

EQUITABLE STROKE CONTROL (ESC)

Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) is the downward adjustment of individual hole scores *for handicap purposes* in order to make handicaps more representative of a player's potential ability.

ESC sets a maximum number that a player can post on any hole, depending upon the player's *course handicap*. ESC is used only when a player's actual or most likely score exceeds her maximum number based upon the following table:

Course Handicap	Max Score Recorded
9 or less	Double Bogey
10 – 19	7
20 – 29	8
30 – 39	9
40 or over	10

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL THESE PROVISIONS BE USED TO CONTROL A PLAYER'S HANDICAP ARTIFICIALLY.

- *For handicap purposes only*, if a player completes a hole and her gross score exceeds the ESC number, she must record the ESC number for that hole.
- *For handicap purposes only*, if a player starts but does not complete a hole, she must record the gross score she most likely would have made if the hole had been completed. This score cannot exceed the limit on the Equitable Stroke Control table.
- *For handicap purposes only*, when a stroke is conceded, the player's gross score should be the number of strokes actually taken plus one or two putts for the concession. However, the player's total score for that hole should not exceed the allowable by the ESC table.
- *For handicap purposes only*, if a player does not play the hole or does not play it under the Rules of Golf, the score for that hole shall be par plus any handicap strokes received on the hole. However, the player's total score for that hole should not exceed the allowable by the ESC table.

NOTE: Many tournaments (including most WGG and WGANC tournaments) require that a participant play each hole completely until the putt is holed and record the gross number of strokes taken. In these cases, the ESC-adjusted score is also noted on the scorecard and the ESC-adjusted score is posted electronically in the GHIN system.