

# EQUITABLE STROKE CONTROL

**Equitable Stroke Control (ESC)** is a mandatory procedure that reduces high hole scores in order to make handicaps more representative of a player's potential scoring ability. ESC applies to all scores including tournament scores.

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

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

There is no limit to the number of holes on which a player may adjust their score.

## WHAT SCORE DO I POST IF.....

**Q** - What score do I post if I am conceded a stroke?

**A** - If you are conceded a stroke, you would record your most likely score. The *most likely score* consists of the number of strokes already taken, plus in your best judgment, the number of strokes you would need to complete the hole from that position more than half the time. This most likely score should be preceded by an "X", such as X6.

The number may not exceed your ESC limit.

**Q** - What score do I post for a hole not played?

**A** - If you do not play a hole or play it other than under the Rules of Golf (except for preferred lies), the score for that hole for handicap purposes shall be par plus any handicap strokes you are entitled to receive on the hole. When recording this hole score, precede the score with an "X".

**For example:** Mary has a Course Handicap of 12, she receives a handicap stroke on the first 12 allocated handicap-stroke holes. She decides to quit after playing 14 holes due to rain. Holes 15, 16, 17 and 18 are a par 5, 3, 4 and 5 and are allocated as number 2, 18, 10 and 12 handicap holes, respectively. She would record an X6, X3, X5 and X6 for those holes respectively. She can now post an 18-hole score.

**Q** - What score do I post if I do not finish a hole?

**A** - When you start, but do not finish a hole, you must record for handicap purposes your most likely score. The most likely score is the number of strokes already taken, plus the number of strokes you would need to complete the hole.

The player must evaluate each situation based on what the player can reasonably expect to score.

**Q** - What score do I post if I play a temporary green?

**A** - If the hole's character and playing length have not been altered and you can play the hole under the Rules of Golf, then you can post your actual score on the hole. Otherwise, you must post par, plus any handicap strokes you would be entitled to on that hole.

**Q** - What score do I post if I play a mulligan?

**A** - If you play a mulligan, you aren't playing under the Rules of Golf. However, you can still post the score. For handicap purposes, you treat it as a hole not played and record a par plus any handicap strokes you would have received. When recording this hole, precede the score with an "X", such as X5.

