

**GOLF AUSTRALIA  
RULES, AMATEUR STATUS, HANDICAPPING  
& COURSE RATING COMMITTEE – MEETING  
TUESDAY 3 JULY 2007  
BY PHONE**

**SUMMARY**

**Present from the Committee:** John Buckley (Chairman), Joan Coles, Frank Gal, Val Oswald, Barry Shepherd

**Apologies:** Jenny Hoff, John Hopkins, Andrew Langford-Jones

**In Attendance:** Simon Magdulski (Manager – Rules & Handicapping), Therese Ritter (Manager – Championships)

**1. Previous Meeting Summary**

This was agreed.

**2. Handicapping & Course Rating**

**2.1 Issues Relating to National Handicapping & Course Rating Forum**

**2.1.1 System Options for Consideration at Forum**

The complete range of handicapping and course rating system options for consideration at the Forum will be as follows:

- The Council of National Golf Unions (CONGU) Handicapping & Course Rating Systems as a replacement for the existing Australian handicapping & daily course rating systems.
- The CONGU Daily Course Rating System as a replacement for CCR.
- The USGA Handicapping & Course Rating Systems as full replacements for the existing Australian handicapping & course rating systems.
- The USGA Scratch Course Rating System as a replacement for the existing AMCR/AWCR Systems.
- The European Golf Association (EGA) Handicapping & Course Rating Systems as full replacements for the existing Australian handicapping & course rating systems.
- Submission by NSWGA (Ray Vize).
- Submission by VGA (Murray Cropley).
- Abandon CCR and solely use AWCR/AMCR (WGNSW, WGSA, WGWA – presented by Sue Fabian).
- A hybrid of any of the above (and the existing Golf Australia systems).

**2.1.2 Questionnaire**

A questionnaire covering the key components of a handicapping and course rating system was approved for distribution to Member States. Questionnaires are to be returned prior to the Forum with response trends to assist the Chairman and secretariat to best structure the session types and scheduling.

**2.1.3 Summary Document of the Golf Australia, USGA, EGA, and CONGU Handicapping and Course Rating Methods**

A summary document of the Golf Australia, USGA, EGA, and CONGU handicapping and course rating methods was approved for distribution to Forum attendees – the descriptions contained in the document, and the various methods, will be considered at the Forum.

### **3. Handicapping & Rules of Golf**

#### **3.1 Query submitted by VGA – How to treat a round that would have involved a penalty of disqualification had a Rule breach been discovered by the player prior to the official announcement of results.**

The following query was submitted to The R&A –

*“Two players submit their score cards. When the results are officially announced, one of these players is announced as the winner. Following the presentation the two players overhear another player bemoaning the fact he had ruined his day by playing one hole from the WHITE tees instead of the BLUE tees (as indicated on the competition board). The two players then realise they have proceeded incorrectly as they started play of every hole from the WHITE tees (NB they were completely unaware they had proceeded incorrectly until after the competition had closed). The players report the facts to the Committee. How should it proceed?”*

The R&A's response was:

*“This is a case covered by Rule 34-1b and, accordingly, the result stands as played.”*

Consequently, the Golf Australia Rules, Amateur Status, Handicapping & Course Rating Committee extended the same philosophy to the handicapping component of the query and determined that the scores of the players in question to be used for handicapping are the scores as returned.

### **4. General Business**

#### **4.1 Update on composition of new Committees**

An update was provided of progress in the formation process of the new Golf Australia Rules of Golf & Amateur Status Committee, and Handicapping & Course Rating Committee. (The members of these Committees are now listed at [www.golfaustralia.org.au](http://www.golfaustralia.org.au).)

### **5. Conclusion of Committee**

The Chairman expressed the thanks of the Board to the Committee members for their work and contribution to Golf Australia throughout 2006 and 2007. He also wished them well moving forward into their respective roles on the Handicapping & Course Rating Committee, and Rules of Golf & Amateur Status Committee. He noted that the Rules, Amateur Status, Handicapping & Course Rating Committee would now cease its operations.