

Swiss Polo Association

Amended Temporary Handicap Rules

(applicable as from January 1, 2026)

1. No player without a valid regular Swiss handicap or a temporary handicap for the season awarded by the Handicap Commission may participate in any tournaments in Switzerland.
2. The temporary handicaps are awarded in accordance with the handicap rules of the HPA following the below principles:
 - a) the Swiss handicap always has priority and is applicable;
 - b) if the foreign player has a HPA handicap in force, the HPA handicap is applicable;
 - c) if the foreign players has neither a Swiss nor a HPA handicap then he has to play with the worldwide highest handicap;
 - d) a foreign professional player (any sponsored player or groom who does not pay for his own polo expense) must be awarded a minimum handicap of +2, except if he has a lower HPA handicap;
 - e) a non-beginner foreign player who cannot prove that he has held any previous official handicap will be awarded the temporary handicap with which he did enter any foreign tournament or if the player never has played any official tournaments the temporary handicap is 0, subject to an adjustment as provided in paragraph f) below and provided further that a foreign player, who has reached the age of 15 on January 1 of the applicable season, is considered a professional player pursuant to paragraph d) above;
 - f) the handicaps according to b) through e) may be adjusted by the Handicap Commission or the tournament organizing committee, if the handicap is objectively inadequate, but the player may continue to play the tournament with the adjusted handicap, even if the team handicap exceeds the maximum handicap (with the reserve of goal advantages, but without a penalty).
3. The foreign player, his patron or the organizing club (on behalf of the player) must file with the President of the Handicap Commission a temporary handicap application at least two weeks before the start of the tournament, using the official handicap request form or by a certification of the applied handicap by the organizing club.

Approved by the Handicap Commission of the SPA

5.11.2025