

Handicap Adjustment Information

When one competitive game is being played on two different sets of tees, there are TWO adjustments that must be made according to the PGA.

The first adjustment is to use the handicap from the tees you are playing. Second, you must adjust for the difference between the two course ratings (course named vs "short"). For example, if the game is based on the course named tees, the handicaps of those who play from the "short" tees must be adjusted downward.

Longer and more complete answer:

There are indeed 2 drivers for the stroke adjustment: the lower handicap from the short tees AND the difference in the course RATING (not the slope). So, for Palmetto (which has the largest difference in course rating between the Palmetto and Palmetto Shorts), a player with a 20 index would "give up" 2 strokes if she decided to play from the short tees against a player of the same index playing from the Palmetto tees.

Don't player handicaps make play fair?

It is important to note, right at the start, that golf handicaps level the playing field when competing from the SAME tees. Comparing scores posted from the same tee is analogous to comparing **apples to apples** (unless it is mixed-gendered competition). Handicaps in golf, though, do not level the playing field when players golf from different sets of tees or from the same tee with different Course Ratings (i.e., men and women's ratings). Comparing scores from different sets of tees or different Course Ratings is like comparing **apples to oranges**.

Making play fair

In order to make competition from tees with different Course Ratings fair, an adjustment to players' Course Handicap must be made. An upward adjustment in handicap for players playing from tees with higher Course Ratings or a decrease in handicap for player playing from tees with lower Course Ratings can be applied.

Example of calculation where course named and short are used in same flight.

Also Long Deer Creek vs Deer Creek

Handicap AND course RATING delta are BOTH drivers.

- Assumptions:
1. The game is based on the course named tees.
 2. The players have a choice of playing from the course named tees or the short tees.
 3. The player has a 20.0 index.

	Rating	Index	HCP	Game Base Strokes	Short Rating Adjust	Long* Rating Adjust	Strokes from shorts	Strokes from longs*	Player's Choice		Diff
									Course Named	Shorts or Longs*	
Plantation	72.1	20.0	22	22							
Plantation Short	71.6	20.0	22		-0.5		21.5				
PLANTATION									22	22	-0.5
Palmetto	71.3	20.0	22	22							
Palmetto Short	70.0	20.0	21		-1.3		19.7				
PALMETTO									22	20	-2.3
Oakridge	69.9	20.0	22	22							
Oakridge Short	69.4	20.0	21		-0.5		20.5				
OAKRIDGE									22	21	-1.5
Deer Creek	69.5	20.0	22	22							
Deer Creek Long*	70.6	20.0	22			1.1		23.1			
DEER CREEK									22	23	1.1

* Applies to DC only. Assume game based on DC tees, so + adjustment for Long Tees.

This model does not calculate handicaps, but if you input your handicap for both the course named tees and the short tees, it will calculate your handicap if you play the short tees in a game based on course named tees (and long for DC) and the differential.