



FGCC Handicap Committee News & Briefs

What scores should I post?

The game of golf is based on the premise that a player will play as well as the player can play.

Fair handicapping depends upon full and accurate information regarding a player's potential scoring ability as reflected by a complete scoring record. Every player must be responsible for posting all acceptable scores and Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) must be applied to all scores including tournament scores.

- ✓ A player who starts, but does not complete a hole or is conceded a stroke must record the *most likely score*. The most likely score may not exceed the player's Equitable Stroke Control limit. There is no limit to the number of unfinished holes a player may have in a round, provided that failure to finish is not for the purpose of handicap manipulation.
- ✓ If a player does not play a hole or plays it other than under The Rules of Golf (except for preferred lies), the score recorded for that hole for handicap purposes must be par plus any handicap strokes the player is entitled to receive on that hole. This hole score, when recorded, should be preceded by an "X."
- ✓ If 13 or more holes played, the player must post an 18-hole score. If 7 to 12 holes are played, the player must post a nine-hole score.
- ✓ Scores in both match play and stroke play must be posted for handicap purposes. This includes scores made in match play, in multi-ball, or in team competitions in which players have not completed one or more holes or in which players are requested to pick up when out of contention on a hole.
- ✓ A player who is disqualified from a competition, but has an acceptable score, must record an adjusted gross score for handicap purposes.
- ✓ Adjusted gross scores from all courses with a USGA Course Rating and Slope Rating, both home and away, must be posted by the player along with the appropriate USGA Course Rating and Slope Rating.

Unacceptable Scores for Posting;

- ✓ When fewer than 7 holes are played
- ✓ When a majority of the holes are not played in accordance with principles of The Rules of Golf (except for preferred lies)
- ✓ When the length of the course is less than 3,000 yards for 18 holes (or less than 1,500 yards for 9 holes)
- ✓ When, as a condition of the competition, the maximum number of clubs allowed is less than 14, or types of clubs are limited, for example, in a competition that allows only irons
- ✓ When a player carries or uses non-conforming clubs or uses non-conforming balls or tees
- ✓ When artificial devices are used during the execution of a stroke
- ✓ When scores are made on a course with no USGA Course Rating or Slope Rating

Mulligans, double bogey max, preferred lies, .etc, are all acceptable forms of play as long as the **majority of the holes played are played under the rules of golf.** Therefore, **in general, any time you put a tee in the ground you should post a score.**