

MATCH PLAY PRIMER

In match play, each hole is a separate competition. The player with the fewest strokes on an individual hole wins that hole; the player winning the most holes wins the match.

The stroke total for 18 holes simply doesn't matter in match play. There is one opponent you must beat, and that's the opponent you're facing in the match you're playing right now.

In match play conceded putts are perfectly legal. Your opponent can concede a putt to you at any point, whether it's 6 inches from the cup or 60 feet. Once a stroke, hole or match is conceded it cannot be withdrawn.

Conceded putts should only be offered, they should never be requested.

In stroke play, order of play is a matter of etiquette. If you hit out of turn, it's a breach of etiquette, but there is no penalty. In match play, if you hit out of turn your opponent can require you to replay the shot in the proper order. And if your first shot was great one, you can bet that you'll be replaying.

The ball furthest from the hole is to be played first. If you hit your ball and it is closer to the hole than your opponent's the opponent has the right to recall your stroke and have you replay it after he plays his. It does not matter if either or both balls are on the green....the one furthest from the hole plays first.

In match play, if a doubt or dispute arises between the players, a player may make a claim. The players must continue the match without delay. The Committee may consider a claim only if the player making the claim notifies his opponent (i) that he is making a claim, (ii) of the facts of the situation and (iii) that he wants a ruling. The claim must be made before any player in the match plays from the next teeing ground or in the case of the last hole of the match, before all players in the match leave the putting green.

A 2 stroke penalty in Stroke Play is almost always a Loss of Hole Penalty in Match Play.