## KIWI GOLF - JUNIOR HANDICAP SYSTEM

November 2010

## OVERVIEW

- Each club to have a Kiwi (short) course
- Par to remain as adult par, so courses set up very short (1,500m max for 9 holes)
- Handicaps provided are 9 hole handicaps
- No pending handicap, so that a junior has a handicap immediately after one 9 hole round
- Maximum allowable score on any hole is four over par
- Only for juniors under the age of 16 years of age


## SETTING UP THE KIWI COURSE

Beginner juniors will have the option and be encouraged to play a beginner set of tees, which will be a short course, where the maximum length of a hole is approximately 225 meters. It is not possible for the Kiwi 9 hole course to be any longer than $1,500 \mathrm{~m}$.

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Par is as follows: Par 3 \leq 100m
    Par 4 101-175m
    Par 5 176+
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Using the above guide a course that has three distance markers in the fairway being $90 \mathrm{~m}, 135 \mathrm{~m}$ \& 180 m can start their juniors from these positions, with each representing a par 3,4 and 5 . If the hole is a par 4 for the members from the white tees, then the juniors would play their par 4 commencing from the 135 m marker. If a par 5 for the members, then they would start from the 180 m marker.

It is recognized that not all courses will have the three distance markers, but almost all courses have the 135 m marker, which allows for a junior to start from that position with the hole played as a par 4. Clubs may like to add the appropriate markers to make this achievable, which will also be appreciated by club members.

We are fortunate to play many different courses with a range of challenges, so at some courses the above starting points may have to vary due to water, long carries or other factors/hazards.

The advantages of the short course are:

1) Less frustrating for the beginner player.
2) A Kiwi Golf Junior Handicap is based on what is very much a junior course.
3) Assists with the speed of play for juniors, therefore less impeding on club members.
4) With permanent markers in place, there is no set up required by junior convenors.

## COURSE RATING

The next part of the equation is to assess a course rating to the Kiwi course which fairly equates to the senior rating. Using the USGA short course rating formula and current rating sheets, a short course rating will be calculated separately for boys and girls.

## ACCEPTABLE SCORES FOR THE JHS

A junior will be provided with a Kiwi Golf Junior Handicap after their first round of 9 holes (i.e. no pending handicap). As our junior builds a scoring record the Kiwi Golf Junior Handicap is calculated as follows:

| Rounds played | $1-6$ | Best handicap differential = handicap |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $7-8$ | Average of the best 2 handicap differentials |
| $9-10$ | Average of the best 3 handicap differentials |  |
| $11-12$ | Average of the best 4 handicap differentials |  |
| $13-14$ | Average of the best 5 handicap differentials |  |
| $15-16$ | Average of the best 6 handicap differentials |  |
| 17 | Average of the best 7 handicap differentials |  |
| 18 | Average of the best 8 handicap differentials |  |
| 19 | Average of the best 9 handicap differentials |  |
| $20+$ | Average of the best 10 handicap differentials |  |

After 20 rounds are in the record the Kiwi Golf Junior Handicap is calculated using the lowest 10 rounds of the 20 most recent scores.

The minimum number of holes a junior can play for their round to count for handicapping is 7 . Holes 8 and 9 are then adjusted to the maximum allowable score. For a junior with no junior handicap the maximum allowable score on any hole is four over par.

## HANDICAP PROGRESSION

A beginner junior is ready for a Kiwi Golf Junior Handicap when they can play the shortened Kiwi 9 hole course shooting 36 over par or less (based on maximum allowable score of 4 over par).

As the junior improves and is able to average 10 over par or less they may progress to the adult rated course and start to collect a scoring record, where after five rounds they can receive an Official NZ Golf 9-hole handicap. Although the course is much longer, their ability to get the ball in the hole hopefully makes up for the extra length and means they can score within 15 shots of what they were capable of on the shorter course.

When the junior is able to physically play 18 holes, the next progression is to work towards an Official 18 -hole handicap.

## STEPS REQUIRED FOR YOUR CLUBS TO HAVE KIWI GOLF JUNIOR HANDICAP SYSTEM:

- Set up Kiwi course (length, par and notable hazards).
- Submit course information to Karen or Phil at NZ Golf who will calculate course rating and notify Dot Golf.


## ENTERING NEW JUNIOR ON MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM:

Now that your club has been set up for the Kiwi Golf Junior Handicap System, when you enter a new member onto the DotGolf Live system you will now have the following handicap categories to choose from:

- 18 Hole
- 9 Hole
- 9 Hole junior

Please see the screen snapshot below that shows what you will see when on DotGolf Live.


The 9 Hole junior category will need to be selected for the junior to get a Kiwi Golf Junior Handicap. This option is only available to those juniors under the age of 16 years. If the new junior is over 16 years, you will need to select either 9 Hole or the 18 Hole category.

## BEFORE A ROUND OF GOLF:

When the junior arrives at the golf course to play 9 holes, just like an adult member, they will enter their 7 digit club id number. They then need to select what course they are playing which will either be Kiwi F9 or Kiwi B9 as the screen snapshot below shows.


