



GOLF AUSTRALIA
Level 3, 95 Coventry Street
South Melbourne Victoria 3205
Australia
ABN: 54 118 151 894
Website: www.golfaustralia.org.au
Phone: 61 3 9626 5000
Facsimile: 61 3 9626 5095

Memo

To: State Associations & Clubs
c.c.: GA Board, GA Handicap Committee, GOLF *Link*, Tier 3 Providers
From: Anne Lenagan (Chairman – Golf Australia)
Date: 1 October 2010
Subject: Handicapping Announcement

Dear All,

I recently wrote to you to discuss the new Australian Handicap System. As I noted at that time, the feedback we have received, which is extensive, indicates that the First Package of Changes (principally the best 10 of 20 concept) is widely seen as a genuinely-positive step forward. It is worth noting that the feedback, coupled with our own analysis suggests that some fine-tuning at the edges may be worth investigating.

However, the response we have received to the Second Package of Changes has been overwhelmingly negative.

The Board of Golf Australia has met to consider the array of correspondence put to us, and it is our view that many of the points raised are valid and have been expressed with the best interests of Australian golf at heart.

In May last year, I announced that we as a Board had made a decision to commence negotiations with the United States Golf Association about adopting the USGA Handicap System in Australia. I also announced that we were intending to seek some modifications from the USGA. Whilst we had good reason to believe we would achieve our desired concessions, we have not been successful to this point.

After taking account of the above noted factors, the Board has now decided to suspend the implementation of the Second Package of Changes to the Australian Handicap System for an indefinite period. (Note: Irrespective of any requirements of the USGA Handicap System, GA would always encourage clubs to have a Handicap Committee.)

This period of time will allow GA to:

- Complete our discussions with the USGA and analyse the outcome of these discussions.
- In response to the queries and requests from Clubs, provide further detail on the USGA Handicap System. Once the desired detail has been provided and our discussions with the USGA have concluded, we will survey all Australian Clubs and State Associations in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of views regarding the US System.

Please note that the national series of information sessions I announced in my previous communication has also been postponed indefinitely.

We look forward to working with you in order to achieve the best and most appropriate handicap system for Australia. GA will contact you again in about a month to continue the process of providing the information you have sought on the USGA Handicap System.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Lenagan
Chairman – Golf Australia