

5.4 Frequency of Revision of a Handicap Index Update

A player's *Handicap Index* should be updated no later than the day after a score was submitted, or as soon as possible thereafter.

In a situation when a new round is played before the player's *Handicap Index* has been updated, including when multiple rounds are played on the same day, it is recommended that the player uses their existing *Handicap Index*. However, in certain circumstances, the Committee in charge of the competition (or the *Handicap Committee*) has the discretion to decide what *Playing Handicap* the player should use (see Rule 7.2).

Rule 5.4 Interpretations:

5.4/1 – Example Situation When Committee in Charge of a Competition May Adjust a Player's Playing Handicap

In a situation where a player has performed exceptionally well in an *authorized format of play* during a morning round and is playing a competition round later the same day, as the player's *Handicap Index* will not be updated until the next day, the Committee in charge of the competition may decide to adjust the player's *Playing Handicap*.

The Committee should consider all of the information available before deciding whether to adjust the player's *Playing Handicap*, including what impact the score may have had on the player's *Handicap Index* and whether the player would obtain any unfair advantage because their *Handicap Index* has not been updated. 5.4/2 – Golf Club Responsibility to Post Scores As Soon As Possible

Where it is the responsibility of a *golf club* to post scores at the end of each day, this must be done as soon as possible and preferably before midnight to support the *Rules of Handicapping*. This is important because it:

- Ensures that a player's *Handicap Index* is updated as soon as possible after the round was played (see Rule 5.4).
- Allows for the *playing conditions calculation* to be carried out (see Rule 5.6).
- Ensures that, where appropriate, scores are available for verification by peers.
- Enables the *Handicap Committee* to carry out its other responsibilities (see Rule 7.1b).

Failure to carry out this responsibility may compromise the integrity of the *Rules of Handicapping*.

