



Handicaps News

I'm sure you've all received the latest monthly newsletter from HNA about the changes coming to the system to bring the entire world into line by the end of this year.

My take is that there are 2 more major changes coming, and I'm going to copy and paste – and highlight - them here for you directly off the HNA newsletter.

“The only significant changes to our current system will be that 1. Your Handicap Index will be calculated using **the best 8 score differentials out of the last 20**, (with no reduction percentage) and 2. **The maximum score allowed on a hole when calculating your Adjusted Gross Score for Handicapping purposes will be Net Double Bogey (i.e. net 2 over par, or zero Stableford points).**

With reference to point 1 above: “The current handicap calculation takes the best 10 of your last 20 scores x 0.96, so the effect of the change to the best 8 score differentials out of 20 is that Handicap Indexes (HI) will adjust downwards more quickly and go out more slowly. It is expected that this change will lower the average Course Handicap (CH) by about 0.5 of a stroke”.

With reference to point 2 above: “The change to Net Double Bogey (zero Stableford points) as the maximum score allowed on a hole, will have the effect of increasing the average Handicap Index by the same amount of

about 0.5 of a stroke. So the net impact, over time, will be very minor”.

Hope that all makes sense to you.

“There will also be other changes, including a Playing Condition Calculation (PCC), a revised exceptional score calculation and a cap on increases in handicaps during a year”.

You can [follow this link](#) for more on the WHS from the R&A.

Houghton News

Next Sunday, the **12th of May**, is Mother’s Day. Check out the display ad below for the details:



Saturday 18th May

US PGA Champs – Individual Stableford – 3rd leg of The Race to Simola.

There will be a braai on the verandah after golf, and hopefully we'll be able to arrange some beer and whisky to taste.

Houghton Hunt updates...

Click to enlarge.

Position	THE HOUGHTON HUNT STANDINGS as of 28th April 2019	Total Points
1	Josset, Graham	2036.66
2	Goldsmith, Mervyn	1774.92
3	Bylenski, Ryan	1648.72
4	Nestadt, Ryan	1560.75
5	Sebogoane, Nkgadi	1467.50
6	Seedat, Waseem	1399.60
7	Ossip, Mervyn	1379.15
8	Kay, Gerald	1372.70
9	Barnett, Michael	1328.40
10	Berman, Brett	1305.00
11	Wainberg, Michael	1254.17
12	Cloud, Ricci	1244.55
13	Vallabh, Satish	1240.05
14	Nestadt, David	1128.25
15	Clinton, Liam	1124.70
16	Treger, Gary	1093.14
17	Drue, Stefan	1088.60
18	Rosen, Matthew	1082.25
19	Bernstein, Gary	1077.60
20	Cohen, Jason	1072.83
21	Josset, Jonathan	1067.90
22	Snaid, Marc	1027.00
23	Palakow, Rael	960.96
24	Delacour, Ian	957.35
25	Bersiks, Daniel	933.78
26	Yung Fah, Clinton	920.00
27	Sacks, Ryan	918.35
28	Hadar, Liad	871.75
29	Gumede, Khumbulani	847.95
30	Farber, David	824.10
31	Ramey, Dean	806.25
32	Phillips, Howard	785.43
33	Friedlander, Gareth	783.00
34	Bernstein, Bradley	776.05
35	Frangos, Nic	774.28
36	Kangisser, Jared	766.75
37	Levenberg, Frank	745.39
38	Cohen, Les	727.89
39	Nestadt, Jared	726.75
40	Kaplan, Jonathan	690.65
41	Amod, Rasheed	688.18
42	Gamsy, Dennis	670.19
43	Ogonowski, Bart	655.75
44	Rosenzweig, Daniel	652.95
45	Joffe, Justin	642.21
46	Kangisser, Daniel	619.15
47	Rosen, Marc	612.00
48	Solomon, Jared	608.85
49	Loeb, Peter	548.12
50	Heneck, Trevor	547.65

Position	THE LADIES HOUGHTON HUNT 2019 as at 28th April 2019	Total Points
1	Cogswell, Sue	2769.00
2	Hlatshwayo, Dudu	2549.00
3	Rubens, Elaine	2513.25
4	Hofmann, Anne	2228.00
5	Pogir, Sandra	2156.00
6	Vyvyan - Day, Susan	2132.50
7	Cloud, Debbie	2014.75
8	Solomon, Lesley	1783.00
9	Lanham-Love, Angela	1695.25
10	Nurick, Susan	1654.50
11	Pokroy, Pam	1648.00
12	Brooks, Terri	1576.75
13	Thornhill, Eileen	1525.25
14	Johnston, Yvonne	1475.25
15	Vasani, Dolar	1463.25
16	Ruiters, Grizelda	1380.75
17	Clark, Rosemary	1371.75
18	Gering, Robyn	1348.00
19	Burra-Robinson, Sally	1277.25
20	Van Opstal, Arnie	1180.75
21	Weil, Stephanie	1161.00
22	Baloyi, Poppie	840.50
23	Gropp-Elis, Liza	759.50
24	Petersen, Tracey	688.00
25	Dee, Coleen	663.75
26	Rose, Isobel May	536.50
27	Summerfield, Mary-Ann	515.50
28	Beswick, Sandra	508.50
29	Clingman, Adele	506.00
30	Blumberg, Dora	438.25
31	Mogale Koma, Stacy	431.25
32	Goodman, Laura	409.75
33	Ziegler, Lynne	336.00
34	Murphy, Jennifer	304.50
35	Mgoduso, Thandeka	297.00
36	Harris, Mary	251.25
37	Osterloh, Patricia	243.00
38	Mofau, Innocentia	156.00
39	Rayner, Mary-Clare	119.25
40	Lekoane, Matseleng	114.75

