

## Mid Carolina Club

### USGA Handicap System Policies & Procedures

The purpose of the USGA Handicap System is to make the game of golf more enjoyable by enabling players of different abilities to compete on an equitable basis. Two basic premises underlie the USGA Handicap System:

1. Every player will try to make to make the best score at every hole in every round, regardless of where the round is played.
2. The player will post every acceptable round for peer review.

#### **Definitions**

- **USGA** – United States Golf Association
- **CGA** – Carolinas Golf Association – MCC members are automatically members of the CGA by paying the yearly fee for handicap administration.
- **SCGA** – South Carolina Golf Association – MCC members are automatically members of the SCGA by paying the yearly fee for handicap administration.
- **HANDICAP INDEX** – A “Handicap Index” is the USGA’s service mark used to indicate a measurement of a player’s potential ability on a course of standard playing difficulty. It is expressed as a number taken to one decimal place and it is used for conversion to a Course Handicap.
- **COURSE HANDICAP** – The “Course Handicap” is the number of strokes a player receives on a course when the handicap index is applied to the Course Handicap Table for that particular course.
- **USGA COURSE RATING** – A “USGA Course Rating” is the USGA’s mark that indicates the evaluation of the playing difficulty of a course for a scratch golfer under normal course and weather conditions.
- **SLOPE RATING** – A “Slope Rating” is the USGA’s mark that indicates the measurement of the relative difficulty of a course for players who are not scratch golfers compared to the USGA Course Rating.
- **EQUITABLE STROKE CONTROL** – Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) is the downward adjustment of individual hole scores for handicap purposes in order to make handicaps more representative of a player’s potential ability. ESC is used

only when a player's actual or most likely score exceeds the player's maximum number based on the following parameters:

<b>Course Handicap</b>	<b>Maximum Score to Post</b>
<b>9 or less</b>	<b>Double Bogey</b>
<b>10-19</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>20-29</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>30-39</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>40 or more</b>	<b>10</b>

- **MOST LIKELY SCORE** – The “most likely score” consists of the number of strokes already taken on a hole plus, in the player's best judgment, the number of strokes the player would take to complete the hole from that position more than half of the time. If an entire hole is not completed, the score to post will be par plus any handicap strokes that may apply based on how the individual holes are rated.

### **Handicap Committee**

The Tournament Committee of Mid Carolina Club also serves as the Handicap Committee and is responsible for all aspects of the USGA Handicap System. The duties of the Handicap committee include but are not limited to the following:

- Establishing and overseeing procedures for posting of scores
- Monitoring the handicap revision schedule as established by the CGA and the SCGA.
- Making handicap index adjustments in accordance with the USGA Handicap System.
- Establishing and overseeing penalties for players not posting scores for handicap purposes.
- Establishing and overseeing procedures for peer review of handicaps.

### **Handicap Posting Procedures**

- Scores should be recorded as soon as possible after the round is complete (preferably on the same day of the round).
- Scores may be posted in the following manners:
  1. In person in the MCC Pro Shop on the handicap computer.

2. On the internet at [www.golfnetonline.net](http://www.golfnetonline.net) (select South Carolina from the map, Mid Carolina Club from the drop down menu, enter your golfer number, and enter the password “kiblers”).
- All 9-hole or 18-hole scores played in accordance with the rules of golf must be recorded for handicap purposes. Scores should be posted in date order and should be posted from any and all courses played.
  - If 13 or more holes are played, the player must post an 18-hole score. If 7-12 holes are played, the player must post a nine-hole score. In the case of unfinished holes, the score must be posted in accordance with the “most likely score” definition.
  - Tournament scores must be denoted as such at the time of posting.

### **Handicap Revision Schedule**

Player handicaps will be revised according to the guidelines of the CGA and the SCGA on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

### **Handicap Index Adjustments**

The Handicap Committee has the responsibility of making certain that each player has a Handicap Index reflecting potential ability. The Committee has the authority to adjust a player’s handicap index in the following circumstances:

- A player is improving faster than the system can react.
- Numerous away or internet scores change index.
- A player is impaired by a temporary disability.
- A player fails to post all acceptable scores.
- A player manipulates the round in any way to inflate index.

### **Penalties for Not Posting Scores**

The Handicap Committee has the authority to post penalty scores and adjust a player’s handicap index if the player does not turn in all acceptable scores or otherwise does not observe the spirit of the USGA Handicap System. The following penalties may be imposed by the Committee:

- A score equal to the lowest score in the player's record may be posted when the player does not post his own score within one week of the date of play.
- A repeated failure to post scores will result in a Handicap Index adjustment determined by the committee.
- Blatant disregard to adhere to the USGA Handicap System may result in complete Handicap Index withdrawal.
- The above penalties may affect a player's eligibility to win prize money in club tournaments in accordance with Mid Carolina Club Tournament Committee Policies.

### **Peer Review Procedures**

The Handicap Committee will make available for peer review the following methods of displaying the handicap records of the club:

- A complete list will be posted in the MCC clubhouse upon each bi-monthly handicap revision.
- Complete handicap records are available on the internet at [www.golfnetonline.net](http://www.golfnetonline.net) for review.