Handi-Track
User's Manual

1 Introduction

Welcome to Handi-Track, your mobile golf handicap tracker. Many people have heard of a golf "handicap" but don't know how to calculate one. Or, many people want to be able to know their handicap without having to be a member of a club. Other people simply can't wait for the infrequent updates on their handicap… they want to know right away!

Handi-Track addresses all of these problems. Handi-Track also provides some nice barometers and statistics to track your progress as a golfer.

As always, keep in mind that the only official handicap for use in tournaments is the one issued by your club or other similar official organization. But Handi-Track uses the same formulas as those used in calculating your official handicap, so you now have a great way to know immediately how you are doing with your handicap.

This manual will walk you through the basics to get you going, and then introduce some of the advanced features and tricks that you'll find in Handi-Track. We hope you'll enjoy staying on top of your game with Handi-Track.

2 Installing Handi-Track

2.1 On a Windows PC

❑ Save the .zip or other packaged file to your PC, remembering where you saved the file.
❑ Unzip (or unpackage) the file, again remembering where you place the files.
❑ In File Explorer, navigate to the folder where you've saved the files.
❑ Double-Click on a file named "Setup Handi-Track.bat".
❑ You'll see a screen like the one seen below:

❑ Choose the user name for the handheld onto which you want to install Handi-Track.
❑ Click on the "Install…" button.
❑ You will be instructed to start HotSync.
❑ Now Handi-Track is installed!
❑ Go to your handheld and look for Handi-Track in your launcher ("Home") screen, usually under the "Unfiled" category.

2.2 On a Macintosh

Apologies to Macintosh users, as there is no nice installer for the Macintosh platform. Users will have to use HotSync to install all of the files ending in .prc and .pdb that they find after unpackaging the install files.

3 The Basics

3.1 Registering Your Copy of Handi-Track

You'll only be able to post 7 scores with an unregistered copy of Handi-Track, so you'll want to register as soon as possible.

To register:
  ❑ Open Handi-Track to the main screen.
  ❑ Tap the silk-screened menu button on your device. (On some versions of devices you can tap directly on the title bar at the top of the screen.)
  ❑ You'll see the "About" screen. Tap on the register button.
  ❑ Enter the registration key you were provided, and then tap the "Register" button. You're off and running!

3.2 What You'll See at First

When you first open Handi-Track you'll see a screen like the one to the left.

Once you start posting scores, the main screen will show you your handicap and the score you need to shoot to lower your handicap, assuming you play the same course you last played. See the Tips and Tricks section for other ways to see how different scores affect your handicap.

3.3 Posting a Score

Tap on the "Post a score…" button on the main screen. You'll see a screen like the one below.

  ❑ Following is an explanation of each field you see:
    o Date: The date of the round being posted.
    o Away/Tourney: Indicates that you played away from your home course, or that the round was part of a tournament. Currently Handi-Track does not use these fields in its calculations, but it is helpful to track all of the data tracked in the official handicap system.
    o Course: Choose a course from the ones you've entered previously, or choose "-NEW-" to enter a new course.
    o Tees: Choose the tees from which you played for this round. If you've previously played this course, this may be filled in automatically.

o Rating: The rating of the course for a particular set of tees. This will appear automatically, as it was filled in when you entered the course and tee data.

o Slope: The slope of the course for a particular set of tees. This will appear automatically, as it was filled in when you entered the course and tee data.

o Score: This is the score you shot for this round. After entering the score, your differential and new handicap are calculated automatically, and you'll see the results on the screen.

o Putts: You can track the number of putts you made during this round. This can be a good measure of golf progress. If you don't track the number of putts you take, you can remove this field. (See the discussion of "Options" later in this manual.)

o Differential: This is the handicap differential for the round you are posting. It represents how you shot that day, and can be compared against your overall handicap.

o Handicap Before/After: This is your handicap before the round currently being posted, and your handicap after the round being posted. This is filled in automatically.

3.3.1 Entering a New Course, Tees, Rating and Slope

When you choose "-NEW-" from the course list in the Post screen, you'll see a screen like the one at the left. To enter a new course and tees, do the following:

❑ Tap on the triangle below the word "Course" and choose "-NEW-". This will take you to a screen where you enter the name of the course.
❑ Tap on the triangle below the word "Tees". Either choose one of the tees listed, or choose "-NEW-" to enter the name of a new set of tees.

