroke Index Allocation: will the system determine the triads and when will the strokes be assigned. Will there be one for women and one for men?**

See Appendix E. Yes, the system will determine the triads and provide allocations for both gender and for all tees.

**9. Will BC Golf determine par for each hole and each course?**

No, British Columbia Golf will assist courses to determine the correct pars. See Appendix F.

**10. When will the New Handicap books be available**

Before the end of 2019

**11. We have a par 4 (most difficult hole) - if the majority of our ladies never make 4 on that hole, will it be reclassified as a par 5**

The reclassification of pars should be done using objective criteria, such as any of the following:

- the playing difficulty of the hole
- effective playing length correction factors, for example, elevation changes, forced lay ups and prevalent wind
- the way the hole was designed to be played

See Appendix F

**12. Who determines the PCC, the system or club?**

The system will make the calculation. See Rule 5.6

**13. Will both Soft Cap and Hard Caps be reflected on our Scoring Record?**

It depends on how much information can be presented without making the fonts too small. At a minimum, when you access the report that shows how your Index is calculated it will show whether caps have been applied. See Rule 5.8

**14. What is the point of continuing to have tournament scores if they don't affect the handicap index calculation**

Tournament Scores continue to be Score Types under WHS. What is new is the reduction of Indexes based on exception tournament scores.

**15. What happens to the handicap index of the player who shoots an exceptional score?**

An exceptional score is defined under WHS as a score with a differential which is at least 7.0

strokes better than the player's Index. If a score, whether general or tournament, meets the definition of exception, an adjustment is applied to the Index. See Rule 5.9.

**16. When does a Playing Handicap change? A special type of tournament? Scramble? Where else?**

Playing Handicap is Course Handicap adjusted for any handicap allowances for the purposes of playing in an event. Playing Handicap should only be used for the purpose of the competition. Unrestricted Course Handicaps should be used for all score entry.

**17. Does that mean the players club is no longer?**

No, WHS makes provision for the continuation of public player clubs.

**18. Is the players club considered a Home Club?**

Yes, WHS recognises public player clubs

**19. Many snowbirds only post the last 20 games before returning home. With this new system they should be posting all games while away should they not?**

Rule 4.3 provides that a player should submit their score as soon as possible on the day of play, after completion of their round, and before midnight (local time) to ensure that their score is included in the PCC calculation. This requirement is continued from the current system which requires scores to be posted immediately following the round. Canadians who have accounts on the US GHIN system can have their scores syncing from one system to the other once the accounts are linked.

**20. What about 2 man best ball?**

This is one of the 20 authorized formats scores from which are eligible to be posted for handicap purposes. See Rule 2.1a.

**21. There is a chart giving the committee discretion to enter an 18 score between 10-13 holes. Is 14 holes the minimum?**

Yes, 14 holes is the minimum number of holes required to post an 18-hole score. See Rule 2.2a.

**22. So, if you played 13 you would have to post a 9-hole score, right?**

Correct, see Rule 2.2b

**23. Going back to PCC - currently our hdcp's are updated immediately. If PCC becomes a factor does this happen at midnight for the following day or after sufficient # of scores have been entered?**

The calculation will occur shortly after midnight of the local time. See Rules 4.3, 5.6

**24. If you try to post a score above your entitlement will the system block it?**

WHS does not provide for a “blocking” mechanism, but you’ll be prompted to confirm that the score is correct. WHS provides caps to Indexes but does not block individual scores.

**25. Will the PCC come into play if course has been sanded or punched, who does the calculation in that case?**

PCC is a calculation done to determine if scores on a particular day differed from expected scoring patterns to the extent that adjustments should be applied. So, yes PCC may or may not apply when a course is sanded or punched depending on the scoring patterns. See Rule 5.6

**26. When this years active season starts could do be a change to our index from the end of last season?**

Yes, there likely will be a change but not significantly. WHS will average your eight best scores out of your most recent 20 (currently, it’s 10 out of 20 with a .96 multiplier). In most cases for golfers in Canada, it will change less than one stroke and most likely downward.