Tour News

I know it's only 2 weeks to the **US PGA Champs** at the 'extremely difficult' **Bethpage Black** (public) course on Long Island, but we did hear the news last week that the USGA – the guys who together with the **Royal & Ancient** in Scotland govern amateur golf in the world – have extended a special invitation to **Ernie Els**, a 2-time winner of this Major, for this year's **US Open** at the iconic **Pebble Beach** course from the 13th to the 16th of June.

This week is the **Wells Fargo** event at the tough Quail Hollow track, with the **Byron Nelson** tourney in Dallas the following week before the Tour heads to New York for the 2nd Major of the year.

Former winners of the Wells Fargo at Quail Hollow – the venue of **Justin Thomas's** US PGA Championship win in 2017 - who will be teeing it up

today are defending champ **Jason Day**, as well as **Rory** and **Rickie**, so keep an eye out for those 3. Thomas and **Tiger** are not there, but **Tony Finau** is!



That's all for this week.

Hope you have a good one.

Kappy.

Everyone wants forgiveness

The very best ball strikers too

The lower your handicap, the less space you have for error. So wouldn't it be nice to have a little forgiveness built into your game? But, first we know you don't want to compromise some key features:

Smaller profile

You want control over ball flight, so the profile of the club is smaller. The CoG is higher and closer to the face.

Forged

It's likely you want to "feel" the ball off the face and enjoy a great response through your hands. Incidentally, these clubs also provide a really nice sound on contact.

No offset

You have no trouble squaring the face so the shaft and clubface line up.



The great news is that the hitting zone has been extended on many better 2018 and 2019 Players Iron models to accommodate slight miss-hits towards the heel or toe. Ball speed is protected, and the distance the ball will travel is unchanged. That's a critical part of the accuracy a low handicap golfer must have.



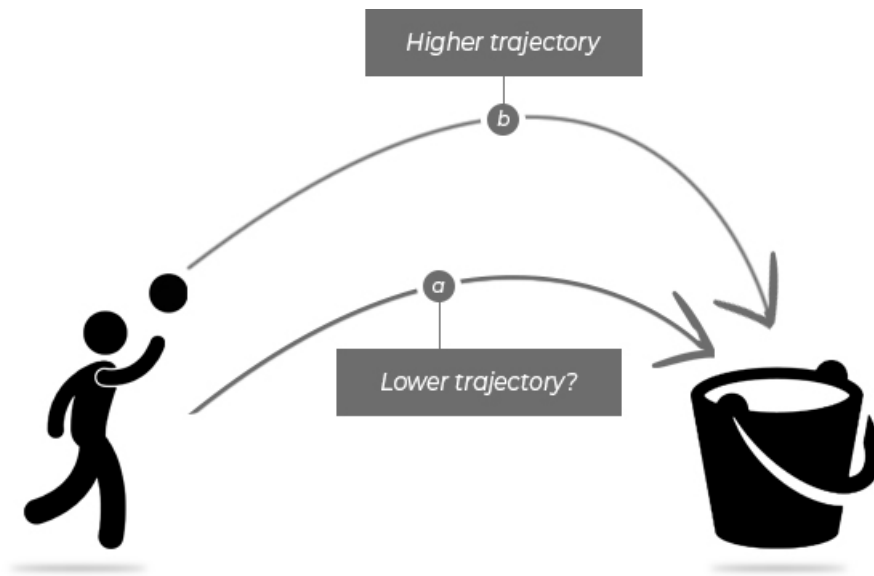
Knock it down. Knock it off



Simple

SENSE

If we asked you to stand 20 metres from this bucket and use an under-arm throw to get a golf ball in the bucket, would you use a lower trajectory (a) or a higher trajectory (b)?



Almost everyone correctly tackles this challenge by using a lower trajectory.

*So why do most amateur golfers
try and hit wedge shots as
high as possible?*



Knock it close with your wedge

Watch the golf on TV and you'll see Professionals hitting wedge shots mostly with a lower trajectory. They create a ton of spin. It makes it much easier for them to control distance. It makes it easier to be accurate. Time to learn a new skill?

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