

Handicap Committee

Common Issues and Committee Actions

There are a number of issues with handicaps, which the Committee look at on a regular basis, and which are common errors / omissions. This document is meant to outline those and advise members what action will/ may be taken by the committee.

At all times this note should be read alongside The Rules of Handicapping , The Rules of Golf and The Rules of Cleckheaton Golf Club itself .

It should also be borne in mind that **the vast majority** of members follow the rules without issue. However accidents / errors occur and no member should be concerned about a one off issue - please feel free to discuss with a Handicap Committee Member (Steve Passey (Chair), Roger Morgan, Linda Burnley and Steve Drake).

The following are key issues and actions :-

1. Failure to return a score in a Competition.

Actions :-

The Committee will contact the player to ascertain why a score hasn't been returned – if there is an acceptable reason, (as per Rules of Handicapping – e.g. card marked “injured” which should still be signed) no action will be taken.

If there is not an acceptable reason :-

The Committee will endeavour to obtain the score – enter it and may mark that score as a Penalty.

If the score is not available a Penalty score may be added to the players WHS record.

If the score is not returned on the day of the Competition (as per Club rules) the Player will be Disqualified from the Competition.

2. Failure to return a GP score.

Actions :-

Once a score Intent has been created by a Player they must return a score – failure to do so will result in an Automated Penalty Score being applied to the Players WHS record.

Repeated occurrences may result in contact and possible further action.

3. Incomplete score

The Committee often sees cards with 8 or 10 holes completed – or consecutive holes marked NR e.g. a single figure golfer marks the last 5 holes NR – its unlikely he hasn't scored on all 5 holes – the Rules of Handicapping require players to make the best score possible on every hole even if you have returned an NR on hole 1 for Competition purposes.

Actions :-

The Committee will contact the player to ascertain why a complete score hasn't been returned – if there is an acceptable reason, (as per Rules of Handicapping – e.g. card marked “injured” which should still be signed) no action will be taken.

If there is not an acceptable reason :-

The Committee will endeavour to obtain the score – enter it and may mark that score as a Penalty.

If the score is not available a Penalty score may be added to the players WHS record.

If the score is not returned on the day of the Competition (as per Club rules) the Player will be Disqualified from the Competition.

4. General Play Scores entered in an unacceptable time frame.

The Committee gets a detailed report of when a Score Intent is created and when the score is entered.

Examples which clearly indicate that the Score Intent was not created until after the round was commenced include 18 hole rounds completed in e.g. 2 hours 10 minutes or Score Intent created at e.g. 9pm

Actions :-

Subject to internal committee guidelines such scores will be deleted without reference to the Player.

Repeated occurrences may result in contact and possible further action.

5. Deleted Score Intents

It is possible for players to cancel a Score Intent they have created e.g. you create a Score Intent for the White tees but then find you are Playing off the Yellows. It is important to complete the reasons box when doing deleting the Score Intent – e.g. In the above case “intent created for wrong tees” – The Committee will be able to clearly see that you entered a score for the correct tees that same day.

Unfortunately there is often no reason given, or an unacceptable reason e.g. “Insufficient time to complete round”

Actions :-

If no reason given or an inappropriate reason is given a Penalty score may be applied without reference to the player.

Repeated occurrences may result in contact and possible further action.

6. Scores Returned in General Play

In addition to the above The Handicap Committee also looks at :-

General Play scores compared to competition scores – action may be taken if there are significant discrepancies either way.

Handicaps with mainly GP scores in the make up of the best 8 – again action may be taken if there are significant discrepancies either way

7. Attesting Scores

Please follow these guidelines when attesting scores. Only attest a score if you believe it has been correctly submitted. Repeated occurrences of a player attesting an incorrectly submitted score may result in contact and possible further action.

8. Finally

Many of these actions may be taken without reference to the Player – the onus is on you to manage your Handicap. If you have any questions at any time, or if a situation described above has arisen and you wish to provide an explanation, please be proactive and contact the Handicap Committee.

Please bear in mind this document is to help you and to help the volunteers who run the Handicap Committee and is not a definitive list of what may occur.

PLEASE NOTE – Penalty Scores applied by the Handicap Committee may be high scores or low scores, depending on the player intent. Regular Penalty scores/ Issues can result in the Handicap Committee taking further action , including suspending a handicap for a period of time meaning you cannot play in WHS competitions

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