

Match Play Rules

What is Match Play and how to play?

Golf was played under the match play system for hundreds of years and many championships and pennant competitions are still played this way. Match Play simply means that a game is played by holes, rather than calculating the total number of strokes or points.

A hole is won by the player who achieves the best score. The hole is said to be halved if both players complete the hole in the same score.

The match is won by the player who wins the most holes. A game can be cut short when the number of holes a particular player is leading by exceeds the number of holes left to play on the course (eg. 3 and 2, means 3 holes up with only 2 to play).

In a handicap match, the lower net score wins the hole. The handicapping system in matchplay is based on the difference between the player's stroke handicaps, so that a player on a 10 handicap would give an 18 handicapper eight strokes (ie. The 18 handicapper receives a stroke on 1 to 8 on the index). These strokes are allocated on the matchplay index according to the scorecard.

Where there is more than eighteen strokes difference between handicaps, players receive two strokes per hole where applicable.

Rules

- ✓ Match will be played off the Match Play Index (not the Stroke index). Special score cards will be available.
- ✓ Games must be completed by or on the completion date for the particular round and the result written on the board. Every attempt must be made by both players to arrange a suitable time to play the match. If a match cannot be arranged, the winner will be decided by the single toss of a coin. Players should ensure the result is decided by the date to avoid this happening.
- ✓ Players are to use their current golfink handicap.
- ✓ Matches can be played at any mutually agreed time during the week, including Saturday Golf (Excluding Championship events & Pro-Am). *If you wish to play during a Saturday competition, out of courtesy to the committee, please ensure you get there early and inform the people running golf of your request to play together.*
- ✓ Matches can also be broken over 2 lots of nine holes as agreed by both players prior to the commencement of the match.
- ✓ Should a match be tied after 18 holes, the playoff holes are 1 and 2 and will be played on a rotational basis until a result is achieved. These holes are to be played in a "sudden death stroke" format (i.e. Off-the-stick).
- ✓ No practice or play on the course is permitted prior to the Match Play competition.
- ✓ Rulings or adjudications, if required, will be the responsibility of the Match Play organisers and their decision will be final.

Good luck and good golfing.....