

World Handicap System (WHS)

Effective January 2020, Canada, Golf Ontario and NLGA has adopted the World Handicap System (WHS). This system was conceived by the USGA and The R&A and adopted worldwide by all playing countries. The WHS replaces the Equitable Stroke Control used previously to calculate handicaps.

For scoring purposes, scores on each hole will now be “capped” at NET DOUBLE BOGEY. (Par of the hole + 2 strokes (double bogey) + any handicap strokes the player is entitled to on that hole based on their course handicap)

When you enter your score on the GAO website, you will now be required to enter your score on a hole-by-hole basis versus an 18-hole (or 9-hole) total score. The software will automatically calculate the maximum Net Double Bogey (if required) and adjust your score accordingly.

In conjunction with the WHS, the NLGA has elected to implement a maximum score per hole during weekly play only, effective immediately. Players will now be encouraged to **pick up the ball once the maximum score has been reached** and proceed to the next hole.

However, Tournament play (Trophy, Championship, Match Play) will require the ball to be holed out no matter the number of strokes. Scores will be adjusted AFTER the round for scoring purposes.

To simplify the determination of your maximum score, use the following table(s):

For 18-hole players

Your Handicap	Pick up on each hole after reaching
1 - 18	Par + 3
19 - 36	Par + 4
37 - 54	Par + 5

For 9-hole players

Your handicap	Pick up on each hole after reaching
1 – 9	Par + 3
10 - 18	Par + 4
19 - 27	Par + 5