



Handicap Procedures Relating to iGolf

To obtain and maintain a Handicap Index® under the World Handicap System™ (WHS™), there are several procedures to which an iGolf subscriber needs to adhere.

These are aligned to the Rules of Handicapping.

Handicap Index Allocation: New Subscriber

Player is new to golf or hasn't been in club membership previously

- Acceptable scores to be submitted from 54 holes, made up from either 9 or 18 holes, over any affiliated course that has been rated in GB&I including the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.
- A list of affiliated (rated) courses in GB&I can be found on the MyEG app. Please note, if a tee set is not showing on the app, it may be that tee is temporarily unavailable to play for handicap purposes. Please speak and check which tee sets are available for play with the host venue.
- All rounds must be pre-registered through the MyEG app by creating a score card, this is confirming your intent to submit a score for handicap purposes, this must be done prior to starting your round.
- General play scores must be submitted via the MyEG app to be used for handicap purposes. We cannot accept scores played from rounds prior to the start of your iGolf subscription.
- Geo-location technology is in place to ensure pre-registering the intent to post a score can only be done in close proximity to the course where the round will take place. However, scorecard submission can be completed elsewhere, but this must be completed before midnight on the day of play.
- All rounds must be played with a marker/fellow player with a membership number (a member of an affiliated club to England Golf who is registered on the MyEG app, or another iGolf subscriber, or an iPlay user).
- To support the integrity of the WHS, a marker verification process is in place. At the end of your round prior to submitting your score, you will be required to confirm which playing partner will verify your score and this individual must have witnessed the round.
- A Handicap Index is only allocated once 54 holes have been completed and returned through the MyEG app. (Scores from outside of GB&I cannot be used for your initial handicap allocation.)
- iGolf reserves the right to remove penalty scores from an initial handicap allocation if the penalty is due to non-submission of the score, as this score may

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not be a true reflection of their playing ability. These scores will be marked as 'not acceptable' and won't count towards Handicap Index®.

Player was previously a member of an affiliated club or iPlay

- A player must provide their previously allocated membership number (formerly known as a CDH Number) upon signing up to iGolf.
- Their Handicap Index®, if applicable will be re-activated using this method providing the player has scores on the WHS™ Platform since 1 January 2018.
- Where a membership number is not available, scores from a further 54 holes must be submitted (as per process for 'New to golf or no previous club membership')

Player has previously held a Handicap Index® in Scotland, Wales Or Ireland

- Upon signing up to iGolf the player is requested to contact igolf@englandgolf.org with their previous membership number.
- Records will be linked accordingly to provide access to previous scoring history.
- Where a membership number is not available, scores from a further 54 holes must be submitted (as per process for 'New to golf or no previous club membership')

Player previously held a Handicap Index or currently holds a Handicap Index in another country (outside GB&I)

Details of the Handicap Index must be provided by email along with their membership number to igolf@englandgolf.org.

A copy of their handicap record containing at least 20 scores from the last 365 days should also be provided.

In addition:

- Scores must have a date stamp.
- Scores must be recorded as adjusted gross.
- Name of the courses played must be visible.
- Course/slope rating and par must all be included.

These scores will be added to an England WHS™ record and a Handicap Index will be allocated. Scores will only be accepted from 1 January 2018.

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If a player is maintaining Handicap Index in more than one country, then scores from rounds played in England must be returned to the other handicapping authorities.

Scores from rounds played outside of GB&I must be returned to their English record using the overseas score process.

Professional Golfers

The WHS allows professional golfers to hold a Handicap Index.

If you are a professional golfer, please ensure that you have notified iGolf via igolf@englandgolf.org upon joining, so that this can be recorded on the WHS.

Submitting Scores

When submitting a score it is expected that all players do the following:

- Complete their designated round.
- Attempt to make the best score possible.

Scores submitted in the UK must be individual stroke play rounds over 9 or 18 holes. Scores must be posted according to the Rules of Golf. These will primarily be general play rounds. The MyEG App should be used for general play scores only.

Competition scores will be acceptable if the competition organiser has allowed iGolf subscribers to take part and returned scores through approved software (see their Terms and Conditions of the competition).

Please note it is the responsibility of the player to ensure they are utilising the app correctly and have a playing partner who can verify a score. Guidance on using the MyEG app for inputting general play scores only can be [found here](#).

If the wrong course or incorrect tees are selected, a player should:

- Delete their score intent, (giving a reason for the deletion, which will be reviewed by the iGolf handicap committee for validity) if at the start of the round and create a new scorecard.
- If still experiencing any issues, contact igolf@englandgolf.org. Please note, once the intent to play 18 holes has been submitted (18 hole round pre-registered), this cannot be amended to 9 holes.

The iGolf Handicap Committee reserve the right to remove any score submitted which does not adhere to the Rules of Handicapping and the procedures for score submission for iGolf Subscribers.

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Please note, this may also include scores from rounds which have been pre-registered and submitted at a time not deemed possible.

General Play Scores (within England) – Points to note:

- All score intents must be created before start of play.
- General play scores from within GB&I must be submitted via the MyEG app.
- Scores must be submitted by midnight on the day of play.
- Scores must be attested (verified) by a member of an affiliated club in GB&I, or a fellow iGolf subscriber, or an iPlay user with access to the MyEG app and who has witnessed the round.
- Scores must be verified promptly following submission, otherwise this may result in a penalty score being added to a player's record.
- The score must have been played to the rules of golf over a measured and rated tee set to be acceptable for handicap purposes.

