

**WACA HANDICAPPING SUBCOMMITTEE
POLICY DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATION CROQUET
REVISED JULY 2021**

The WACA handicapping system for Association Croquet follows the ACA system (Handicapping Regulations – Association, effective 15 March 2010), available in full on the ACA website www.croquet-australia.com.au , with the following major variations:

1. Within WA, central records are kept but Cards must be maintained by players. **Players' individual cards are the official handicap record.** The list of handicaps is updated and published periodically after the Handicap Subcommittee has received the results from participating events
2. Whenever players play a competitive singles game, they update their AHS card according to the instructions on the card. In all cases this will result in a change to their index. When the index changes sufficiently that will trigger a change in the player's handicap.
3. Indexes do not change as a result of doubles play.
4. A player's handicap will change **immediately** the index has reached or passed the trigger point for a new handicap.
5. The latest WA handicap lists are available on the website www.croquetwest.org.au Manual handicap changes are made solely by the State Handicapper AC in consultation with the WACA Handicapping Subcommittee.
6. Club Handicappers/Committees are not empowered to make changes to official WACA association handicaps. They direct their requests and recommendations to the State Handicapper AC, with supporting evidence.
7. A Tournament Handicapper in WA may be appointed by the responsible Tournament Manager.
8. Players are responsible for the accuracy of their index and for approving their opponents card entry by initialling the card. Players are responsible for knowing their current official handicap.
9. Players intending to play in any ACA event or any other event outside the state need to apply to the State Handicapper for an official handicap card for use while playing in such events. Entry into such events may be refused if the player cannot present a current, validated AHS Handicap Card. This card must be submitted to the State Handicapper on their return so that the official WA record can be updated.

WA uses the principles set out in the ACA Handicapping System. The variations are solely in the administration of the system.

POLICY FUNDAMENTALS & DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED ASSOCIATION CROQUET

The handicap system is based on results of *games in participating events*.

A **participating event** is one recognised by the WACA, through the Match Subcommittee, and complying with the current Regulations for Tournaments (updated 16th September 2018), as accepted by WACA, and the Laws of Association Croquet (amended January 2008), in which official WACA handicaps apply and in which games are singles play. This includes Club competitions Tournament games, Interclub, Interstate, National and International events. All players must be registered players. Full details of Starting and Finishing Index Points and Handicaps must be submitted for each player, using the official Croquetwest Tournament Form and players must have played a minimum of two games each. (Generally, club events are not included for world ranking calculations)

Registered players are players affiliated with the WACA through their home club. Players affiliated with another State Association within Australia or overseas players affiliated to a Croquet Organisation which is a member of the World Croquet Federation are classified as *registered players* if their entry has been accepted in a *participating event* in WA.

Changes to each player's index are made at the conclusion of each game according to the table on the AHS Card. Such changes are referred to as **automatic changes**. Calculations for automatic changes to an index will always be made using the correct official handicap in force at the time of play of the relevant match.

Non-automatic changes are made by the State Handicapper AC principally where the automatic system is not working appropriately for a particular player, eg for a new player, a fast-improving player, or for a player playing very few competitive singles games. Such changes are **based on evidence**. (Refer ACA Handicapping Regulations paragraph 4)

The principal sources of evidence will be: Match results history as supported by Handicap Card entries; personal observation by the State Handicapper AC; Club player comparative performance observations or analysis; Tournament Managers' recommendations. In this context, a player's performance in Doubles events may be used as **evidence**.

For events with handicap restrictions or limits, a player's **eligibility** is established by his/her official handicap at the closing date of entries. A change of handicap between the close of entries and the commencement of play will not affect a player's **eligibility** for the event but subsequent calculations are based upon the new handicap.

Club Requests for a non-automatic change for a player may be submitted at any time.

PROCEDURE FOR ACQUIRING AN OFFICIAL WACA HANDICAP (ASSOCIATION)

Every entrant for a WACA-recognised event must have an official WACA handicap.

If a player is not listed on the official handicap list, the player and the club need to approach the State Handicapper AC before the closing date for entries to the event. They need to provide suitable information on the player's perceived level of ability and recent playing history.

The State Handicapper will determine the player's starting *index* and handicap. This may be reviewed after the conclusion of the event or during the event in the case of a *long-running* event.

Players new to croquet and competition are usually allocated a handicap of 20 index 950.

The Handicapping Subcommittee will make the final decision whether results from an event can be accepted for handicapping purposes where there is doubt that the stated criteria have not been respected.

The Handicapping Subcommittee will exercise the powers of State Handicapper AC if for any reason the State Handicapper AC is unable to do so.

Policy revised July 2021

Policy ratified by the Croquetwest Management Committee November 2020.