

5.2 Handicapping & Course Rating Report

L. Ritchie

April 2013

➤ **ANCHOR CHANGES**

Golf Australia released information on 5th April re changes to the anchor. The limit has increased from 4 to 5 strokes. Information was mailed out in hard copy to Golf Clubs by GA.

➤ **SAND GREENS**

Letters have been sent to all un-rated sand green clubs requesting specific information to assist in completion of the ratings – forms due back by 15th April. The NSW CR Committee will be assessing the information at the meeting on 22nd April.

➤ **USGA RATINGS**

Once Clubs receive their USGA Scratch Scores they should begin to use them immediately. If there is a concern with the rating an application for review form (available on the Golf NSW website) should be completed and sent to Adam Dransfield. To date 8 review applications have been received.

➤ **GOLF AUSTRALIA COURSE RATING SUB COMMITTEE MEETING – 5th April.**

- **SAND GREENS** – Much discussion on the Scratch scores of sand green courses focusing on a report tabled by Queensland. NSW sand greens appear to have similar characteristics to those in Qld more so than the courses in Victoria. A common problem is the excessive Roll on our rural courses (not restricted to the sand courses). An excessive Roll assistance proposal was discussed and will be implemented by GA.
- **GOLFLINK** – there will be a number of improvements/additions to the GolfLink workstation. The improved functions will be activated by the State Assn and will include:
 - i) The courses rated under the previous system will expire on a date determined by Golf NSW and will no longer be available to use for handicapping. The Club will then only have the USGA numbered courses available.
 - ii) There will be a function available for adjusting the Scratch rating for preferred lies through the green and tee up through the green. Clubs who apply preferred lies through the green or tee up through the green will notify the Office and the function will be installed by Golf NSW. PLTG & TU will not be a fixed deduction e.g 2 strokes, but will be negotiated by each Club with the State Assn. There will be a drop down button to activate the condition when processing handicaps.
Information gathered from the Country Councillors indicates we have 309 Country Clubs, of these 143 play it ball as it lies, 101 play preferred lies on the

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mown portion of the fairway, 61 play preferred lies through the green and 4 use tee up through the green most of the time. For the 21% using PLTG/TU this function should definitely assist in maintaining their handicaps equitably.

- iii) When introduced, DSR will work on the USGA Scratch rating minus the preferred lies through the green deduction. e.g. Course scratch rating is 72, the PLTG deduction is 2 so the DSR will cater for a scratch rating of 70.

These 3 improvements will be up and running soon.

- o The “new” Australian system is still on track for release in September, 2013.

Lynne Ritchie,
9th April, 2013.