

## Non Returned Score Cards

It is expected that every player who enters a qualifying competition intends to complete the round.

A NR is a card which is not returned or which has been returned but has “no score” recorded for all holes.

An incomplete card is where “no score “is recorded for one or more holes.

What is the impact of not returning score cards from qualifying competitions?

- As all cards must be accounted for, more work for the committee (who are volunteers)
- An incomplete card and a non-return card might have the effect of increasing a player’s handicap.
- If a player has played in his buffer zone but does not return his card, the computer puts it down as poor result which could lead to a wrong CSS. This impacts on every other competitor’s handicap.
- Since an *incomplete card* and a *No Return* may have the effect of increasing a player’s handicap, the committee would be justified in refusing to accept a card or record a *No return* when the player has walked in after playing only a few holes.
- Sympathetic consideration should be given to a player who has had to discontinue play for any cause considered to be reasonable by the organising committee, (illness or no marker). This would mean that a player would not have to get 0.1 back.
- A player who frequently enters a qualifying competition and either walks in after a few holes or fails to return their card is liable to be perceived to be “minding their handicap” irrespective of their intentions.
- Clauses 23 and 24 of the Unified Handicapping System (UHS) give committees the discretion to deal with players who persistently submit *incomplete cards* or make *No returns* if they consider they are attempting to “build a handicap”. This could result in a suspension of handicap.