

About Golf Handicapping

Any golf handicapping system is essentially a way for golfers of various skill levels to compete equally and have fun. You may have played in events that computed your “net” score in a number of ways – using a handicap computed just for one round, like the Callaway or Scheid Systems, or using the handicap or Handicap Index computed for you by your home golf club or golf association. Or, maybe you don’t belong to a golf club and just want to compute a handicap for yourself and your friends for casual competition.

Golf Personal supports a wide variety of handicapping techniques which are described briefly in this chapter. Each handicap method available in the program requires a handicapping “plug-in” file to support it. Each of the handicapping methods supported by your copy of Golf Personal has its own plug-in - kept in the “Handicapping Plugins” folder inside the folder where the application is installed.



A Golf Personal™ Plugin File

At least one plugin is installed when you install the application software. Other plugins, that are licensed for use by the golf authorities in your country of residence are available free from Mulligan Software to allow you to track an “official” handicap computed for you by a golf club. Be sure to contact Mulligan Software if you are a member of an authorized golf club or golf association and need an appropriate plug-in to track your handicap.

The USGA Handicap System

The United States Golf Association authorizes golf clubs and golf associations to compute and issue USGA Handicap Indexes to their members. If you are a member of a such a golf club or association, Mulligan Software can provide you, without charge, a handicapping plug-in for Golf Personal that uses the USGA Handicap System to **MONITOR** your USGA Handicap Index computed by your golf club or association.

The Tracking Handicap Index feature included in this product is for use solely by golfers who seek to **MONITOR** their USGA Handicap Index issued by a golf club or golf association in accordance with the USGA Handicap System. **NOTE: This product will not produce a valid USGA Handicap or a valid Handicap Index.**

Neither Mulligan Software nor Mulligan's Golf Personal is connected with or endorsed by the USGA. Mulligan Software is permitted, however, to use the USGA Handicap System Formulas in this computer program for use solely by golfers who are **MONITORING** their Handicap Index issued by a golf club or golf association in accordance with the USGA Handicap System.

The USGA's Handicap System requires subsequent review and revisions by a golf club handicap committee where necessary, and therefore the Tracking Handicap Index generated by this program is not equivalent to, and the numbers may vary from, the USGA Handicap Index that you receive from your golf club or golf association. The terms USGA, Handicap Index, Handicap System, Tracking Handicap Index, SLOPE, Slope System, Course Handicap and Course Rating are trademarks and service marks of the USGA.

The United States Golf Association is responsible for maintaining the USGA Handicap System. It publishes and updates, approximately every four years, a manual titled USGA Handicap System with USGA Course Rating System and USGA Handicap Decisions, which is the complete book of information and instruction about the USGA Handicap System. The latest version of the manual is available (along with many other publications, like the Rules of Golf) from the USGA Order Department at 1-800-336-4446.

The Tracking Handicap Index feature in this program is based upon the USGA Handicap System. The USGA reviews, and makes revisions to, the USGA Handicap System every four years. The Handicap System was revised effective January 1, 1998, and will be revised every four years thereafter. Please note that as the Handicap System is revised, the present program, or updated program, as the case may be, will not provide an up-to-date Tracking Handicap Index. At the applicable times, if you are a user of the Tracking Handicap Index feature of this software, please contact the manufacturer of this software for information on obtaining the most current program or applicable upgrade.

NOTE: USGA handicapping plugins are limited to use for a maximum of 9 players with each licensed copy of Mulligan's Golf Personal.

The RCGA Handicap System

The Royal Canadian Golf Association (L'Association Royale de Golf du Canada) authorizes its member golf clubs and provincial golf associations to compute RCGA Handicap Factors and RCGA Course Handicaps for their members in Canada. If you are a member of an RCGA golf club or association, Mulligan Software can provide you, without charge, a handicapping plug-in for Golf Personal that uses the RCGA Handicap System to track your RCGA Handicap computed by your golf club or provincial golf association.

The handicap feature included in this product is for use solely by golfers who seek to **MONITOR** their RCGA Handicap issued by a golf club or provincial golf association in accordance with the RCGA Handicap System. **NOTE: This product will not produce a valid RCGA Handicap.**

CLGA Handicapping

The Canadian Ladies Golf Association, under the auspices of the Royal Canadian Golf Association, authorizes its member golf clubs and provincial golf associations to compute RCGA Handicap Factors and RCGA Course Handicaps for members of the CLGA. Mulligan Software can provide you, without charge, a handicapping plug-in for Golf Personal that supports the CLGA variations of the RCGA Handicap System to track your CLGA Handicap computed by your golf club or provincial golf association.

The handicap feature included in this product is for use solely by golfers who seek to **MONITOR** their RCGA Handicap issued by a golf club or provincial golf association in accordance with the RCGA Handicap System. **NOTE: This product will not produce a valid RCGA Handicap.**

Australian Handicapping

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The Australian Golf Union authorizes its member golf clubs and state golf associations to compute AGU Exact Handicaps for their members. Mulligan Software can provide you, without charge, a handicapping plug-in for Golf Personal that supports the Australian Handicap computed by your golf club or state golf association.

The handicap feature included in this product is for use solely by golfers who seek to **MONITOR** their AGU Handicap issued by a golf club or state golf association in accordance with the AGU Handicap System. **NOTE: This product will not produce a valid AGU Handicap.**

The Scheid System

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The Scheid System computes a handicap based on the hole-by-hole scores of a single round. It is useful for computing handicaps for a large group of unhandicapped players or for players with no playing history on which to base a handicap. The Scheid System produces approximately equal net scores.

