

Date: November 10, 2012

To: Penn National Handicap System Members

From: Penn National Handicap Committee

This is the first of a series of planned communications intended to provide information to the members of the Penn National Handicap System.

What does the Handicap Committee Do?

What Handicap adjustments can the Committee make?

These are typical of the questions that Committee Members hear. We'll try to provide answers to these questions in this communication.

Under USGA rules, each club that issues handicaps to members must establish a Handicap Committee to "oversee all aspects of the USGA Handicap System including the computation of each member's Handicap Index". The Committee is specifically charged with ensuring the "integrity of each Handicap Index it issues" and to "verify that all acceptable scores are reported for handicap purposes and that scores posted are available for peer review".

What is an acceptable score? Any score where the player follows the Rules of Golf. A future communication will cover this topic in more detail. For an 18 hole round of golf to be posted, at least 13 holes must have been completed under the Rules of Golf. For a 9 hole round to be posted at least 7 holes must have been completed under the Rules of Golf.

A goal of the Handicap System is to record all acceptable rounds for all players in order to provide a full and accurate assessment of the player's ability. If a player discards some rounds played, the record is neither accurate nor complete.

The Handicap Committee may make adjustments to a player's Handicap Index for various reasons. If the Committee believes that the player's Handicap Index does not reflect the player's ability, the Committee may adjust the index to reflect the player's ability. Some reasons that an index may be adjusted include:

- Temporary Disability
- Numerous away or internet scores that do not reflect the player's demonstrated ability
- Scores not posted that would raise or lower the player's Handicap Index
- Player manipulates round
- Handicap System does not react as fast as the player's ability improves or declines
- Scores posted with incorrect hole scores
- Extraordinary Tournament Play (these are automatic adjustments defined by the USGA Handicap System)

When the Handicap Committee makes an adjustment, the Handicap Index will be annotated with an "M" indicating that the Committee has modified the player's index. Extraordinary Tournament Play adjustments are made automatically and are annotated with an "R" (revised) which are subsequently reviewed by the Committee.

One of the goals of the Handicap Committee goal is to ensure that every Handicap Index reflects the player's ability and that the measurement is applied equally for all players.

If you have questions, you may contact any member of the Handicap Committee or send a response to this e-mail.

Penn National Handicap Committee:

Gene Gellman, Chairman

Fran Kasher

Dave Loveland

Ken Motter

Steve Willette

Dave Beegle, PGA Professional