❑ Enter the rating and slope for the course AND THE PARTICULAR SET OF TEES that you've entered in this screen. (Each set of tees for a course will typically have a different rating and slope, and thus will require a separate entry.)

❑ Tap the "Done" button, and you will be returned to the "Post a Score" screen, with the data you've just entered automatically filled into the appropriate fields.

Once you've entered a course, tees, rating and slope the data is stored in the system. The next time you play the same course and tees you won't have to enter any information!

4 Additional Features

Aside from posting scores and tracking your handicap, Handi-Track offers a number of other useful features. You can access these features by tapping on the "More…" button on the main screen. (The "main" screen is what you see when you start Handi-Track.)

You'll then see a screen like the one to the left. Tap on a button to try the feature.

4.1 Handicap Details

This screen provides a range of information on the posted scores that were used to calculate your handicap. According to handicap calculation rules, only certain numbers of scores are used in the calculation, as indicated on this screen.

Once you've posted 20 scores, each time you post a score one of your old scores is "bumped" from the calculations. This screen shows you which scores are due to be bumped. This can be interesting information. Low scores being bumped means your handicap might soon go up, and high scores being bumped means your handicap might be on its way down!

4.2 Handicap History

Handicap History			
Date	**Score**	**Diff'l**	**HDCP**
12/22/00	80	8.4	10.3 ↑
12/10/00	79	12.2	10.7
12/03/00	83	11.6	10.3
11/20/00	84	12.7	10.4
11/19/00	83	10.3	10.4
11/05/00	82	15.4	10.7
10/29/00	80	12.6	10.7
10/21/00	79	11.6	10.8
10/05/00	85	12.6	10.7
10/03/00	82	12.2	10.8 ↓

Return

The handicap history screen shows the trends in your handicap. All of your posted scores are listed here, along with the differential for that day, and your handicap after that particular score was posted. This screen shows if your handicap was trending up or down at a particular time.

You can scroll down using the up/down keys on your handheld, or you can tap on the arrows in the upper and lower left of the screen.

Handicap History			
Date	**Score**	**Diff'l**	**HDCP**
01/07/01	78	10.6	9.1
12/31/00	79	7.5	9.2
12/26/00	79	8.0	9.6

Info

ⓘ 12/24/00: Spring Valley, White tees. Score: 77 Differential: 9.6 Handicap After: 10

Ok

You might be curious to know more about one of the scores listed on this screen. Just tap on that score and you'll get the full details about that round, as shown to the left.

4.3 Personal Records

Personal Records			
	Ever	**Last5**	**Last10**
Lowest Score	76	77	77
Lowest Diff'l	7.5	7.5	7.5
Lowest Hdcp	9.1	9.1	9.1
Lowest Putts	27	31	27
Lowest Score At:			
▼ Wente			
2 Rounds	86	--	--

Return

Ever wonder what your lowest score was, either overall or at a particular course? Handi-Track can tell you!

Just enter the personal records screen, and everything is calculated for you. The different records are calculated overall, and also over your last 5 and last 10 rounds, allowing you to see trends.

You can find your lowest scores for a particular course by tapping on the "triangle" in the lower left of the screen. This will allow you to choose from all the courses you've played. Handi-Track will tell you how many rounds you've played on that course, and will show you the

best score you've had there. If you've played more than 5 or 10 rounds on a particular course, those records will also be filled in.

Personal Records		🚩HDCP
	Ever Last5 Last10	
Lowest Score	76 77 77	

Info

ⓘ **Lowest Diff'l Ever
12/31/00: Santa Clara,
Gold tees. Score of 79,
differential of 7.5, 36
putts.**

(Ok)

Who can resist basking in the past glory of a good round? You can find out more about each of your records by tapping on any of the records with a dashed line around the record. In this example, we've tapped on the "7.5" for the lowest differential. This has popped up a screen giving us the details for that particular personal best.

4.4 Averages

Averages		🚩HDCP
	All Last5 Last10	
Average Score	83.5 78.6 80.4	
Average Diff'l	13.4 8.8 10.6	
Average Hdcp	10.9 9.6 10.0	
Average Putts	32.5 33.5 32.1	
Average Score At:		
▼ Spring Valley		
7 Rounds	81.1 79.0 --	
	(Return)	

The averages screen shows you your averages for various statistics. The averages are taken overall, and over your last 5 and last 10 rounds. This allows you to see trends for the different statistics.