A handicapping plug-in for the Scheid System is available for Mulligan's Golf Personal.

The Scheid System is an alternative handicapping method intended for casual play and local use only; a Scheid System handicap is not transportable from club to club. **NOTE: The use of the Scheid System will not produce a valid USGA Handicap or a USGA Handicap Index.**

The Second Best Score System

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The Second Best Score System is a method of handicapping a player with just a few rounds available. It bases a player's handicap on a formula which uses the player's second-best reported score.

A handicapping plug-in for the Second Best Score System is available for Mulligan's Golf Personal.

The Second Best Score System is an alternative handicapping method intended for casual play and local use only; a Second Best Score System handicap is not transportable from club to club. **NOTE: The use of the Second Best Score System will not produce a valid USGA Handicap or a USGA Handicap Index.**

The "Official" Callaway System

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The Callaway System computes a handicap based on the hole-by-hole scores of a single round, ignoring some number of a player's "worst holes" based on the player's total gross score for the round. It is useful for computing handicaps for a group of unhandicapped players or for players with no playing history on which to base a handicap. The objective of the Callaway System is to produce net scores in a range from par to the middle 70's. Occasionally, a net score below par is produced.

A handicapping plug-in for the "Official" Callaway System is available for Mulligan's Golf Personal.

NOTE: The Callaway System handicapping plugin is limited to use for a maximum of 10 players with each licensed copy of Mulligan's Golf Personal.

The Mulligan System

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The Mulligan handicapping system computes a handicap based on a weighted average of differences between a player's scores and par of the courses played. It provides a handicap that reflects the "most probable" difference between a player's score and par based on a system similar to scoring in other individual sports which excludes the best and the worst scores and calculates from the intermediate scores.

A handicapping plug-in for the Mulligan System is automatically installed when you install Mulligan's Golf Personal.

The Mulligan System generally measures the relative playing abilities of players, all of whom are handicapped using the system. A Mulligan handicap cannot be used in any situation where an "official" handicap from your golf club or association is required.

How Golf Personal Fits

Mulligan's Golf Personal is not intended to provide you with an official competition handicap — only your golf club can do that. Instead, Golf Personal allows you to record and analyze your golf scores in more detail, providing another way for you to understand, improve, and enjoy your game more.

For golfers who are not members of any authorized clubs or associations, Golf Personal can provide Scheid, Second Best Score or Callaway System handicaps, a Mulligan System handicap, or provide no handicap computation but allow you indicate a playing handicap for each round you enter.

So... be sure to turn in *all* your scores at your club for determination of your official handicap or Handicap Index. And, be sure to take home a copy of all your score-cards for analysis with Golf Personal.

Getting or Updating Handicapping Plug-ins

If you need a handicapping plug-in for use in tracking a handicap computed by your golf club, or you need to update an expiring or out-of-date plug-in, contact Mulligan Software by mail, electronic mail (support@mulligansw.com) or on the World Wide Web (<http://www.mulligansw.com>) to get one. Mulligan Software provides all handicapping plug-ins without charge to registered users of Mulligan's Golf Personal. Certain plug-ins distributed under licensing arrangements with authorizing golf organizations may require that you provide your name, the name and location of your home golf club and/or the serial number of your copy of Golf Personal.

Plug-ins for handicapping methods that are periodically revised (like the USGA, the RCGA or the AGU) may require updates when revisions to those systems are published. Golf Personal will notify you when a plug-in you are using is about to expire or has expired. Updates for those plug-ins are available without charge from Mulligan Software. Future revisions to the Golf Personal application may also require updates to your installed plug-ins.

Installing Handicapping Plug-ins

For a handicapping plug-in to be effective, it needs to be located inside the folder containing the Golf Personal application. For convenience, when Golf Personal is installed, all of the handicapping plug-ins are placed in a special folder called “Handicapping Plugins” inside the application’s folder.

If you receive a new or revised handicapping plug-in for use with Mulligan’s Golf Personal, just drag the plug-in into the “Handicapping Plugins” folder (replacing any old plug-in if necessary) and restart Golf Personal.

If you receive an “updater” or installer to update an existing handicapping plug-in, just follow the instructions you receive with that updater.

Plug-in Notes

Golf Personal can detect when a plug-in has expired, is about to expire or is being used before its “effective” date. It will tell you about those circumstances - giving you plenty of time to install the appropriate upgrade or update.

It’s not unlikely that you may have two or more plug-ins installed at the same time for a single handicapping method – one for the currently effective computation method, one for the soon-to-be-effective revised method, and perhaps others for computation methods in effect only for a limited time. Golf Personal automatically selects the appropriate effective plug-in each time you start the application.

Plug-ins that have expired (and you have installed the current version), or you no longer wish to use may be discarded. Either move them to the trash, or put them somewhere outside the folder containing Golf Personal.

Some plug-ins may come with special instructions about their use or when they become effective. Others should be used only when the method used for handicapping by your club matches the method used by the plug-in. Be sure to read any instructions that accompany handicapping plug-ins before installing them.

Most handicapping plugins (except the Mulligan Handicapping plugin) are not licensed for use - and thus are not “enabled” with a demonstration copy of Mulligan’s Golf Personal.