

- According to a four-year study of handicap leagues (mixed, all-women and all-men) the handicap percentages 75%, 80% and 90% do not fully equalize competition:

Handicap Percent	Championships won by team with average below median in the league	Championships won by team with average above median in the league
70	0 out of 100	100 out of 100
75	0 out of 100	100 out of 100
80	0 out of 100	100 out of 100
85	6 out of 100	94 out of 100
90	11 out of 100	89 out of 100
95	24 out of 100	76 out of 100
100	30 out of 100	70 out of 100

- **MYTH:** At 100% handicap every team has a 50-50 chance of winning.
- **BUSTED:** Even at 100% handicap, as the chart above shows, the higher-average teams or bowlers still have a decided edge. Seventy out of 100 championships still are won by the higher-average team when 100% handicap is used. An exact 50-50 distribution of league championships would result only if a 116% handicap was used.
- **MYTH:** It is harder for a higher-average team to win because the lower-average team gets so many pins handicap.
- **BUSTED:** You must always look at the difference in averages as well as handicap. In the table the higher-average team total is 73% or 223 pins higher than the lower-average team.

BASE 200					BASE 200				
TEAM A					TEAM B				
	Average	80%	90%	100%		Average	80%	90%	100%
Linda	120	64	72	80	Dave	150	40	45	50
Dick	115	68	76	85	Patti	167	26	29	33
Kathy	95	84	94	105	Scott	185	12	13	15
Jeff	135	52	58	65	Terri	188	9	10	12
Sandi	142	46	52	58	Lisa	140	48	54	60
	607	314	352	393		830	135	151	170
Average + 80% = 921					Average + 80% = 965				
Average + 90% = 959					Average + 90% = 981				
Average + 100% = 1000					Average + 100% = 1000				