

NEW HANDICAP SYSTEM FOR CHAPMAN FOURSOMES

IN JUNE, 1954, the USGA JOURNAL published a stroke-play handicap table for use in the Chapman style of foursome play, developed by Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Chapman, of Pinehurst, N. C., and Osterville, Mass. In this style of play, both partners drive and then each plays a second stroke with the other's ball. After the second strokes have been played, one ball is selected to be continued in play by alternate strokes. This style of play can be used by men's, women's or mixed foursome teams.

Chapman has now worked out a new and more refined system of handicapping this style of play, which has become increasingly popular.

His new team handicap table for stroke play starts with combined handicaps of one, instead of ten, and lists teams' handicaps directly in numbers, instead of in a sliding scale of percentages, a great boon for those who have trouble with fractional computations.

There is another benefit in his new table. Teams have been given increased allowances in the higher segment of the handicap scale. The new team handicaps run from 35 per cent to 50 per cent of

the partners' combined handicaps when computed back to percentages.

As another new feature, Chapman also has introduced his first recommendation for match play when playing selected second strokes under the Chapman system. It is to grant the higher-handicapped team the full difference between the team handicaps as determined by the team handicap table for stroke play.

The recommended maximum handicap for any one player is 40 and the minimum scratch. Fractions of .5 or more are computed as 1.

The new handicap recommendations were formally tested and proved in Chapman-style mixed foursome tournaments over last Labor Day week-end at the Oyster Harbors Club, in Osterville, Mass., and the Brae Burn Country Club, in West Newton, Mass., the home clubs, respectively, of Chapman and of William O. Blaney, Chairman of the USGA Handicap Committee. At each club, the winning net score was 67.

Copies of Chapman's recommendations are available upon request from Richard D. Chapman, Osterville, Mass.

Chapman's handicap table for stroke play follows:

Combined Handicaps	Team Handicaps	Combined Handicaps	Team Handicaps	Combined Handicaps	Team Handicaps	Combined Handicaps	Team Handicaps
1	0	21	8	41	17	61	28
2	1	22	8	42	18	62	29
3	1	23	9	43	18	63	29
4	1	24	9	44	19	64	30
5	2	25	10	45	19	65	30
6	2	26	10	46	20	66	31
7	2	27	10	47	20	67	32
8	3	28	11	48	21	68	32
9	3	29	11	49	21	69	33
10	4	30	12	50	22	70	34
11	4	31	12	51	22	71	34
12	4	32	13	52	23	72	35
13	5	33	13	53	23	73	35
14	5	34	14	54	24	74	36
15	5	35	14	55	25	75	37
16	6	36	15	56	25	76	37
17	6	37	15	57	26	77	38
18	7	38	16	58	26	78	39
19	7	39	16	59	27	79	39
20	7	40	17	60	27	80	40