

## “SOFT CAP AND HARD CAP PROCEDURE”

### Rule 5.8 - Limit on Upward Movement of a Handicap Index

There are two trigger points within the cap procedure:

- **The soft cap.** The *soft cap* is triggered when the difference between a player’s newly calculated *Handicap Index* and their *Low Handicap Index* is greater than 3.0 strokes.

When a calculated *Handicap Index* increase is greater than 3.0 strokes, the value above 3.0 strokes is restricted to 50% of the increase.

- **The hard cap.** The *hard cap* triggers to restrict the amount by which a player’s *Handicap Index* can increase, after application of the soft cap, to no more than 5.0 strokes above their *Low Handicap Index*.

There is no limit on the amount by which a player’s *Handicap Index* can decrease.

The *soft cap* and *hard cap* procedures start to take effect only after the *Low Handicap Index* has been established.

**DIAGRAM 5.8: THE SOFT CAP AND HARD CAP**

