The World Handicap System is designed to be inclusive and accessible to new golfers. They need only submit a small number of scores, in any combination of 9 or 18-hole scores, to obtain an initial Handicap Index – the maximum being 54.0.

- Competitions offered should also accommodate all levels of handicap, to give everyone a chance of doing well and having fun.
- Competitions for different handicap ranges: 0-18, 19-36, 37-54.
- Offering a Handicap Index up to 54.0 provides greater incentives for new golfers to keep playing.
- Responsive updates ensure a Handicap Index continues to reflect a player’s golfing ability.
- To ensure continued enjoyment of the game for all golfers, Club Committees should encourage proper etiquette and a good pace of play, reminding players they can pick up when appropriate if the format of play allows.

This presents realistic, achievable targets each time they play and allows them to track their progress within the game.