

## 📌 Understanding the Handicap Ranges

The page presents a scenario:

- Your handicap is 18
- You often shoot a score of 86 during weekly competitions
- The page then asks: \*What are the odds that you should be shooting 86 once a week?\*

It then points you to a table that gives the statistical probability.  
From the page content I can see, the relevant number shown is:

- Odds: 87 to 1

This means:

☐ If your handicap is 18, shooting an 86 is statistically rare — about once every 87 rounds.

So if someone with an 18 handicap is shooting 86 \*every week\*, the implication is that they are performing far better than their stated handicap suggests.

This is why the page is titled “Are You Sandbagging?” — a golf term for intentionally keeping a handicap artificially high.

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### ☐ What the Handicap Range Table Represents

Although the full table isn't visible in the snippet, tables like this typically show:

- Expected score deviations for each handicap level
- Probability of shooting a certain number of strokes **\*\*below\*\*** your handicap
- How often such a score should statistically occur

For example (illustrative pattern):

Handicap	Score Below Handicap	Expected Frequency
18	2 strokes better	~1 in 20 rounds
18	4 strokes better	~1 in 87 rounds
18	6 strokes better	~1 in 500 rounds

Your page is pointing to the **\*\*4-strokes-better\*\*** scenario (shooting 86 instead of 90).

## ■ Typical Handicap Range Expectations

Below is a general guide to how often golfers might exceed expectations:

Strokes Better Than Handicap	Expected Frequency
1-2 strokes better	Occasionally
3-4 strokes better	Rare
4+ strokes better	Very rare (e.g., 87:1)

*Note: Exact odds vary by handicap level, but the pattern is consistent.*

### Why This Matters

Handicap systems assume that golfers will occasionally shoot well below their average — but not consistently. If someone repeatedly shoots scores that statistically should happen only once every 87 rounds, it suggests:

- Their handicap is outdated
- They are improving rapidly
- Or they may be intentionally keeping their handicap higher than their true ability

This is the essence of sandbagging