**27. Does there need to be an inactive season anymore?**

Yes, golf associations are authorized under WHS to establish the start and end dates of inactive seasons. British Columbia’s inactive season will continue to be November 15 to February 28.

**28. What about winter handicaps**

British Columbia Golf will continue to provide our members in the lower mainland and the island with the ability to observe winter handicaps, but the process will be different from years past.

**29. How important will it be to immediately have the 6 triads adjusted for hole ratings to ensure equity among golfers and also for entry of double bogey plus handicap**

WHS provides a different process for Stroke Hole Allocations, see Appendix E. But these are offered as recommendations so it is

**30. Who is going to let the system know about the PCC?**

WHS will initiate PCC calculation on its own accord once the minimum number of scores have been posted by midnight of the local time. See Rule 5.6.

**31. I enrolled in the old HC training course with BCGA but did not complete. DO I need to start again?**

Yes, you need to be certified under WHS. British Columbia Golf will conduct certification seminars next Spring.

**32. Can scores still be back dated? referring to PCC**

Yes, scores can be posted anytime but the recommendation is for scores to be posted soon

after completion. If scores are not posted by midnight of the local time, the player's score will not be included in the calculation of PCC. When a score is posted to the player's scoring record after the day of play and the PCC for the day the round was played has already been performed, the PCC adjustment should still be applied to the player's Score Differential calculation even though the player's score was not included in the PCC.

**33. When do you anticipate the new certifications will be available to sit?**

Spring 2020

**34. I play in New Zealand in the winter, do I have to enter a score on Golf Canada and NZ golf?**

That is correct, NZ Golf and Golf Canada use different systems that do not sync between each other therefore you have to post scores into each system.

**35. Will GHIN and GC still sync?**

Yes

**36. What if I am only going to be a member of the BC Players Club?**

Public player clubs are recognised as golf clubs under WHS therefore you have the same duty/responsibility as any other golf club member.

**37. Are Lift Clean and Place - eligible scores - covered by PCC?**

WHS anticipates application of preferred lies by providing that BC Golf has responsibility under Appendix A to determine eligibility period for preferred lies. PCC will still apply irrespective of preferred lies, therefore handicap committees would have to take PCC into account as one of the pitfalls when adopting preferred lies, in that preferred lies may not be necessary because of PCC.

**38. Is there a need to have our courses re-rated?**

No, WHS does not mandate re-rating of golf courses that already have valid Course and Slope Ratings.

**39. Bottom of page 27 says a player should add a "designation" for holes not played. What is meant by the word designation?**

Examples of designations include Home, Away, Combined, Tournament. WHS is recommending an additional designation for holes not played.

**40. Will the new system automatically show the "Low handicap Index somewhere?**

Yes, Appendix B provides samples of Scoring Record and they show the Low Handicap Index

**41. Any idea how often PCCs will be invoked?**

Under Rule 5.6, PCC is generally performed only once a day but has built in procedures for

more than one PCC calculation. See the Interpretations under Rule 5.6

**42. I assume that the exceptional score adjustment is over and above the adjustment that will result from posting the really good score?**

Yes

**43. It seems that on courses with a substantial difference between par and course rating there will likely be substantial changes in individual players' course handicaps. Is that true?**

We expect this to be the case

**44. Would there be any difference for a nine-hole course where there are two sets of tees, one group for the front 9 and one group for the back 9?**

WHS handicaps are calculated based on Course and Slope Ratings, as long as there are ratings for the course, handicaps will be generated.

**45. So, you will be sending out handicap charts to all courses?**

Yes

**46. How will the calculations be done for Most Improved Player when handicaps from 2019 and new 2020 handicaps indexes may differ?**

We have to wait for later to cross this bridge. WHS does not include any guidance on the calculation of Most Improved Player. Year 2020 will be a transitioning year so some processes may not be as smooth as they have been in the past. When it is time to run the report please check back with our office.

**47. Why is the PCC only applied to an index of 36.0 or below?**

My surmise is that players with Indexes of 36.0 and above have more erratic scores than those under 36.0. PCC is based on expected scoring patterns and such patterns are more predictable with players with Indexes of 36.0 and below.

