

Handicaps – Adjusting Scores for Posting (from USGA Handicap System Reference Guide)

- **Incomplete Holes or Conceded Strokes**

If a player picks up on a hole or is conceded a stroke, record the *most likely score* that would have been made. This most likely score is the number of strokes taken thus far plus the number of strokes most likely needed to complete the hole from that point. An "X" should precede the score on the scorecard for this hole score (e.g., X-5). There is no limit to the number of unfinished holes a player may have in a round, provided that failure to finish is not for the purpose of handicap manipulation.

- **Holes Not Played**

When a hole is not played, the score entered for handicap purposes is par for the hole plus any handicap strokes the player is entitled to, based on Course Handicap. (For more explanation see articles on *Course Handicap* and *Using Your Handicap in the Handicap* section of the EWGA PBC website – www.ewga-pbc.com)

- **Equitable Stroke Control™ (ESC™)**

Equitable Stroke Control keeps an exceptionally bad hole from changing a Handicap Index too much and sets a maximum ESC number that a player can post on any hole depending on that player's Course Handicap.

For handicap purposes, after the round, a player is required to adjust hole scores (actual or most likely) when these hole scores are higher than the maximum ESC number allowed for that player. See the ESC table below. All scores, including tournament scores, are adjusted for ESC for purposes of handicap posting. A player can adjust for ESC on any number of holes – there is no limit.

<u>Course Handicap</u>	<u>Maximum Number on Any Hole</u>
9 or less	Double Bogey
10-19	7
20-29	8
30-39	9
40 and above	10

NOTE: A player without an established *Handicap Index* must use the maximum *Handicap Index* of 36.4 for men, or 40.4 for women, converted to a *Course Handicap*, to determine a maximum *ESC* number until they have established their *Handicap Index*.

For more information on Handicap Indexes, visit www.usga.org. For questions on your handicap index, contact EWGA-PBC Handicap Chair, Sara Hume, at slhume@comcast.net.