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Subject: How to use the World Handicap System

Ensuring you understand your new handicap

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Hopefully you have your tee times booked and are getting ready to head out onto the golf course in the coming days. We wish you all the best in your first round back, and for the season ahead.

We also want to take this opportunity to remind you of the new World Handicap System, that the majority of you are going to be using for the first time since it was introduced on 2 November last year.

Whilst the WHS has its intricacies, we want to remind you that golf under the new system is 'Easy as H.C.P!'

Before any round, you will need to convert your Handicap Index into a Course Handicap. This will determine how many shots you will receive when playing a golf course from any set of tees.

An easy way for a player to remember this is to think H.C.P, which stands for:

- H** - Handicap Index
- C** - Course Handicap
- P** – Play Golf

This simple acronym will hopefully act as a prompt for you to remember the key elements of the WHS when arriving at your club.

Firstly, you will need to know your Handicap Index. You will then need to calculate your Course Handicap using the Slope & Course Rating table, and then finally, head out onto the golf course and play golf. It's as easy as HCP!

As always, if there is anything relating to the new system that you are unsure, head to englandgolf.org/whs