

September 2019

"If I had my way, no man guilty of golf would be eligible to any office of trust under the United States." **H. L. Mencken (1880-1956)**

## THE GOLF COURSE

The greens are suffering somewhat from what is called Greyleaf fungus. That is what is causing those dark rings on the greens. Too bad it that it isn't affecting the first cut around the greens because then it would be ring around the collar. (You have to be old to understand that reference)

The fairways look a little rugged but that is caused by one type of grass going dormant because of the heat and another not yet coming out of dormancy.

The Board of Directors in order to promote better care of the bunkers, purchased a dozen more rakes. They are a little better than the old ones in that the tines are round and don't seem to dig in as easily leaving deep grooves in the sand into which the ball can settle. And they are wider, so fewer passes to get the sand nice and smooth for me.

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## RULES AND HANDICAPS

If you missed it, the [August Rule](#) concerns a damaged hole. Can you fix it? Check it out by [Clicking Here](#) .

It has become apparent that Associate Members have been taking advantage of our policy of allowing them to play in our tournaments if they paid an extra tournament fee. I say "taking advantage" because they were not paying the extra fee and they were winning both scrip and skins. Due to this problem the Board voted to change the tournament policy for Associate Members. Associate Members will no longer be allowed to play in our tournaments. This will go into effect September 1, 2019.

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**A** new handicap system is to be unveiled sometime in 2020. It is called the World Handicap System and below is an explanation and a look at what changes will be implemented:

## FIVE MOST IMPORTANT WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM CHANGES

Since 1981, GHIN has been the official Handicap System of the USGA and now serves over 70 state, regional, and national associations. However, it's currently one of six handicapping systems worldwide, so the USGA has partnered with other associations to create a unified system for players around the world to play together: the World Handicap System. With the World Handicap System, which will go into effect in 2020, there will be some changes from the current GHIN platform. We've got you covered with the most important changes:

### 1. Stay up to date daily

Under the current GHIN system, your Handicap Index is only updated twice per month, on the 1st and 15th. With the World Handicap System, you'll receive an updated Index the day after posting a score.

### 2. Get your Handicap Index established sooner

Not only do you not have to wait until the next revision date to get an updated Handicap Index, but it also will take less rounds to establish an Index. All you need to get started with the World Handicap System is to post 54 holes (three 18-hole rounds, six 9-hole rounds, or any combination of those that equals 54 holes), down from the current 90 holes. The World Handicap System will also count the 8 best scores of your most recent 20 rounds (or an equivalent if you have less than 20 scores) instead of the 10 best scores.

### 3. Keep your scores lower

Tired of having a snowman on a par-3 ruin your round? The World Handicap System will have a maximum hole score of net double bogey in order to keep your score closer to your true playing potential.

### 4. Blame it on the weather

We've all had a round (or ten) that would've been better if it wasn't raining or less windy or cooler or...you get it. The new system will consider the impact of daily course or weather conditions on each golfer's performance and adjust your handicap accordingly.

### 5. A Handicap Index for everyone

One of the goals of the World Handicap System is to introduce more golfers to the concept of utilizing a Handicap Index, especially golfers who are new to the game. As such, the maximum Handicap Index will raise from 36.4 for men and 40.4 for women to 54 for both men and women.

Want to learn more about the changes with the World Handicap System and how to prepare your club? Sign up for one of our World Handicap System seminars.

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**Volunteers Needed** - The San Clemente Women's Golf Club needs 6 volunteers to transfer golf bags from a check-in area to assigned carts. This happens on October 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00am. Volunteers will receive a t-shirt and breakfast, which includes Mimosas and Bloody Marys (after work, of course). **There will be a signup sheet by the posting computer.** You will need to be at the golf course a little before 6:30 on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

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### **Posting Scores for Handicaps**

We want to remind all San Clemente Men's Club members to post your scores whenever you play either at Muni or any other course. This should include the Tuesday and Thursday weekly groups as well as the Friday Tin Whistle. Any of the sanctioned Men's Club Tournaments will be posted by the tournament directors when appropriate.

Also remember that 9 hole rounds can and should be posted as well.

We are aware that all scores that should be posted have not been done on a consistent basis. Therefore, the Board will be spending more time monitoring the posting of scores in the future. It is important that all of us do our part to maintain the integrity of our great game and our Men's Club.

Thanks for your involvement!

Kurt Luebke  
Men's Club President  
SC Men's Golf Club Board of Directors

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#### **FYI:**

I still hear people saying, in a facetious tone, that #13 is the easiest hole on the course, because it is the #18 handicap hole on the scorecard. It isn't and this is the explanation as to why it is not:

#### **Golf Digest, June, 2008 Handicaps**

**Q: How are holes assigned their course handicap?**

**A:** Many golfers think holes are handicapped (stroke allocation) from hardest to easiest. Actually, holes are handicapped to maximize the number of halved holes in a match.

The stroke-allocation table is based on what works the best, on average, for all players in head-to-head matches. When a 3-handicap plays a 5-handicap, for example, the two holes on which the 5 gets a stroke should be the holes where he most needs a stroke to halve the hole. It doesn't always work, but that's the intent. Odd numbers are assigned to the front nine and even numbers to the back, unless the back nine is a lot more difficult.

Years ago, a player receiving strokes could pick any hole to use them, including a hole he had just finished playing. It was called a "bisque." Try it sometime.

*By Dean Knuth, Golf Digest Professional Advisor. Former senior director of the USGA handicap department, Knuth invented today's USGA Course Rating and Slope system.*

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### **EVENT S**

#### **September:**

**Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup>** - Alternate Shot, current HI, 50% combined CH.

**Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup>** - Individual Stroke play from the blue tees

**Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup>** - Board of Directors Meeting - Members are welcome

**Friday the 20<sup>th</sup>** - 2 Man "Crab Apple" 1 or 2 scores on designated holes. White Tees

**October:**

**Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Individual Stroke play. 3 Flights, 1 from Blue Tees and 2 from the White Tees

**Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup>** - Board of Directors Meeting - Members are welcome

**Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup>** - Individual Stroke play from the blue tees

**Friday the 18<sup>th</sup>** - 2 Man Odd/Even 1 ball odd holes, 2 even holes, White Tees, Current HI

**THE ANNUAL MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5TH**

See you around the course.....