

2013 Handicap Information

A handicap index is a number (3.4 - 40.4) that is calculated using your scores at various golf courses in conjunction with the level of difficulty (slope/rating) at those courses and reflects your potential skill level. You don't have to be a good golfer to obtain a handicap. As your skill improves, your index goes lower. It allows you to monitor your improvement and play competitively against other golfers of any ability in tournaments. (Your course handicap is subtracted from your gross score to obtain a net score that is compared to other golfers' net score to determine winners of games and tournaments.)

All members are encouraged to obtain and maintain a handicap. Members who choose to have a handicap should post all their 9 or 18 hole scores whenever they play golf (other than practice rounds). It is imperative that any score posted reflect the player's best ability for that round of golf regardless of outcome (not just good or bad scores).

Either an EWGA GolfNet 21 handicap or NCGA handicap is required for EWGA tournaments and inter-chapter events (Chapter Championship, California Cup, Champions Cup, Travel League, etc.).

GOLFNET21

EWGA provides a **FREE** on-line handicap system to all EWGA members provided by **GolfNet21**. This system is approved by the USGA and will give you an up-to-the-minute picture of your handicap index. A minimum of five 18-hole scores (or ten 9-hole scores) must be posted to obtain an index. Additional information on how to use the system can be found by clicking the Resources tab (at the top of our website – you must be logged in to see it) then click All Libraries / "Golf! Learn, Play, Compete" -or- contact **Cathy Pementell** from our Handicap Committee.

NCGA (Northern California Golf Association)

Optionally, members may choose to sign-up for an **NCGA** handicap through our association. An NCGA membership gives you access to additional courses at a discount (Poppy Ridge in Livermore and Poppy Hills in Pebble Beach) as well as NCGA tournaments, NCGA magazine and other benefits.

Membership fees through our chapter are:

\$50 for a new NCGA membership,

\$40 for NCGA membership renewals through our association and cover a calendar year.

Please make checks payable to EWGANEB and mail to EWGA Northeast Bay Chapter, 1630 North Main St., Suite 162, Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596. Or pay by credit card on our website in October or November for the following calendar year.

Definitions:

Course Handicap (CH): Every course is different in difficulty. Some are easier than others. Based on the level of course difficulty your CH may be different than your handicap index. Check the women's chart near the NCGA posting terminal at the golf course to determine your Course Handicap for that course. If no chart is present, then use the NCGA posting terminal: press 3 and enter your index. Find your CH from the course and tees listed that you are playing. The CH is used for tournament play.

Practice round: A round of golf where additional strokes are repeated (as with different clubs to judge the distance to a par three or similar situations where additional strokes are taken outside of the Rules of Golf). A score from practice rounds where additional strokes are taken outside the Rules of Golf (or where rules are not followed in general) do not reflect a golfer's true ability and should not be posted.

Equitable Stroke Control: Anyone who posts scores to a handicap system must adjust any single hole score down to the Maximum Score shown in the table using their Course Handicap, then re-add their score for posting purposes. This adjustment provides a more accurate handicap index by not being influenced by occasional "blow-up" holes. (This adjusted score is only for posting purposes, not for determining your total score for a tournament.)

Course Handicap	Maximum Score
0-9	Double Bogey
10-19	7
20-29	8
30-39	9
40 or more	10