



Handicap - FAQs

What is a golf handicap index?

A handicap index represents a golfer's potential scoring ability. It is expressed as a number to one decimal place, e.g. 25.8. 64% of women golfers have handicaps over 28. The highest handicap index a woman can have is 40.4.

Why should I have a handicap index?

A handicap index allows golfers of varying ability to compete on an equitable basis. It's also a good way to track your improvement; the lower the number, the better you're playing.

How do I establish a handicap with EWGA-OC?

There are two different ways. One way is through EWGA HQ and Golf Life Management System (GLMS). There is no additional charge for this handicapping service; it is included with your membership. Or you can opt for handicapping through the WSCGA, a local golf association, for an annual fee of \$20.

What's the difference between the two systems?

The WSCGA offers a more traditional handicapping service. It is easy and accurate. You post your rounds on a computer at the golf course. GLMS is web-based; you post your rounds on a personal computer via the Internet. Both of these handicap services are USGA approved.

How do I apply for a handicap?

For WSCGA: Fill out the application available through the ewgoc.org website. A Member ID and Password was provided in your membership packet. The form is entitled "Maintenance Form". Print out the form. Fill out the form. Make a check in the amount of \$20 payable to the "WSCGA". Send the check and the application to:

Kitty Curley
EWGA-OC Handicap Chair
628 Daisy Ave #305
Long Beach, CA 90802

The handicap chair will sign the form and send it to the WSCGA for processing.

For GLMS: you activate your account via the EWGA HQ website, ewga.com . Click on the radio button titled "Handicap Service", then on the link "Activate Handicap" follow the instructions. This will require logging into the Members Only section of the HQ website with your EWGA membership number and a password you establish.

Handicap - FAQs

I don't have a computer or I am unable to download the WSCGA handicap application. How can I get one?

If you don't have a computer, then you should get your handicap through the WSCGA. Contact Kitty Curley at (562) 436-1757 or kittythegolfer@verizon.net . Provide your mailing address and an application will be sent to you.

What do I do with my score cards?

There is a section on the WSCGA handicap application for recording your scores, and the Course Rating and Slope. Please provide this information when applying for a handicap. On the GLMS, you will input your scores. On either system, it is not necessary to send in the cards themselves.

Course Rating? Slope? What does this mean?

Course Rating is the measurement of the playing difficulty of a course for a scratch golfer under normal course and weather conditions. Slope is a measurement of a player's potential scoring ability on a course relative to the scoring ability of a scratch golfer. A golf course with a standard relative playing difficulty has a slope of 113

What happens once the WSCGA processes my application?

Once processed through the WSCGA, you will be assigned a "member number" (different from your EWGA member number). You will use this member number to post the score for each and every acceptable round of golf you play. Even the rounds you would rather forget. Each month, the WSGA will calculate your handicap index. You can have this e-mailed to you each month and check your monthly index on the WSCGA website, womensgolf.org/wscga/

What does it mean to "post a score"?

For WSCGA handicaps, golf courses have computers used for posting scores shot at that course. They are most often in the course pro shop, occasionally in the bar or the ladies locker room. Towards the end of the month, the data will be uploaded to the handicap computation service and processed by local golf associations such as the WSCGA. The posting process is user friendly, but a course employee or fellow EWGA-OC member can guide you through, should you have any questions.

For GLMS handicaps, see EWGA HQ website for posting instructions.

What happens if the computer is down or the pro shop is closed and I can't get to the computer? How do I post my round?

For WSCGA, it is always preferable to post on the course computer as soon as practical after you've played the round. However, if unavailable, there are two methods. 1) Contact your handicap chair, who will post the round for you. or 2) Internet post your round on the WSCGA web site: www.womensgolf.org/netPost/ You will need to establish a password, but this is also a user friendly system.

Handicap - FAQs

How many rounds of golf does it take to establish a handicap?

It takes a minimum of 5 rounds and a revision period to establish a handicap. Ultimately, your handicap will be based on the best 10 out of the last 20 rounds of golf you played.

Can 9 hole rounds be used for establishing a handicap?

Yes, nine hole rounds can be posted and used for handicapping. When another 9 hole round is played, it will be combined with your next nine hole round to form an 18 hole score. A "C" on your handicap card will note the combined 9 hole scores. The 9 hole rounds need not be played consecutively, in fact, can take place months apart.

What does the term "adjusted score" mean?

Once you establish a handicap, you will use Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) to adjust the score you post. ESC is the downward adjustment of individual hole scores for handicapping purposes in order to make handicaps more representative of a player's potential ability. In other words, your handicap isn't harmed or made worse by having a blowup hole or two. Handicapping is all about your scoring potential. There is no limit to the number of individual holes on which an ESC reduction can be made. You would post based on the table below.

COURSE HANDICAP	MAXIMUM NUMBER ON ANY HOLE
9 or less	Double Bogey
10 through 19	7
20 through 29	8
30 through 39	9
40 or more	10