

## Wednesday Ladies Day Match Play Rules

- In match play, each hole is a separate contest. If you win the first hole, you are “1 up” and your opponent is “1 down.” If you tie the hole, then you are “all square.”
- You have won the match when you are up more holes than remain to be played. For example, if you are “3 up” and there are only 2 holes remaining, you have won with a final score of “3 and 2.”
- You may concede a hole at any time or concede putts (be sure and count the stroke for the conceded putt). Once a stroke, hole or match is conceded, the concession can not be declined or withdrawn.
- Play should be by honors (on hole 1, you may draw to see who goes first), meaning whoever had the lowest score on a hole should be the first to tee off on the next hole. If you tie a hole, whoever teed off on that hole retains the honor for the next hole.
- In match play at any time during the play of a hole, you must, if asked, tell your opponent the number of strokes you have taken.
- During the play of a hole, the player whose ball is farthest from the hole plays first. If you play out of turn, your opponent can make you replay your shot (without penalty).
- If you play a ball that is not yours, you lose the hole. This is true even if you play the wrong ball out of a bunker. You are allowed to identify your ball in a bunker, but it must be replaced as nearly as possible to its original position.
- Play the ball “up” a scorecard length everywhere unless you are in a hazard or less than a club length from a fence, tree or out-of-bounds stake. You may not move the ball from rough to fairway or fairway to rough.
- If you cannot play your match at the assigned time, please contact your opponent as soon as possible and schedule a time to play. You have until the following Tuesday night to play your match. The dates will be on the bracket sheets which will be on the bulletin board. Scorecards will be in a folder at the front desk. Please return the completed scorecards to the folder.
- If you get a “BYE” or do not play your match on Wednesday, you may play in regular league play, but you cannot win points for that day.
- If you chip-in, you may list it on the bottom of your Ringer Sheet, but **DO NOT** change any scores. Put MP by the date on the Ringer Sheet to indicate it was made during match play.
- If you have a birdie or eagle (hole **MUST** be completed – no conceded putts), you may list it on the bottom of your Ringer Sheet, but **DO NOT** change any scores. Put MP by the date on the Ringer Sheet to indicate it was made during match play.
- There will **NOT** be a consolation bracket. Therefore, when you lose the first time, you are eliminated entirely from match play.
- **PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT SCORE POSTING AND HANDICAP INFORMATION.**

*We thank everyone in advance for their cooperation. Have fun and enjoy your matches!*

We do use handicap allowances for match play. The lower-handicap player will start at "scratch" and the higher-handicap will receive "strokes" equal to the difference in the 2 handicaps. For example, player A has a handicap of 25 and player B has a handicap of 30. Player B will receive 5 "strokes". These will be noted by dots on the scorecard. If you have no dots on a hole, you are not getting strokes on that hole. If both players have the same handicap, then no strokes are given.

In previous years, scores from Match Play were not posted on handicap records. However, USGA Handicap System rules state:

**Scores in both match play and stroke play must be posted for handicap purposes. This includes scores made in match play, in multi-ball, or in team competitions in which players have not completed one or more holes or in which players are requested to pick up when out of contention on a hole.**

It had previously been assumed that match play scores were not posted because of conceded strokes or holes, or a match being completed with less than 18 holes played. The USGA Handicap System provides the following guidelines for how the scores are to be recorded in these instances.

**If a player picks up on a hole or is conceded a stroke, record the "most likely score" that would have been made. The most likely score consists of the number of strokes already taken plus, in her best judgment, the number of strokes that the player would need to complete the hole from that position more than half the time. For example, a player lies five when she picks up on the green. The player will record a score of five plus the number of putts the player thinks she would have taken. This "most likely score" is subject to reduction under the Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) procedure. For example, a player may record a "most likely score" of eight, but if the player's Equitable Stroke Control maximum is seven, then seven is the score that shall be turned in for handicap purposes.**

**For any hole that is not played (i.e. holes not played because the match is over), you should complete your scorecard for the remaining holes using the following guidelines: The hole score is par plus any handicap strokes the player is entitled to receive on the hole. For example, a player with a Course Handicap of 10 receives handicap strokes on the first 10 handicap stroke holes. Suppose the player quits after playing 13 holes. For any of the holes 14-18 that are handicap stroke holes for this player, the player shall record a score of par plus one. For any hole on which the player receives no handicap strokes, the hole score shall be recorded as par.**

If you are not sure how to determine your score for holes not played, leave those blank and these will be completed for you. If you have questions regarding how match play scores are handled, please contact the Handicap Chair (Donna McNeil) or Match Play Chair (Michele Brown).