



## Golf Handicap Terminology

### **USGA -- United States Golf Association**

USGA® develops the formula used in tabulating handicaps, it does not issue them directly to individual golfers. A USGA Handicap Index is issued through licensed golf clubs that follow all the procedures of the established USGA Handicap System™.

### **GHIN -- Golf Handicap and Information Network**

GHIN is the world's largest handicap computation service. GHIN is provided through 71 State, Regional or National Golf Associations to over 12,000 clubs and approximately 2.3 million golfers. GHIN is maintained by the United States Golf Association®

### **GN21 -- GolfNet21**

GN21 is the electronic handicap system used by EWGA chapters.

**Handicap Index** -- the USGA's mark used to indicate a measurement of a player's potential ability on a course of standard playing difficulty. It is expressed as a number taken to one decimal place (e.g., 10.4) and is used for conversion to a *Course Handicap*.

**Course Handicap** -- the USGA's mark that indicates the number of handicap strokes a player receives from a specific set of tees at the course being played to adjust the player's scoring ability to the level of scratch or zero-handicap golf.

**ESC -- Equitable Stroke Control** -- 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 on the player's *Course Handicap*. *ESC* is used only when a player's actual or *most likely score* exceeds the player's maximum number according to the *ESC* table.