

Handicapping Policy

Rational:

Over recent years the results of all Thursday sessions have been subject to a handicap system. The object is to level the playing field for players of all abilities and so encourage those new to the game. One of our competitions has prizes awarded based on handicap results.

It is considered that using the most recent scores obtained reflects more accurately a player's current form rather than calculating a handicap using their ratings points or playing grade which is determined over a greater period of time.

The computer generates the average score achieved by each player (Thursday results only) and the difference of the resultant score from the score set as the zero-handicap, determines the handicap. For example, if 50 was set as the zero-handicap score, a player with an average of 53.6 will have a handicap of -3.6 and a player with an average of 44.7 will have a handicap of +5.3.

Procedure:

1. The handicaps are set before the first day of play in February and again before the 1st session of the Lowburn series each year and are valid for six months from those respective dates.
2. Handicaps will be calculated using data for 12 full months prior to the calculation date.
3. Handicaps will be published and displayed on the club noticeboard on the first playing date after they are generated.
4. Currently these handicaps will be applied to Tuesday bridge also, but once a sufficient amount of data is generated to do so these may be calculated and applied separately as they represent a significantly smaller and different pool of players.
3. Handicapping will be carried out by a person nominated by the committee and that person will calculate the handicaps at the times above and publish the results on the club noticeboard.
3. The handicapper shall use the scorer programme to calculate the handicap of all members and set the zero handicap score as agreed by the committee.
4. At times some outliers occur (due to a break from bridge say) that may be unfair if left as the computer has calculated it. The appointed handicapper has the option (in agreement with 2 other committee members) to manually adjust these handicaps.
5. Players that are visiting or are new to the club will have a handicap assigned to them that is commensurate with a current player from the club with similar rating points, grade and A points from the NZBridge website. This will be reviewed after their first completed competition.
6. All novice players will be assigned a handicap of +20 which will be reviewed at the completion of each series they qualify for, until such time as they are recalculated.

Policy Passed 28 March 2023

For Review 2025

Date:

28/3/23

Signed:

