

1/12/2005

Handicap Reduction Due to Exceptional Play

The SRPGA is applying the following USGA Rule concerning handicap reductions due to exceptional tournament play. If your handicap is reduced due to exceptional play a (*) will be placed next to your handicap in the SRPGA Handicap listing.

This rule will be applied whenever a SRPGA tournament participant posts two scores that are three strokes better than their current handicap.

Historically the handicapping software that we utilize will make the appropriate reduction in handicap, but if for some reason it fails to do so the SRPGA Handicap Committee will use this rule to reduce that handicap.

Please visit the SRPGA website at <http://srpgolf.com/> to see your current handicap index.

■ **a. Purpose**

The following procedure shall be used as an alternate calculation of a USGA Handicap Index for players with two or more eligible tournament scores. A player's Handicap Index may be reduced under this procedure when a player has a minimum of two eligible tournament-score differentials that are at least three strokes better than the player's USGA Handicap Index calculated under Section 10-2.

■ **b. Determination of USGA Handicap Index Based on Tournament Scores**

The Handicap Committee shall apply the following steps to determine if there is a reduction in a USGA Handicap Index calculated under Section 10-2.

- i. Calculate the tournament score differentials by subtracting the USGA Course Rating from each eligible tournament score; multiply the result by 113, and divide by the USGA Slope Rating for each course played.
- ii. Select the two lowest tournament score differentials. Subtract the second lowest of these differentials from the player's current Handicap Index. Continue with the next step if the result is 3.0 or greater.

Example: A player with a USGA Handicap Index of 17.6 has three eligible tournament scores in his record. His two scores, which produce the lowest tournament score differentials are 82 and 83. They were made on a course with a USGA Course Rating of 70.6 and a Slope Rating of 130.

Tournament Score -- Course Rating:	$82-70.6 = 11.4$
Difference x 113:	$11.4 \times 113 = 1288.2$
Result/Slope Rating:	$1288.2/130 = 9.9$
Lowest Tournament Score Differential:	9.9
2nd Lowest Tournament Score Differential:	$(83-70.6) \times 113 / 130 = 10.8$
USGA Handicap Index under Section 10-2:	17.6
Second Lowest Differential:	<u>-10.8</u>
	6.8

Since 6.8 is greater than 3.0, continue.

- iii. Average the two lowest tournament score differentials.
 $(9.9 + 10.8) / 2 = 10.35$
- iv. Subtract that average from the player's Handicap Index.
 $17.6 - 10.35 = 7.25$
- v. Using the number derived in step (iv) and the total number of tournament scores in the player's record, enter the Handicap Reduction Table below to determine the amount the player's Index is to be reduced.
- vi. Subtract the Table value from the player's Handicap Index. The result of that subtraction will be the player's USGA Handicap Index provided that it is at least one less than his USGA Handicap Index based on the Formula in Section

10-2.

		Number of Eligible Tournament Scores							
		2	3	4	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	> 40
Average of best two T-Score differentials below Handicap Index	3.0 to 3.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	3.5 to 3.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4.0 to 4.4	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4.5 to 4.9	1.8	1	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5.0 to 5.4	2.6	1.9	1	*	*	*	*	*
	5.5 to 5.9	3.4	2.7	1.9	1	*	*	*	*
	6.0 to 6.4	4.1	3.5	2.8	1.9	1	*	*	*
	6.5 to 6.9	4.8	4.3	3.7	2.9	2	1	*	*
	7.0 to 7.4	5.5	5.0	4.5	3.8	3	2.1	1	*
	7.5 to 7.9	6.2	5.7	5.3	4.7	3.9	3.1	2.2	1
	8.0 to 8.4	6.8	6.4	6	5.5	4.8	4.1	3.2	2.2
	8.5 to 8.9	7.4	7.1	6.7	6.2	5.7	5	4.2	3.3
	9.0 to 9.4	8.1	7.8	7.4	7	6.5	5.9	5.2	4.4
	9.5 to 9.9	8.7	8.4	8.1	7.7	7.3	6.7	6.1	5.4
	10.0 to 10.4	9.2	9.0	8.8	8.4	8	7.6	7	6.4
	10.5 to 10.9	9.8	9.5	9.4	9.1	8.7	8.3	7.8	7.2
	11.0 to 11.4	10.4	10.2	10	9.7	9.4	9.1	8.6	8.1
	11.5 to 11.9	11.0	10.8	10.6	10.4	10.1	9.8	9.4	8.9
12.0 to 12.4	11.5	11.4	11.2	11	10.7	10.5	10.1	9.7	
12.5 to 12.9	12.1	11.9	11.8	11.6	11.4	11.1	10.8	10.5	
13.0 to 13.4	12.6	12.5	12.4	12.2	12	11.8	11.5	11.2	
13.5 to 13.9	13.2	13.1	12.9	12.8	12.6	12.4	12.2	11.9	
14.0 to 14.4	13.7	13.6	13.5	13.4	13.2	13.0	12.8	12.6	

vii. Example:

Value from Handicap Reduction Table: 5.0
 Handicap Index -- Table Value: 17.6-5.0=12.6
 USGA Handicap Index: 12.6

c. Counting Tournament Scores

- i. T-Score Counter -- The number of eligible T-Scores will be counted on a revolving twelve-month basis. In order to keep track of the counter but not save every T-Score a counter for each month is needed. The T-Score counter will be the sum of the latest twelve monthly counters plus any T-Scores older than one year that are a part of the twenty score history. The monthly counter will increase based on the date a score is processed, not the date of the score.
- ii. Best T-Score File -- Up to the best six eligible T-Scores are saved in a "Best T-Score File", separate from the golfer's handicap record of the latest 20 scores.

- iii. Adding T-Scores -- When a new T-Score is posted, it enters the golfer's normal handicap record as a score and handicap differential. If the "Best T-Score File" has fewer than six eligible T-Scores in it, the new T-Score is added to that file. If the file already has six T-Scores, the new T-Score, if better than any T-Score in the file, is added to the file and the worst T-Score in the file is deleted from the file, regardless of the date of the T-Scores.
- iv. Discarding Old T-Scores -- At each handicap revision, each T-Score in the "Best T-Score File" is checked to see if the score is older than one year and no longer part of the player's current twenty score history. If so, the score is deleted from the file. Deleted T-Scores are replaced by the best eligible T-Scores (if any) in the golfer's handicap record that are not already in the "Best T-Score File".

■ d. Duration and Variation of Reduction

USGA Handicap Index reduction for exceptional tournament scores is calculated at each handicap revision and may vary from revision to revision based upon a number of factors. These factors may include the following:

- Additional Tournament Scores;
- Expiration of T-Scores;
- Variation in 10-2 calculation;
- Fluctuation of 10-2 calculation in relation to the 2 lowest T-Scores.

■ e. Handicap Committee Review of Reduction

The Handicap Committee shall review all reductions. The Handicap Committee may further reduce or override the reduction of a player's Handicap Index if his performance is not consistent with his scoring record. For example, the Handicap Committee may override reduction of the Handicap Index of a player who has been injured, and whose Handicap Index reduction was based on early tournament scores prior to the injury. An override is a Handicap Committee's action which cancels an Exceptional Tournament Score reduction (Section 10-3b) and is not to be used as a preventative measure in anticipation of blocking a 10-3 reduction. An override should be rescinded when a player no longer has two eligible exceptional tournament scores in his record.

■ f. Reporting Requirement

Authorized golf associations and computation service companies shall report any USGA Handicap Index reductions under this procedure (Section 10-3b) to the golf club and, if computational reports are provided to the golf association, the service company shall also report any Handicap Index reductions to the golf association. When a Handicap Index is reduced under this section, it should be identified with the letter R (e.g., 12.3R).

10-4. Course Handicap

A player's Course Handicap is determined by multiplying his USGA Handicap Index by the USGA Slope Rating of the course played and then dividing by 113. The

resulting figure is rounded off to the nearest whole number (.5 or more is rounded upward).

As an additional option, Course Handicaps may be printed on handicap records and cards.