



2023 Saturday Golf League

Four Ball Match Play - Rules Format

1. The SGL Team Match Play Tournament is open to any current member with an established SGL Handicap Index.
2. This will be a four ball match play format tournament. The lowest scorer of the team for each hole is used to determine winner of each hole. Four-ball match play is defined as “a match in which two players play their better ball against the better ball of two other players”.
3. This will be a 3 week elimination Match Play Event.
4. Entry fee of \$20.
5. First round matches will be determined by blind draw the week before the matches begin.
6. There will be 8 teams (16 players). Total purse: \$320.
 - 1st Place: \$180
 - 2nd Place: \$90
 - 3rd Place: \$50
7. Refer to team match play bracket to determine match schedule.
8. SGL tee box rules shall be applied to determine tee box to be played and handicap. Player’s match play handicaps will be adjusted accordingly by course and tees designated to each of the players. The difference in the match play handicap between the players will be given on the hardest handicap holes on the card of the player with the lowest handicap index (both men and women). You will be given a scorecard prior to each round with each player’s course handicap and the handicaps for each of the holes. The scorecard that you will receive will be the official source for determining individual handicaps for each hole.
9. The team score for each hole is based on the team player with the lowest score, taking into account strokes given to a specific player based on handicap. Scorecards will be provided reflecting strokes given on each hole for each player.

Exception: A player picking up their ball when reaching max score for the hole, the player will not be given any strokes for the hole. This is to prevent a player from winning a hole by picking up their ball.

Scorecards will reflect the adjust HDCP for each player per USGA rules:

- Four-Ball Match Play: Allowance: The Course Handicap of all four players is reduced by the Course Handicap of the player with the lowest handicap, who then plays from scratch. Each of the three other players is allowed 100 percent of the difference.
 - Example: Players A, B, C, and D have a Course Handicap of 5, 10, 15, and 20, respectively. Player A plays at scratch, B receives 5 strokes, C receives 10 strokes, and D receives 15 strokes.
10. Individual handicap can be found on the azgolf.org website. Log into the website with your username/password. On the home page (My Dashboard) there will be a “Handicap Calculator” link. Click on the link and enter the golf course and tee box being played. You can find your “Course Handicap”. [Do the lookup on course handicap the day of your match.](#)

11. The event will be contested over a 3-week span; The Match Play Tournament will be played in conjunction with the regular SGL Tournaments. The rules for match play will NOT be used in this tournament. You will be paired up with your opponent for your match play event and you will play both events simultaneously (the regular SGL event and Match Play). Normal stroke play rules will be in effect, keeping in mind that you are playing in two events at the same time. Team members will be allowed to discuss strategy and advice in the tournament. You **must** hole out on each hole. No holes or putts will be conceded. This is a departure from Match Play rules to allow players to participate in both tournaments. If time permits, practice putts can be taken as long as you are not holding up play.
<http://www.saturdaygolflleague.com/HowItsDone.html#Rules>
12. You will not have to coordinate a tee time with your opponent, just sign up and play. You will have to keep an eye on the tournament brackets to find out exactly when you are scheduled to play. If you do not play when you are scheduled, you will forfeit that round to your opponent.
13. An exception to rule 12 can be made if all players agree to play prior to their Saturday scheduled play. The players must play the match play at a course all players agree upon. **The final round** can be pushed out beyond a week if both teams agree to date and course since all other teams have been eliminated from the match. **This is to prevent crowning a champion based on a forfeit.** To keep consistency, Saturday golf rules will be followed (Example: desert rule). Also, a hole can be conceded per match play rules. The scorecard must be submitted to Dan Gallegos to confirm the winner. If players do not play prior to Saturday, then rule 13 is in effect. Contact Dan Gallegos or Dave Dean if there are any questions regarding handicap or rules.
14. All tie breaks at the end of a match will require a putt-off on the 19th hole. All team players will putt to provide a team score for each hole. Opponent team members may not watch opponent team putt to get a read on the putt. Team members may watch another member putt but are not allowed to stand directly behind the player while taking a stroke but may walk/run behind the player after the putt (USGA rule). All putts will be counted toward the team score for the hole. The team with the lowest score for the hole wins the match. The first putt-off will start 5 feet from the hole. The distance will keep incrementing by 3 feet until a winner is determined. A coin flip will determine which team goes first in the putt-off. The order will rotate as the putt-off progresses after each 3 ft increment.
15. Matches should be played with fair play and good faith in mind, following USGA/AGA/SGL Rules.

The match play bracket will be posted on the website after the blind draw.

Good luck to all match players in the event.

Dan Gallegos
Special Events Coordinator