

Safeguards Included under the World Handicap System™

Safeguard #1 - Playing Conditions Calculation

At the end of each day, actual scores on a course are compared to expected scores based on each player's Handicap Index®. The proportion of scores above or below expected determines whether a playing conditions calculation (PCC) adjustment is applied to the Score Differential™ calculation for everyone who played that day.

The range of the PCC is **-1.0 to +3.0**

A **0.0** adjustment means the course played as expected (most common)

A **-1.0** adjustment means the course played easier

A **+1.0, +2.0, or +3.0** adjustment means the course played more difficult

Players are encouraged to **post scores on the day of play** to contribute to the PCC data pool.

Safeguard #2 - Limit on Extreme Upward Movement

As part of the Handicap Index calculation, a player's new value is compared to their Low Handicap Index™ from the last 365 days and:

If a 3.0 stroke increase takes place

A **soft cap** will slow down additional upward movement **by 50%**



If a 5.0 stroke increase takes place (after the soft cap is applied)

A **hard cap** will prevent any additional upward movement



Safeguard #3 - Exceptional Score Reduction

As part of the Handicap Index calculation, an exceptional score reduction (ESR) will apply when a player submits a score that produces a Score Differential **7.0** strokes or better than their Handicap Index at the time the round was played.

-1.0 adjustment

Score Differential is 7.0-9.9 strokes better

-2.0 adjustment

Score Differential is at least 10.0 strokes better

The **-1.0 or -2.0** adjustment is applied to each of the most recent 20 Score Differentials in the player's scoring record.