You can see your average score for a particular course by tapping on the triangle in the lower left of the screen. Handi-Track will tell you how many rounds you've posted for that course, and will present your average scores for that course. If you've posted at least 5 or 10 scores, you'll see the averages for those time periods as well.

4.5 Course Handicap Calculator

Aficionados of handicap calculations know that what most people refer to as their "handicap" is technically called their "handicap index." This handicap index is used to calculate a player's "course handicap" for each course they play. A course handicap factors in the course's slope in order to more fairly level the competition between players of differing skill levels. A course handicap is what is used to "give strokes" in handicapped tournaments, and of course for friendly wagers. This screen performs the calculation for you!

Course Handicap Calc

Course's Slope
124

Your Index	Other Index
9.1	12.5
Course HDCP	**Course HDCP**
10	14

Calculate   Return

In this example, we see that the proud owner of Handi-Track is playing a course with a slope of 124 with a friend whose "Index" (aka handicap index, or more commonly, just "handicap") is 12.5.

Simply enter the slope for the course to be played, and enter the "other index" if you want to calculate two course handicaps. Then tap the "Calculate" button to see the course handicap for each of the two players.

In the example, the first player will "give" four strokes to the second player, typically a single stroke on each of the holes rated as the 1 through 4 handicap holes.

4.6 Edit Data

Edit Data

Scores...

Course/Tee Combos...

Courses...

Tees...

Purge Blanks...

Return

This screen allows you to remove any mistakes or data you no longer want to keep around. Tap on the appropriate button to get a list of the data stored in the system. Since changing data would affect past calculations, you only have the option to delete past records. If you need to change just one part of a record (say, to change a date or a score for a record) then simply delete the record and re-post the score in question.

NOTE: It is OK to delete courses and tees that you don't plan on playing again. Past scores you've posted using the course or tees will remain intact and will still be used in the handicap calculations. You might choose to delete such records since it will make the lists shorter and easier to use when posting scores.

Purge Blanks will run a data cleansing routine to root out any blank records that may have been inadvertently created. Running this feature will cause no harm to your data, and can sometimes help. It is most typically used if the handicap records or lists of courses, etc. seem off for some reason.

4.7 Configure Options

This screen allows you to elect what data to track when you post a score.

A checkmark next to "Track Number of Putts" means that the "Putts" field will show up on the "Post a Score" screen. Putts do NOT enter into the handicap calculations, so it is OK not to track them; some people just find this to be an interesting statistic.

❑ Tap on the checkmark to toggle this option off, or tap on the empty box to turn it back on.

A checkmark next to "Track Away/Tourney" means that the "Away/Tourney" check boxes will show up on the "Post a Score" screen. These fields do NOT enter into the handicap calculations, but they are tracked by official handicap organizations; some people like to have all the same information in Handi-Track that they have when posting to an official system.

❑ Tap on the checkmark to toggle this option off, or tap on the empty box to turn it back on.

5 Tips and Tricks

So now you've mastered the basics and tried all of the features of Handi-Track, and you want more! You've come to the right place.

5.1 Getting More Info on a Screen

Handi-Track offers two methods for getting more data from most screens.

5.1.1 Dotted Lines Around Data

Any time you see a dotted line around text or numbers in Handi-Track you've seen an indication that further information is available. Just tap the screen within the dotted boundary and you'll be presented with further information on the data in question.

5.1.2 Menus

Tapping on the menu button on your handheld will present you with some basic information about the screen you are currently viewing.

5.2 How Will a Score Affect My Handicap?

❑ You're getting ready for a round at your favorite course, and you'd love to know how different scores would affect your handicap.

❑ You're about to post a score, and you'd like to see what your handicap would have been if you hadn't sunk all those birdie putts, or if you hadn't hit all those trees.

With Handi-Track you can find out!

Just go to the "Post a Score" screen and enter all of the data as you normally would for a round, but DON'T TAP THE POST BUTTON. You can now enter different values for the score, and see how this would affect your handicap. Each time you enter a score on the screen, Handi-Track takes a couple seconds to recalculate the values.