



## Dear members of IGFR International

As we look at the world today, we are in the midst of a health Pandemic with COVID -19 (Coronavirus). COVID-19 is affecting every country in the world. The disease came suddenly and continues to affect our daily lives. To our golfing friends in Italy, Spain and the USA, who have been hit very hard, we hope you are all safe and remain unaffected by the virus. Maliga and I are currently in self-isolation in South Africa and will remain here for the time being as most flights have been cancelled. We hope that you and your families are well, and that you are taking the steps required to ensure the safety and health of your loved ones.

No one knows when this virus will peak and our world comes back to some type of normal. At this point, we do not know the outcome and we will be watching the progress as we go forward. Rotary International has already cancelled the International Conference that was to be held in Hawaii in June. The Australian Rotary Golfing Fellowship Championship scheduled for April 2020 has also been cancelled.

Many of the Rotary world golf tournaments are scheduled for later this year. We sincerely hope that this situation improves over the next few months. We will monitor the situation and make decisions with regard to the IGFR World Championship in Marrakech (scheduled for November) as we watch to see how we recover from the virus over the summer. The Home Organizing Committee (HOC) and Hakim Tahri continue in the intensive preparation for this exciting event independent from the current situation worldwide.

## IGFR International - New Members

Over the past three months we have four new Rotarian golfers who have joined the International Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians (IGFR) as Lifetime Members or Annual Members. We welcome them and look forward to meeting you in Marrakesh in November.

Our new members are:

Herve Mauduit	Lully, Switzerland	Lifetime Member
Utz Garbe	Hamburg, Germany	Annual Member
Alois Rinner	Klostemeuburg-Weilding, Austria	Lifetime Member
Dr. Fritz Maier	Schongau, Germany	Lifetime Member

To participate in the IGFR Championships, you must be a current member of IGFR international. For those who are not a member, we invite you to become a member by completing the the New Member Registration Form on our website and make the membership payment as required.

If you are just learning about IGFR International for the first time, we would be pleased to answer any questions you may have and to add you to our newsletter mailing list. Please send us your contact information.

## World Handicap System

The World Handicap System (WHS) has been adopted by countries in the world to be used starting in 2020.

The idea for a new, unified system was conceived by the USGA and the R&A and developed following an extensive review of systems administered by six existing handicapping authorities - Golf Australia, The Council of National Golf Unions (CONGU) in Great Britain and Ireland, The European Golf Association (EGA), the South African Golf Association (SAGA), the Argentine Golf Association (AAG), and the United States Golf Association (USGA).

The Handicap Index is calculated using the lowest 8 of the player's most recent 20 Score Differentials and updated with each new round played. The Handicap Index travels worldwide with the golfer from courses to course (and tee to tee) and is used to calculate a "Course Handicap". The Course Handicap is the number of strokes a golfer receives

from the specific set of tees at the course. The more difficult the golf course, the more strokes the golfer receives and vice versa.

## Highlights of the World Handicap System

These are some of the key features of the new system, supporting enjoyment of the game for golfers everywhere.



As a golfer who competes in tournaments at your golf club, you most likely would have heard of this already. If you haven't heard of this you should ask the Pro at your golf club.

Why is it important to know what your World Handicap Index is?

The IGFR-International World Championships will be asking for your World Handicap Index so that they can correctly calculate your course handicap for each of the golf courses we will be playing in Marrakech. The rules and Regulations committee under Chairman Trevor Johnson have already implemented these important changes in the IGFR Rules & Regulations. If you do not have a World Handicap Index you will need to let us know so we can calculate your Course Handicap correctly.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:



### THE 57<sup>TH</sup> ROTARY GOLF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

MARRAKECH 7-14 NOVEMBER 2020

For more information: [igfr.ma](http://igfr.ma)



### 46th European Rotary Golf Open Championship

June 29th - July 4th 2020

For more information: [rotary.golf](http://rotary.golf)



### 31st US Canada Rotary Golf Open Championship

October 4th - 8th 2020

For more information: [uscgfrgolf.com](http://uscgfrgolf.com)

With spring/summer right around the corner, we hope you can get out and enjoy the sun and golf this season.



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