How Many Holes Must be Played to Post an Acceptable Score?

Rule 2.2 Rules of Handicapping Minimum Number of Holes Played to Allow for a Score to be Acceptable.

For An 18-Hole Score

For an 18-hole score to be acceptable for handicap purposes, **a minimum of 10 holes must be played**, *providing there is a valid reason for not playing a hole*.

When posting a score that includes holes not played, the un-played holes are designated by posting "0". This cues the system to generate the appropriate "expected" Score Differential for the hole(s) not played. The "expected" Score Differential is combined with the Score Differential generated for the holes played to produce an acceptable 18-hole score differential.

Valid reasons for holes not played.

Fading light or bad weather, player injury or illness, a match finishing before the final hole, or a hole or green being declared out of play for maintenance or reconstruction purposes.

For A 9-Hole Score

For a 9-hole score to be acceptable for handicap purposes, **all 9 holes must be played**.

Exception for a hole not played in a 9-hole round: If a hole or green is declared out of play for maintenance or reconstruction purposes, "Net-Par" can be used to produce a score for that hole. "Net-Par" is calculated as Par plus any handicap strokes received for that hole, based on course handicap and the stroke index value of that hole.