



Jacksonville Summer Team Match Play Primer - 2021

In Match Play the golfers you are playing against are your opponents.

Scoring: Each hole stands alone. Scoring is done on a hole by hole basis. The “side” with the best ball net score wins that hole.

Concession of Next Stroke, Hole or Match

A player may concede a hole or a match at any time prior to the conclusion of the hole or the match.

Conceded putts are perfectly legal, they are part of the game. If a putt is conceded it is wise to pick up your ball. Refusing to pick up your ball and putting to show your partner the line of putt is a loss of hole for your partner and your score on the hole is the score that counts. Score by ESC, or most likely to have made.

Concession of a stroke, hole or match *may not be declined or withdrawn.*

When someone concedes your putt it is wise to pick your ball up. The reason: depending on the circumstances of the concession, putting after the concession (which might give your partner information about her putt) will result in the score for the hole standing at whatever your score would be with that conceded stroke. *Example:* Sue & Betty are partners. Sue is lying 2 and 6 feet from the hole. Betty is on the same line as her partner putting for 4 but farther away. Their opponents concede Betty’s putt. Betty says “I’m going to putt anyway” and does showing her partner the line. Once Betty did that, the score for the hole for Sue & Betty is 5, Sue is disqualified from the hole and must pick up her ball.

Note: Rule 3 Concessions If the opponent lifts her ball because of a reasonable misunderstanding that the player’s statement of action was a concession of the next stroke, a hole or the match, there is *no penalty* and the ball must be replaced on its original spot (which if not known must be estimated).

Representation of a Side

A side may be represented by one *partner* for all or any part of a match; all partners need not be present. An absent *partner* may join a match between holes but not during the play of a hole.

Summer Team Local Rule: In the event that A or B Team is running late, C Team can tee off first.

In Match play you can’t play a 2nd ball. In match play if a doubt or dispute arises between sides, a player may say that that she wants a ruling. She must ask before beginning the play of the next hole. (Disputes should be settled on the course between the opponents to the best of your ability.) If not, the team then must continue the match without delay and bring the question/challenge to the attention of the Committee or PGA professional immediately following play.

Helpful Hint: try to reach an agreement with your opponent and play. There is no penalty if neither side knows the rule and proceeds incorrectly providing you both have agreed to what you “believe” to be the rule or “fair” in any given situation. In that situation, the status of the hole remains as is even if you later learn you proceeded incorrectly.

Order of Play

Balls belonging to the same *side* may be played in the order the *side* considers best.

In match play the player or side who won the last hole as “honors”.

Wrong Ball

If a player incurs a loss of hole penalty for making a stroke at a *wrong ball*, she is disqualified for **that hole**, but her partner incurs no penalty even if the *wrong ball* belongs to her. If the *wrong ball* belongs to another player, its owner must place a ball on the spot from which the *wrong ball* was first played.

Handicap Strokes “Dotted” on Wrong Holes: If scorecards are marked incorrectly and it is discovered after the play of those holes, the results of those holes (or entire match) shall stand. If the mistake is discovered immediately after play of that hole and before the next hole begins, they may correct the match score before teeing off on the next hole.

Advice: Giving distance measurements is permissible.

Information as to Strokes Taken: Players must provide to each other the number of strokes taken if requested. *Good practice to ask what everyone is lying once all players are on the green.*

Playing outside or from wrong Teeing Ground in Match play: if a player when starting a hole plays from the wrong tee ground or outside the teeing ground, the opponent may immediately request that the player replay the stroke (no penalty). If not, the player must play the stroke.

NEW in 2019: Accidentally **Hits Any person animal or object:** If your ball hits you, your opponent or her/ or your equipment there is no penalty and you play the ball as it lies. **EXCEPTION:** Except on the putting green where the stroke does not count and must be replayed.

Hitting a ball at rest on the green. If your putt strikes another ball on the green in match play there is no penalty. The stroke counts and the ball must be played as it lies.

NEW It's OKAY to Ground your club in a Penalty Area. (red and yellow stakes).

A Few Of Golf's New Rules: There are more, take time to visit usga.org

1. Dropping a Ball: from knee height in the relief area
2. Time for Search: 3 MINUTES is the maximum to search for a ball.
3. You may repair spike marks
4. Relaxed rules in Penalty Area: You may ground your club.

Summer Team Scorecard Rule: Each match will have 2 scorecards signed and attested to certify: the points of the match AND the gross scores of all 4 players. The gross scores on all cards MUST match.

For more information, please visit the USGA.org. Read and watch the instructional videos on all of the 2019 Rules Changes.