



**TO: PROVINCIAL UNION SECRETARIES
(AND TO EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FOR INFORMATION)**

RE: HANDICAPPING SYSTEM

A new version of the handicap system comes into effect on 1 July this year. The full details are specified in the revised handicap manual entitled "South African Golf Handicapping System for Men and Women 2007", copy of which is attached

The principle changes are as follows:

1. Removal of the 15% reduction from the average of the best 10 scores out of 20. This revised handicap will be known as the Full Handicap and will be applicable in all forms of Single competition. Foursomes, Greensomes and Pinehurst handicap allowances will be calculated from the Full handicap
2. Introduction of a 75% allowance of the Full Handicap for all forms of Better-Ball, Including Alliance, competitions
3. Standard handicap runs are to be limited to one per month, resultant handicap changes to become effective on the 1st day of a new month
4. Handicap increases are limited to 1 (one) stroke per month, with no limit to the amount that a handicap may be decreased in a month
5. For all fields of 24 or more a dynamic rating will be computed for AM, PM (or both) fields, such rating not to be lower than 1 stroke below the normal course rating and not to be greater than 4 above the normal course rating
6. Interim revisions of handicaps will occur for all players that achieve a net score of 3 less than par in any round. Such revision may result in a handicap decrease but projected increases will not be applied
7. Consistent penalty scores across all clubs for omitted or incorrect gross scores for any round. A penalty score is the lower gross score of:
 - a) 6 less than Par of the course plus the players full handicap, or
 - b) The lowest of the players last 20 recorded scores.

Due to the extent of the changes necessitated to the NGN handicap system, it has been decided to implement these changes in a phased manner as follows:

From the 1st July 2007, the following will be in effect countrywide:

1. Implementation of the Full handicap
2. Implementation of the 75% Better-Ball allowance
3. Implementation of a once per month standard run rather than the present two

The other changes will be introduced in a gradual manner. The intention is to apply them on a Union-by-Union basis in time for the next monthly computer run. The one change that will affect club members is when the interim handicap revision is introduced within a particular Union, as this will require that the player be notified of an immediate (non month-end) handicap reduction. Unions will be informed when this change is to be introduced.

Provincial Unions are requested to distribute the attached documents to their clubs as soon as possible.

B. A. Younge
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR