



EQUITABLE STROKE CONTROL (ESC)

All scores for handicap purposes, including *tournament scores*, are subject to the application of *Equitable Stroke Control (ESC)*. This **MANDATORY** procedure reduces high hole scores for handicap purposes in order to make handicaps more representative of a player's potential ability.

A handicap determined from scores to which ESC has not been applied may not be termed a Handicap Index.

ESC is used when a player's actual or *most likely score* exceeds a maximum number, based on the table below, for the player's *Course Handicap* from the tees played.

Adjusting Your Score

The USGA introduced a simple, straightforward, and easy-to-remember procedure to adjust scores under Equitable Stroke Control.

Equitable Stroke Control sets a maximum number that a player can post on any hole depending on the player's Course Handicap.

Equitable Stroke Control

Equitable Stroke Control	
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

For Nine-Holers Only

Course Handicap	Maximum Number on any Hole
4 or less	Double Bogey
5 through 9	7
10 through 14	8
15 through 19	9
20 or more	10

There is no limit to the number of holes on which you can adjust your score. Just scan your scorecard and locate any holes where your score (either actual or probable) exceeds the maximum number you are allowed. Then reduce those higher hole scores to your maximum number and post your adjusted gross score for handicap purposes.