



Royal Marines Association Golf Society 'The Royals & Ancients'



The RMA Golf Society Handicap System

1. Why we need an RMA GS handicap system

The RMA Golf Society's handicap system provides all members with an RMA GS specific handicap. It is designed to be **inclusive**, **fair** and **easy to administer** for the RMA GS committee. The system recognises that some members may not play regularly, be members of a golf club and/or have a World Handicap System (WHS) index handicap.

2. Initial handicap allocation

All members will be allocated an RMA GS handicap by the first event of each season.

- a) WHS - Members with WHS handicaps will have their initial handicaps based on their WHS Handicap.
- b) Non WHS – members without WHS handicaps will be allocated handicaps based on their previous handicap data stored in the RMA GS software (currently HandicapMaster)
- c) New joiners – new joiners will play their initial event without a handicap and therefore cannot enter the competition. Their initial handicap will be calculated using the course par i.e. Par for course = 72, total shots 102, therefore initial handicap = 30.

3. Handicap adjustment

RMA GS events are based on the stableford points format. Handicaps will be adjusted based on the following points scored.

- a. 36 plus decrease – anyone scoring more than 36 will have shots deducted from their handicap at 0.6 for each point above 36.
- b. 20 minus increase – anyone scoring less than 20 will have shots added to their handicap. Anyone scoring less than 20 points will have 0.6 shots added to their handicap for each point below 20.

Examples

- *42 points scored is 6 points above 36 therefore $6 \times 0.6 = 3.6$. Scoring 42 points will mean a decrease in your handicap of 4 (rounded to nearest whole number).*
- *40 points scored is 4 points above 36 therefore $4 \times 0.6 = 2.4$. Scoring 40 points will mean a decrease in your handicap of 2 (rounded to nearest whole number).*
- *18 points scored is 2 points below 20 therefore $2 \times 0.6 = 1.2$. Scoring 18 points will mean 1 shot is added to your handicap.*

4. Divisions

Handicap events will be conducted in two divisions as below.

- Division 1 – scratch to 16
- Division 2 – 17 and above

5. Handicap Events

Handicap events will be played using 95% of members RMA GS handicap. Only RMA GS stableford events will be handicap qualifying. Events will include 'opener/closer' weekends and monthly events. Medal and match play events will not be handicap qualifying.

6. Handicap Committee

RMA GS will have a handicap committee who will set and monitor the handicap rules and change them where appropriate. Any member may raise issues with the handicap committee.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Eddings', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Paul Eddings

Chairman

April 2025