



Events in which Competitors play from different sets of tees (CONGU Unified Handicapping System, Appendix O).

In addition to mixed gender competitions in which men and ladies play in the same competition from different sets of tees for the same prizes, there are other events in which to account for age / playing ability differences, it may also be deemed desirable for participants to use different sets of tees. Examples are:

- Adult and Junior Competitions
- Member and Senior Member Competitions

In order to maintain equity in handicapping in all competitions organised with players using sets of tees that have been allocated different *Standard Scratch Scores*, the handicaps of the competitors playing the course with the higher *Standard Scratch Score* must have their handicap increased by the difference in the two *Standard Scratch Scores*.

Note: In *Qualifying Competitions* any adjustment necessary should be applied for competition result purposes only, so that the competition retains its *Qualifying* status. The adjusted handicaps should **not** be used to establish the *Competition Scratch Score* or for the purpose of handicap alteration.

Handicap Adjustment for Qualifying Competitions

Competitions in which competitors play from different tees in *Qualifying Competitions* may be in three formats – Stroke Play, Stableford and Par/Bogey.

1. Stroke Play

This is the format most easily understood by the competitors and the simplest to administer.

For the purposes of the competition, each player playing the course with the higher *Standard Scratch Score* must have his/her handicap increased by the difference in the two *Standard Scratch Scores*.

Examples:

Men's Course (White Tees): SSS 70		Ladies' Course (Red Tees): SSS 72	
SSS _{Ladies} – SSS _{Men} = 2.		All Ladies' handicaps should be increased by 2 strokes	
Lady Exact Handicap	Playing Handicap for Handicap purposes	Playing Handicap for Competition purposes	
18.8	19	(19 + 2) = 21	
35.5	36	(36 + 2) = 38	

Any adjustment that results in a playing handicap above the maximum *Exact Handicap* allowed (28.0 [36.0]) should be applied only for competition purposes. (i.e. the adjusted handicap is **not** used for handicap purposes.).



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2. Stableford Competitions

Play from different sets of tees in Stableford format can give rise to a more complex competition handicap calculation due to the interplay between the *Standard Scratch Score* and Par for the different sets of tees. The Stableford scoring system determines that, on a course where the *Standard Scratch Score* and Par are the same, a player who returns 36 points 'has played to his/her handicap'.

Similarly a player has 'played to his handicap' when:

- (a) returning 35 Stableford points when Par is one stroke less than the SSS or,
- (b) returning 37 Stableford points when the Par is one stroke more than the SSS.

Consequently in competitions where groups of players are playing on courses (i.e. from different sets of tees) where the *Standard Scratch Scores* and Pars do not have the same relationship, an adjustment must be made to the scores returned by one group of players, so that players 'playing to their handicap' would return identical scores in the competition. The adjustment is calculated as being equal to the difference in the points scored when players 'play to their handicap' on each course. For competition result purposes only, subject to Note 1, this difference is then subtracted from the scores of players playing the course where a player has the higher number of points when 'playing to their handicap'.

For handicap purposes the *Nett Differential* is determined by applying the Table contained in Appendix D following calculation of the *Competition Scratch Score*.

Examples:

Men's Course (White Tees): SSS 70, Par 69 : Ladies' Course (Red Tees): SSS 72, Par 72		
Men playing to handicap return 35 points; Ladies playing to handicap return 36 points.		
One Stableford point (36 – 35) must be deducted from the Ladies' scores (see also Note 1)		
	Score for Handicap purposes	Score for Competition purposes
Lady returns 36 pts.	36 pts. (‘plays to handicap’)	(36 - 1) = 35 pts.
Man returns 35 pts.	35 pts. (‘plays to handicap’)	35 pts.



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3. Par / Bogey Competitions

A similar principle in the calculation of handicap adjustments to that outlined in Clause 2 above should be applied to Par / Bogey Competitions played from different sets of tees.

Examples:

Men's Course (White Tees): SSS 72, Par 73. Ladies' Course (Red Tees): SSS 72, Par 71 Men playing to handicap return + 1 (1 up) : Ladies playing to handicap return – 1 (1 down) Two must be deducted from the men's scores		
	Score for Handicap purposes	Score for Competition purposes
Lady returns 'All square'	One better than handicap	'All square'
Man returns +1 (1up)	Plays to handicap	(+1 – 2) = -1 (1 down)

Note 1: For Stableford and Par/Bogey Competitions any applicable deduction should be made from the score on the highest Stroke Index hole where the player receives a stroke. If the player does not score on that hole no deduction should be made. Where the adjustment is more than one stroke, one stroke should be deducted from the score at the highest Stroke Index hole where the player gets a stroke, one from the next highest and so on.

Note 2. To provide the most equitable basis for handicap alteration purposes a single *Competition Scratch Score* should be calculated for the field.

Note 3. The foregoing method of handicap adjustment cannot be applied to Men and Ladies (or Boys and Girls) playing from the **same** set of tees unless a *Standard Scratch Score* has been allocated for each gender. In such circumstances a Lady playing from the Men's tees requires additional handicap strokes to the extent determined by the difference in the Men and Ladies *Standard Scratch Scores*.

[For a 6000 yard course the difference in the respective *Standard Scratch Scores* would be of the order of 5 strokes.]

These strokes should not be regarded as 'courtesy shots'. They are an entitlement necessary to equalise the handicaps of the participating groups.

Note 4. To comply with the *Rules of Golf* the player should record his/her *Playing Handicap* on the score card.

4. Other Forms of Mixed Competition

Recommendations in regard to handicap adjustments and allowances in other forms of mixed competition such as Fourball and Team competitions in various formats are contained on the CONGU® website.