**48. What are the guidelines for freezing a handicap for a tournament that runs over 4 consecutive Tuesdays?**

Here's a direct quote from Rule 7.2: "For ease of competition administration purposes, the Committee in charge of a multi-round competition played during the same or consecutive days must determine within the Terms of the Competition whether a player's Handicap Index will remain unchanged for the duration of the competition. It is strongly recommended that the Handicap Index remains unchanged between such rounds."

**49. Do I understand that if two players are playing from different tee boxes that have significantly different slopes but the same pars, that there are no adjustments to the handicaps?**

Adjustments are required, see the Interpretations under Appendix C.

**50. Do I enter scores on golf Canada for a course that doesn't belong to the USGA?**

Correct, even more so under WHS since WHS will be used worldwide. Rule 2 deals with acceptability of scores for handicap purposes

**51. Bottom of page 41 indicates extreme variation in weather on the day may affect PCC for part of the day....how/who will system be advised of that?**

The system will be alerted through the score entry process. Under WHS there is likely to be more check boxes when posting scores and these will be the primary portal through which WHS will determine whether or not to calculate PCC twice. See Appendix B (iii).

**52. When should we expect to receive an updated Stroke Index Allocation for each hole?**

Please contact our office by email to [support@britishcolumbiagolf.org](mailto:support@britishcolumbiagolf.org).

**53. Explain stroke index allocation re triads and course rating now considers hole rankings.**

Please see Appendix E

**54. When will WHS be active in BC.?**

First or second week of January 2020.

**55. With respect to Net Double Bogey, do we now have to mark our cards for each hole before commencing the game?**

Adjusting scores before posting has always been a part of the handicap system and this continues under WHS. Under WHS Net Double Bogey simply replaces Equitable Stroke Control and has no new requirements. Therefore, you should continue marking your scorecards the same way.

**56. Will system calculate net double bogey if score entered by hole-by-hole, on all platforms, i.e. web, tablet app, phone app.**

That is correct

**57. Will system combine nine hole entered scores into an 18-hole score?**

Yes, WHS will combine 9-hole scores into 18-holes for handicap purposes.

**58. Will the new system adjust individual hole scores if you post a score more than your allowable net bogie?**

Yes

**59. But in the event of general play all day, and bad weather in the morning and good weather in the afternoon then is the PCC applied to all rounds played that day?**

PCC has built into the calculation mechanisms to provide more than one calculation of PCC is



warranted.

**60. If you play by yourself can you put that score in**

No, scores you make when playing alone are not eligible for handicap purposes currently and under WHS.

**61. As course rating is no longer a factor, how does new system deal with players competing from different tees?**

Course Handicap will be the number of strokes needed to play to par. Historically it has represented the number of strokes needed to play to the Course Rating. But the calculation of Course Handicaps still includes Course Ratings, see Rule 6.1.

**62. How will exceptional scores be treated during competition?**

Under WHS, exceptional scores (as defined in WHS) generate a reduction in Indexes, see Rule 5.9. The reduced index will then affect the player's Course Handicap and Playing Handicap. WHS does not provide any further guidance on the relationship between exceptional scores and competitions.

**63. When WHS is active how will the system treat the twenty scores before implementation day?**

Scoring histories will carry over to WHS and initial Indexes will be based on previous scores.

**64. Some holes are shorter than the physical length, but the elevation change qualifies them for a longer par will that be still in the calculation for par?**

This is a decision that courses have to make objectively, following the guidelines under Appendix F and with assistance from British Columbia Golf.

**65. Will the new system have each course's par & slope ratings and use these when determining what your net double bogie score would be?**

That is correct, the course database in the current Golf Canada network will carry over to WHS.

**66. Will there be a different par rating for the same tees for men and women?**

Yes, par has to be established based on the short lengths applicable to each gender. See Appendix F.

**67. PCC - who is responsible for making the adjustment on the calculation and how is this determined on a day to day basis? Is it up to the Pro or?**

No, the system will automatically calculate PCC once the minimum number of scores have been posted by midnight. See Rule 5.6

**68. Considering that the cards may now show an incorrect par, will it be mandatory to**



**enter hole by hole, since it will be very confusing for the average golfer to manually figure out their net double bogie, especially high handicappers.**

WHS strongly recommends that scores be posted hole-by-hole to obtain an initial Index, see Rule 4.1b.

