

**TO: USCTA Members and US Professionals**  
**FROM: Handicap & Ranking Committee**  
**RE: US Handicap Adjustment**  
**DATE: October 15, 2007**

Over the past several years it has become apparent that there is a handicap imbalance between US and non-US players. Generally speaking (and more so in the higher handicap ranges), a non-US player will consistently beat an equally handicapped US player. The US Handicap & Ranking Committee has been looking into this issue and has made the recommendation below. The USCTA passed the recommendation at its September 2007 meeting and it has since been put into effect on the realtennisonline handicap system.

**All US singles handicaps, except for players with home courts in Washington and Philadelphia, will be moved out 1 point for every 10 points starting at the 20 handicap level (ie: 20>21, 30>32, 40>43, 50>54, 60>65, etc.). Players with New York as their home court will be moved out 1 point starting at the 30 handicap level.**

We expect that this will help to improve the US / non-US imbalance. We will be looking at future results to determine if future adjustments are needed. As Washington players have been handicapped at international standards and Philadelphia players adjusted individually, their handicaps have remained the same. After consultations with New York, a lesser adjustment was made for those home court players due to a variety of factors.

As of late September 2007, here are international and US averages:

<u>ALL handicaps</u>				<u>USA handicaps</u>			
Male:	4,712	Average:	45.5	Male:	702	Average:	39.5
Female:	804	Average:	62.1	Female:	99	Average:	60.0
?:	295	?:	54.0	?:	56	Average:	41.5

*(note: ? = no gender recorded on the RTO database)*

Please contact your Club Professional or any of the following USH&RC members if you have any questions or would like more information on this handicap adjustment (Robert Sheppard, Greg Van Schaack, Dacre Stoker, Greg Van Schaack, Jim Wharton, Rob Whitehouse, Jeremy Wintersteen).