Non-Return of Scores

- Any delay in posting a pre-registered score could result in a penalty score being added to a players' record.
- Failure to submit a pre-registered score without good reason will result in a penalty score being added.

In the first instance, players will be contacted via email for failing to submit a pre-registered round. If no valid reason is provided for the score not submitted, a further notification will be sent advising that a penalty score has been added to the player's record.

A penalty score will be added under rule 7.1b of the Rules of Handicapping and is in place of the score which has not been submitted.

Where a score is awaiting verification, an email notification will be sent to the player requesting them to remind the verifier or select a different verifier by contacting the iGolf support team via igolf@englandgolf.org.

A notification will also be sent to the verifier reminding them to complete this process.

If the score is not verified, the submitted score will automatically be accepted and will be flagged as a penalty score on the players record under rule 7.1b of the Rules of Handicapping

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If a player regularly fails to submit a pre-registered score or fails to have a score verified, this will result in a review by the iGolf Handicap Committee, and an additional penalty score may be added to a player's record.

The committee could also decide that the player's Handicap Index should be frozen, and a formal warning issued.

A formal warning could result in the withdrawal of the players Handicap Index®.

General Play (Outside of GB&I)

- General play scores from outside of England must be returned to iGolf at igolf@englandgolf.org within 3 weeks of the round being played.
- Scores must be verified (marked) and witnessed.
- When submitting score cards, you must provide the following information:
 - **Date of Round**
 - **Country**
 - **Venue**
 - **Tee/Marker colour**
 - **Course Rating**
 - **Slope Rating**
 - **Par**
 - **A copy of your scorecard, signed by both the player and verifier**
 - **Gross score for each hole played**
 - **Name of verifier**

Acceptance of scores returned outside the submission window will be at the discretion of iGolf.

Scores from outside of GB&I cannot be used for an initial handicap allocation (as part of the first 54 holes submitted).

Competition Scores

Any score returned in an organised competition must be returned to the WHS platform by the event organiser and their approved competition software. Scores will not be accepted manually. Competition scores cannot be submitted via the MyEG app, as this is for submission of general play scores only.

Verification of Scores

As an iGolf Subscriber you will receive scores to verify via the MyEG App.

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It is your responsibility to:

- Witness the round played by another golfer you are verifying the score for
- Verify any scores on the MyEG App in a timely manner (before midnight on the day of play, or you may be subject to a penalty score as per the rules of handicapping and your responsibilities)
- Only accept a score if accurate
- Reject the score if incorrect or if not witnessed (the score will then return to the sender for amendment)

Requesting a Handicap Review

All players can request a review of their Handicap Index if they believe that it no longer reflects their current ability.

To assist with this assessment, the iGolf Handicap Committee requires a player to have at least 20 scores in their handicap record and at least 10 of those scores must fall within the last six months. Alternatively, a player should be able to provide details of the sudden change in ability. This may be due to an illness or injury.

Where a player doesn't have 20 scores and 10 within the last six months, a minimum of 6 scores will be requested to be submitted within a six-month period, following which a review will then be conducted.

The iGolf Handicap Committee will then review all recent scores and establish if this reflects the Handicap Index currently being used.

The committee will return a decision within 21 days and players will have a right to appeal the decision via the [England Golf Appeals procedures](#).

All decisions will be presented in writing (via email).

Annual & Mid-Year Handicap Reviews

Each year between October and December the iGolf Handicap Committee will conduct their annual review of all iGolf Subscriber Handicap Indexes.

During the review, the committee will look at the player's current Handicap Index and scores returned within the last 12 months. This will ensure that the allocated Handicap Index is a true reflection of the player's ability.

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Should an adjustment be required, the subscriber will be notified in writing (by email), offering them an opportunity to respond and, if required, provide evidence of why the adjustment shouldn't be applied. They will also be given the right to appeal the decision following the England Golf appeals process.

In addition, the iGolf Handicap Committee also conducts amid-year review.

Leaving the iGolf programme

Joining an Affiliated Golf Club

As soon as a subscriber joins an affiliated club their iGolf subscription will end as a club membership supersedes an iGolf subscription and the player's new golf club will be responsible for the management and administration of their Handicap Index.

The following process should take place:

- A player must join their new club first to allow easy transfer of their Handicap Index.
- Your membership number is a unique lifelong number that transfers from club to club with the inclusion of iGolf and iPlay.
- Once a player has joined the new club and provided their membership number, the new club will reinstate the handicap record, changing the home club from iGolf to the Golf Club you are joining.
- The new club will send an auto email to England Golf to release the record via the WHS platform.
- England Golf will approve the transfer and then resign the players' record from iGolf.

Cancelling a Subscription

A subscriber may choose to leave iGolf at the end of his/her subscription year. When a player cancels their subscription, they are simply resigned from the WHS platform at the end of their subscription term.

The Handicap Index and playing record will remain on the system, but a player will be marked as resigned and their Handicap Index and playing record will be inactive.

The player will no longer be able to use/access the WHS system including the MyEG app or iGolf platform.

All records are fully reinstated should the golfer rejoin iGolf or join a golf club.

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Questions regarding the Rules of Handicapping

Subscribers who have questions regarding the Rules of Handicapping and the impact on their Handicap Index should submit these to igolf@englandgolf.org, ensuring that they include their membership number and a detailed explanation of the question.

Further details on WHS can be [found here](#)

For details of subscriber responsibilities please see iGolf [Terms & Conditions](#)

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