**69. Recommend that the system make it mandatory for scores to be posted hole by hole, to ensure that correct net double bogies are calculated.**

It is certainly highly recommended that scores be entered hole-by-hole, but WHS does not mandate HBH entry.

**70. I don't think I have made my question clear enough. Let me present an example: everyone on a particular day is playing non-tournament golf, just general play. In the morning the weather is extremely windy and there are difficult playing conditions, in the afternoon the wind stops and playing conditions are considered average. Does the PCC algorithm make an adjustment JUST for the morning rounds and the afternoon rounds are treated as normal?**

Generally, PCC is performed once a day but WHS has built in mechanisms that allows more than one PCC calculation on a single day. See Rule 5.6 Interpretations.

**71. Is it recommended that Committee post scores or player?**

WHS does not mandate committee posting of scores, it is up to each committee to make the call.

**72. Will the new system only calculate a players new handicap once a day rather than immediately after a new score is entered (as it does today)?**

WHS will provide an updated Index after posting and also after midnight if PCC adjustment is applied

**73. If you are a member now will your scores for 2019 carry on to 2020**

Correct

**74. If it is not mandatory to post hole by hole, how will the pcc know if a score has been calculated even though 9 or 18 is not played.**

The notes under Rule 5.6 provide as follows: "Where applicable, does not include scores that are scaled up to 9-hole or 18-hole scores."

**75. Does PCC lump both genders together?**

PCC calculation is based on expected scoring patterns irrespective of gender.

**76. How would you request a separate pcc for competitors only?**

PCC cannot be independently requested, it is system initiated.

**77. A course in Mexico that I play at has been altered but not rerated. The par is not valid and last winter my handicap dropped precipitously when I played there. What measures are in place to ensure that courses are properly rated going forward?**

This issue is outside the mandate of WHS to correct, the body to correct such issues are the associations with jurisdiction in that region.

**78. Is a simple package available for distribution to Club Members?**

Once the WHS manuals are available, all members will be able to purchase. If you will like a copy of the introduction webinars please contact [support@britishcolumbiagolf.org](mailto:support@britishcolumbiagolf.org).

Resources can also be access via these links:

British Columbia Golf WHS Portal - <http://bit.ly/2XilKsW>

WHS Portal – [www.whs.com](http://www.whs.com)

USGA WHS Portal - <https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/handicapping.html>

**79. Will we receive new course handicap sheets for all tees for men and women?**

Yes, they will be sent to each course

**80. Do you post scores when playing preferred lies?**

WHS anticipates application of preferred lies by providing that BC Golf has responsibility under Appendix A to determine eligibility period for preferred lies. PCC will still apply irrespective of preferred lies, therefore handicap committees would have to take PCC into account as one of the pitfalls when adopting preferred lies, in that preferred lies may not be necessary because of PCC.

**81. In the scoring program I use I have the option of using ' adjust hdcp for course rating and par' or 'slope method' to determine handicap. Which should I use?**

If the program is not the Golf Canada Network then please contact the vendor directly

**82. Must the club send the stroke allocations to Golf Canada for this**

Yes, so that we can input into the course database.

**83. How many scores are used to apply the PCC**

Minimum of 8 scores from players with 36.0 or below Index.

**84. Will we be able to obtain a copy of this webinar session to share with our handicap people who were not able to log on to any of your sessions?**

Yes, please contact [support@britishcolumbiagolf.org](mailto:support@britishcolumbiagolf.org).

**How would the stream know if you have a scaled up score for 9 or 18 holes to apply PCC?**

Under Rule 5.6, “Where applicable, does not include scores that are scaled up to 9-hole or 18-hole scores.”

**85. Does golf B.C. have to make these adjustments, maybe twice a day? And if a player does not post on the day of the bad weather (for i.e.) and there is not 8 players posting will anybody get the PCC**

PCC equals zero if fewer than eight acceptable scores are submitted.

