The following extracts from the CONGU manual and EG website provide guidance in the application of handicap increases/decreases after the Annual Review. Any increase or decrease in handicap considered appropriate by the Handicapping Committee is mandatory. We would recommend that the maximum increase for players whose handicap will increase to higher than 36 is no more than 4 shots.

CONGU Manual

23/4 Applying the Recommendations of the Annual Review

Q. A player having been increased after the AR appeals as he does not want a higher handicap than he had. Would the Handicap Committee be justified in rescinding the recommended handicap increase as it considers having a player with too low a handicap can only affect the player’s ability to play to his handicap and affects no-one else?

A. The Handicap Committee would be incorrect in thinking that having too low a handicap only affects the individual. In fact not acting on recommendations leaving players with handicaps that are too low could well affect every other handicap in the club, due to the potential impact on the Competition Scratch Score (CSS). This is particularly relevant in Qualifying Competitions with small field sizes. Increases recommended in the AR Report should be implemented unless the Handicap Committee has good reason (e.g. performance in Non Qualifying Competitions, match play etc) not to apply an adjustment.

CONGU 2018 Changes FAQ

What are the guidelines for adjusting those whose handicaps are at the 28[36] limits at year end 2017 and who have not had any reductions in the year?

Review the Performance Against Target (PAT) for those players from the Annual Review documentation. The following adjustments are recommended:

- PAT >3 but <5 1 shot increase
- PAT >=5 but <12 2 shot increase
- PAT 12+ 3 shot increase

Note: these are the recommended increases – the Committee are best placed to review their players and should ensure any adjustments are appropriate.

Link to EG Annual Review guidance