Safeguards have been added under the World Handicap System™

**Safeguard #1 – Playing Conditions Calculation**

A daily Playing Conditions Calculation compares actual scores made at each course to the expected scores of the players who made them. If the scores are significantly higher or lower than expected, an automatic adjustment is applied to the score differential™ calculation of those who played that day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The range of the PCC is -1.0 to +3.0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A 0.0 adjustment means the course played as expected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A -1.0 adjustment means the course played easier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A +1.0, +2.0, or +3.0 adjustment means the course played more difficult</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: The PCC is conservative and will result in 0.0 on most days. If an adjustment is made, it will be clearly identified in the player’s scoring record.

**Safeguard #2 – Limit on Extreme Upward Movement**

Each time a player’s Handicap Index® updates, the new value is compared to the player’s Low Handicap Index from the past year and:

- If a 3.0 stroke increase takes place:
  - A soft cap will slow additional upward movement by 50%

  ![Safeguard #2 Diagram]

- 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**

An Exceptional Score Reduction (ESR) will be applied automatically 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:

- If the score is 7.0 – 9.9 strokes better:
  - A -1.0 Handicap Index adjustment will be applied

- If the score is 10.0 or more strokes better:
  - A -2.0 Handicap Index adjustment will be applied

Notes: The -1.0 or -2.0 adjustment is applied to each of the most recent 20 score differentials in the player’s scoring record. Future scores will not contain the -1.0 or -2.0 adjustment, allowing the reduction to play itself out of the scoring record.

For more information or to learn more about the WHS, visit usga.org/whs