



CONGU Changes for 2018

The CSS Calculation

Purpose of this document

This advisory document explains the changes introduced from January 2018 to the provisions of Appendix B of the CONGU® UHS for the calculation of the CSS. It is essential reading for all who administer handicaps within Scottish Golf Clubs.

Details of the Change

- For Medal Stroke Play competitions the count of the number of players who played within their Buffer Zones or better is made *after* the application of the Nett Double Bogey (“NDB”) adjustment. This is now comparable with the calculation for Stableford competitions;
- The ISV software should have an additional report available to you that will show the NDB adjustments for each player in the field in a Medal competition;
- Whilst there are no changes in the Single CSS Adjustment (other than the NDB in Medal play as above) for mixed/multi-tee competitions the software will use this calculation as standard for these events with reports available from each tee for clubs to use when determining the prizes;
- When more than one competition is played over the same course on a single day clubs may use the Single CSS Adjustment rather than individual CSS calculations. This can provide a more equitable calculation when one of the competitions has a small field.

Drivers for change

- When determining the number of Nett Scores in a Medal which are within the buffer zone, research has shown that not adjusting for NDB produces higher CSS calculations than is the case for Stableford competitions. This difference is significant enough, particularly in the case of the -1, +1 and +2 adjustments to the SSS to warrant a change;
- The consequence of this anomaly in some cases resulted in greater reductions in handicaps for a given Gross Score depending upon whether the format was Medal or Stableford;

Implications for Clubs

Handicap Administrators and Committees should be aware of the changes, in particular:

- If performing a manual CSS calculation for any reason the NDB adjustment must be made to the scores in Medal competitions before counting the number of players in their respective Buffer Zones;
- If responding to queries from players as to why the CSS has not increased as they think it should have done based on the nett scores returned. In this case the additional report from the software detailing the NDB adjustments will be of assistance;
- In small field situations one player's performance may often determine whether or not the competition CSS is Reduction Only or may determine the extent of the adjustment made to the SSS. If the player concerned has incurred a NDB adjustment and this affects the outcome of the calculation, Committees need to be able to explain why the CSS is correct.