Why your Course Handicap™ changed under the
World Handicap System™

Why did it change?

The simple answer: You are now playing to a **new benchmark.**

- In 2019, before the WHS™ your Course Handicap was the number of strokes needed to play to the <u>**Course Rating™**</u> of the tees being played.
- Under the WHS, your Course Handicap is the number of strokes needed to play to the <u>**par**</u> of the tees being played.

> **Handicap Index® x Slope Rating® / 113 + (Course Rating - Par)**

What does this mean for me?

Your Course Handicap now depends on how much higher or lower the Course Rating is than par.

> If the Course Rating is **higher** than par, your Course Handicap will go **up**

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> If the Course Rating is **lower** than par, your Course Handicap will go **down**

Can I see an example?

Course Info			
Tee	**Course Rating**	**Slope Rating**	**Par**
Green	72.0	128	70
White	70.0	125	70
Silver	68.0	119	70

Impact on 15.0 Handicap Index		
2019 Course Handicap	**2020 Course Handicap**	**Target Score**
17	19	89
17	17	87
16	14	84

Here, a 15.0 Handicap Index player's Course Handicap has increased from the green tees, decreased from the silver tees, and stayed the same as it was in 2019 from the white tees (since the Course Rating and par are the same).

Important: Your target score (the score needed to play to your handicap) has not changed.

- In 2019, it was equal to your Course Handicap + the Course Rating.
- Under the WHS, it is equal to your Course Handicap + par.

Why is this good for handicapping?

- Par is a familiar term. Shifting the benchmark for Course Handicap from Course Rating to par simplifies handicapping.
- The new calculation enables players to compete from different tees without any adjustments unless par is different.

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM
R&A USGA