

Handicap Review Notification and Appeal Process Overview of Path 1

With the introduction of the USGA Handicap Review Tool and the recommendation for all authorized golf clubs to run a club-wide handicap review at least once every 365 days, in addition to individual reviews as needed, the USGA is providing two paths for Handicap Committees to consider when applying Handicap Index® adjustments to members of its golf club.

This paper covers Path 1, which is consistent with the *Rules of Handicapping* (see Rule 7.1a) and works as follows:

Step 1:

After conducting the club-wide review using the USGA Handicap Review Tool, for any players who received a recommended Handicap Index adjustment, the club considers all available evidence and determines whether the adjustment is warranted.

Step 2:

Before applying an adjustment, the club must notify the player and provide them with an opportunity to respond to the Handicap Committee. The player must have recourse to an appeals procedure, if requested. The Handicap Committee should provide a timeframe for the player to respond, such as 5 to 10 days.

Step 3:

After the timeframe has passed or the player has made their appeal, the Handicap Committee will decide whether to apply the Handicap Index adjustment. If applied, the adjustment will then be reflected in the player's Handicap Index, e.g. 13.4M.

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