

## NEW PLAYER REVIEWS.

There seems to be some confusion with regards to the actual rulings regarding the review of new player's handicaps.

I myself have become a bit confused and as a result posted some erroneous information on the website. Therefore I need clarify the ruling for us all where any new players are concerned. It was agreed at the AGM in 2011 that new players would be reviewed regularly to try and eliminate any false handicapping either by the league or by any team captain. It has gone well so far, but with no hard and fast structure in place.

Therefore, this is what will happen with new players from this point onwards for this season and beyond:

1. New players will have their handicap reviewed after THEY have played 4 games, 8 games, 12 games, 16 games and 20 games in any season.
2. No further changes will be made after a new player has played 20 games or more.
3. Changes will be made on a sliding scale depending on their Win/Loss record, this will be as follows:
  - 4 Wins out of 4 - Reduction by 6**
  - 3 Wins out of 4 - Reduction by 3**
  - 2 Wins out of 4 - No Change**
  - 1 Wins out of 4 - Increase by 3**
  - 0 Wins out of 4 - Increase by 6**
4. The changes above will be based on the FOUR game window between review periods as above. For example, a new player may win 75% of his first four games meaning they are reduced by 3, they may then lose their next 4 (0%) which means they will go up by 6, they then win their next 4 (100%) which means another reduction, this time by 6. This is an extreme example maybe, but a scenario which could happen.
5. Exceptional changes can be made at any time if the committee feels it is necessary to do so (i.e. new player off 28 scoring a 50+ break, etc.)

Whilst I understand this look a bit Yo-Yo in terms of the players performance and resulting handicap, at least we will know that the handicap is in the correct ballpark area for that particular player for future seasons. If a player continues to excel on a reduced handicap then they will be reduced under this system until they find a level they should be at.

Nothing is perfect as we all know with handicap structures but this is an effective way of leveling out a realistic handicap for new players. We can, of course, only see how it goes for this season and if needs must change the system at the AGM in 2013.

Cheers (with a Headache!)  
Dave.