**86. Cannot your score be backdated to the day it was played. Currently you can select the play date.**

Yes, you can post back scores under WHS

**87. Do any of these changes mean adjustments have to be made in current scoring programs? Are there scoring programs available through Golf Canada for a reasonable price?**

Golf Canada offers Tournament Management System to member clubs, we expect that Golf Canada will continue to offer TMS, please contact GC directly via [members@golfcanada.ca](mailto:members@golfcanada.ca).

**88. Can you explain how par will be set for each individual course? Does "slope" disappear completely?**

Appendix F in the Rules of Handicapping deals with establishing par. As in the current Golf Canada Handicap System, guideline yardages are provided to assist courses in determining par. Because par is an important part of WHS, authorised associations are responsible for adjudicating par under Rule 4.1a Interpretations. British Columbia Golf will assist courses to determine the correct pars.

**Will Mackenzie Tournament conditions affect the PCC? And if so, for how long?**

The impact of any tournament on PCC is covered under Rule 5.6 Interpretations. PCC is generally performed once per day, but tournament conditions may generate more than one PCC calculation on a single day.

**89. If scores are entered a day or 1 after played... will this affect PCC?**

Yes, scores can be posted anytime but the recommendation is for scores to be posted soon after completion. If scores are not posted by midnight of the local time, the player's score will not be included in the calculation of PCC. When a score is posted to the player's scoring record after the day of play and the PCC for the day the round was played has already been performed, the PCC adjustment should still be applied to the player's Score Differential calculation even though the player's score was not included in the PCC.

**90. Why isn't exceptional tournament score instruction recorded under exceptional score**

Tournaments as a Score Type will still be designated when entering scores, what is gone under WHS is the reduction of Indexes based on exceptional tournament scores. Under WHS reductions will be made for exception scores, but it will apply to any score, whether tournament or regular play. See Rule 5.9.

**91. How does the system know the days weather programs for pcc?**

PCC calculation is based on expected scoring patterns, therefore PCC does not need to know what was the cause of the conditions. PCC may be applied either because of course conditions, weather conditions and/or course setup. See Rule 5.6 principle statement.

**92. Why isn't altitude considered in either PCC or some other mechanism. A hcp in Calgary at 3500 feet is not the same as a hcp in Victoria at sea level. You can be as much as a club longer at sea level... Will this be taken into account...**

Course Rating assesses two sets of factors, factors that affect the length of play of the hole and obstacles that come into play on a shot by shot. Therefore, indexes also factor in altitude changes so it should not also be factored in under PCC.

**93. Can scores on temporary greens and tees be adjusted by the system?**

Just like the existing system, WHS will not know if temporary greens are in use. Rule 2.1 Interpretations provides as follows:

**2.1/3 – Returning Scores for Handicap Purposes While Playing on Temporary Greens or Tees**

The Authorized Association should determine whether scores made under temporary course conditions are acceptable for handicap purposes. The Authorized Association should also determine whether a temporary modification to the Course Rating and Slope Rating is required to reflect the temporary changes (see Appendix G).

**94. Will Golf Canada show the PCC adjustment for each score reported?**

Yes, see sample Scoring Records provided at Appendix B

**95. Ideally are golfers expected to post scores on the day they play? Is there a reasonable time limit to post a score ie; 2 days 2 weeks etc.**

Rule 4.3 provides, “A player should submit their score as soon as possible on the day of play, after completion of their round, and before midnight (local time).”

**96. Will weekly play competitions be designated at Tournament scores? Currently no.**

WHS does not define what constitutes a Tournament Score therefore the current guidelines will still apply.

**97. Does the person attesting your score have to be another player? When playing alone, can a caddie or a walker with you attest the score for posting?**

Rule 2.1 says to be an acceptable score, the round must have been played among others, “In the company of **at least one other person**, who may also act as a marker (subject to satisfying any other requirements of the Rules of Golf).” [Emphasis added]

**98. Who retrieves PCC from away course? / If playing in the US, you enter your score into your home course, will you get the benefit of the PCC?**

Rule 5.6 Interpretations provides:

5.6/5 – Round Played Away and Score Returned to Home Club When a player returns a score back to their home club after playing a round at an away golf course, the playing conditions calculation (PCC) for that golf course on the day the round was played should be retrieved and used to calculate the player's Score Differential before their Handicap Index is revised.

Under WHS, it is the responsibility of the authorised national association, Golf Canada, to calculate/publish and aggregate Playing Conditions Calculations as issued each day, to allow the Playing Conditions Calculation to be used by players from outside the jurisdiction.

**99. What about away PCC calculation from a local area? will that be applied automatically? ie. player plays at a gc across town not his home club.**

PCC for scores made on courses in Canada will be automatically applied

**100. Why no posting for round played alone?**

Golf Canada changed the handicap system in 2016 to make scores made when playing alone ineligible for handicap posting, this prohibition continues under WHS. Here's the reasonable Golf Canada provided at that time:

Peer Review is a key principle of the Golf Canada Handicap System and these changes have been made in part to support this. This change helps golfers form a better basis to support or dispute scores that have been posted to a player's scoring record, which in turn assists with the integrity of the Handicap System.

The majority of handicapping authorities around the globe have employed this policy for some time. With them, Golf Canada believes it provides a more accurate view of a golfer's ability, supporting integrity, fairness and equitable play among all golfers.

What constitutes not playing alone?

As long as someone accompanies the player during the round (e.g., fellow competitor, opponent, caddie, marker for a tournament, friend riding along in a cart) the player is not playing alone.

How can you stop me from posting my scores for handicap purposes if I do play alone?

The Handicap System has always relied on:

- golfers to post their scores in accordance with handicap system procedures
- golfers having the ability to review their fellow club members scores and handicap
- Club Handicap Committee to fulfill its duties and responsibilities (help maintain the system at the club).

This decision doesn't change any of those requirements going forward – those pieces are key to the successful implementation of the Handicap System at any club.

How many holes can a player play alone to post the score?

Section 5-1 Acceptability of Scores in the Golf Canada Handicap Manual states the minimum number of holes that need to be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf for a score to be posted. This Rule holds true for the number of holes, at least seven holes for a nine-hole score or 13 holes for 18-hole score, a player must be accompanied for a round to be acceptable for score posting.

For holes played alone (not accompanied), the player would treat these as not played under the Rules of Golf and post according to “par plus” any handicap strokes the player is entitled to receive.

(For more information, see Section 4-2).

Note: If a player plays nearly all holes accompanied but just a few alone, the holes played alone are determined using “par plus,” keeping in mind the maximum that can be played alone in a round eligible for posting is two holes for a 9-hole score and five holes for an 18-hole score. Some examples would be starting out alone and joining up with a player(s), or starting out accompanied and finishing the round alone.

I thought this was a game of honour and integrity which includes trust. This rule seems to go against that tradition of the game, it seems I'm presumed guilty if I play alone?

Golf Canada supports strengthening Peer Review in Handicapping – when scores are attested it adds to the integrity and credibility of the handicap system and Handicaps being issued.

Playing golf with others affords the benefit of having someone who can testify to your ability and acknowledge the accuracy of your Handicap when you happen to play that once-in-a-lifetime round to win an event.

Why the change/reversal by Golf Canada on the 'rounds played alone' position?

After much thought and discussion among our Board of Directors, our Handicap Committee, and after consultation with the USGA, Golf Canada now better understands all of the reasons and big-picture considerations that led to the adoption of the new rule regarding unaccompanied rounds.

Therefore, we have concluded that it is in the best interests of the game for Golf Canada to move towards adoption of all the new 2016 Handicap Rules, including the rule on unaccompanied rounds.

Isn't one of your mandates to grow the game and be more inclusive? How does this decision support your mandates as it seems exclusive not inclusive?

This decision was twofold:

- to enhance "Peer Review" and thereby adding to the Integrity and credibility of the Handicap System
- to allow Golf Canada to be more aligned worldwide where the majority of rounds played alone are not accepted for handicapping purposes.

To be inclusive, Golf Canada is keenly interested in encouraging all golfers to maintain and post all of their scores. As such Golf Canada is working towards a solution to allow unaccompanied rounds to be entered into our Score Centre, so that golfers can continue to track their statistics, with the full knowledge that they will be excluded from the calculation of an Official Handicap.