

# How to use your Handicap Index under the World Handicap System

## Handicap Index

The single measurement of golfing ability used worldwide.

## Course Handicap

The number used to adjust hole scores for handicap purposes.

## Playing Handicap

**The number used to PLAY!**

It's typically the same as your Course Handicap but may be adjusted based on the terms of the competition or format of play.

## Changes under the World Handicap System

Your Course Handicap (CH) now represents the number of strokes needed to play to Par.

### How will this change affect you?

If the Course Rating is **HIGHER** than Par, your Course Handicap will go up:

Course Rating	Par	Impact on CH
72.0	70	2 strokes higher

If the Course Rating is **LOWER** than Par, your Course Handicap will go down:

Course Rating	Par	Impact on CH
68.0	70	2 strokes lower

## Set your Target!

$$\text{Target Score} = \text{Course Handicap} + \text{Par}$$

Your Target Score is the score needed to play to your handicap.



For more information or to learn more about the WHS, visit [usga.org/whs](https://usga.org/whs)

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM

