

Your Course Handicap will change under the World Handicap System

Why will it change?

The simple answer: You will be playing to a **new benchmark**.

- In 2019, your Course Handicap was the number of strokes needed to play to the **Course Rating** of the tees being played.
- In 2020, your Course Handicap is the number of strokes needed to play to the **Par** of the tees being played.

$$\text{Handicap Index} \times \text{Slope Rating} / 113 + (\text{Course Rating} - \text{Par})$$

What does this mean for me?

Even if you play the same tees in 2020 as you played in 2019, your Course Handicap will change depending 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**



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

Can I see an example?

Course Info				Impact on 15.0 Handicap Index		
Tee	Course Rating	Slope Rating	Par	2019 Course Handicap	2020 Course Handicap	Target Score
Green	72.0	128	70	17	19	89
White	70.0	125	70	17	17	87
Silver	68.0	119	70	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 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.
- In 2020, 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.