

CGA ❁ MATCH PLAY ❁ 2020

QUICK REFERENCE

NEW FOR MATCH PLAY FROM 2019

1) It's no longer a penalty if a player accidentally moves an opponent's ball or ball-marker on the green. The opponent's ball or ball-marker must be replaced. (R9.5b, Exception 3)

2) It's no longer a penalty if a player's ball accidentally hits an opponent or their equipment. The ball must be played as it lies. (R11.1a) (*Except on the putting green where the stroke is canceled and must be replayed.*) (R11.1b, Exception 2)

3) It's no longer a penalty for stopping an opponent's ball in motion so long as there is no reasonable chance the ball could go in the hole. Their next stroke is considered to have been conceded. (R11.2a, Exception)

MATCH PLAY HAS FIVE PENALTIES

1) A **one-stroke penalty** which applies to the same Rules breaches or relief situation penalties as in stroke play, and

2) a **loss of hole penalty** which is the equivalent of the two-stroke penalty in stroke play, and

3) a **two-stroke penalty, but not loss of hole** applies to Rule 19.3b, Unplayable Ball in a Bunker, the extra relief option, and

4) a **match adjustment penalty** for breach of R4.1b, limit of 14 clubs, and

5) a **disqualification penalty** which applies to many of the same Rules breaches as in stroke play.

CONCESSIONS

1) **AN OPPONENT'S NEXT STROKE, A HOLE, OR THE MATCH MAY BE CONCEDED AT ANY TIME**

A concession is final and cannot be declined or withdrawn. (R3.2b2)

☛ Players may not agree in advance to concede certain strokes, such as all putts "inside the leather." (R3.2b1)

☛ Players may not agree to tie a hole until after they have begun play of that hole. (R3.2a2)

☛ Players may not agree to concede holes to each other to deliberately shorten the match. (Interpretation 3.2b1/1)

RULES ISSUES DURING THE MATCH

2) **HOW A PLAYER SHOULD PROCEED WHEN THEY ARE UNCERTAIN ABOUT A RULE OR PROCEDURE**

A player and their opponent are permitted to come to an agreement as to how to proceed. In doing so, they may not agree to disregard a Rules breach or waive a penalty. (R1.3b1 & R20.1b1)

If an agreement cannot be reached, the player must make a decision and continue playing as they see best. If the opponent disagrees and wishes to request a ruling they must do so before starting the next hole. (R20.1b1)

Similarly, if a player doesn't like what their opponent is doing, they must request a ruling before starting the next hole. (R20.1b2)

In either case, the Committee will resolve it later. (R20.1b2)

☛ In match play, a player may not play a "second ball." If they do, they will automatically lose the hole. (R20.1b4)

In stroke play only, if a player is uncertain about a Rule or procedure they may play a "second ball." (R20.1c3)

3) **PLAYER SEES AN OPPONENT BREAK A RULE?**

The player may silently ignore the breach. (R3.2d4)

Or, the player must request a ruling before starting the next hole. The Committee will resolve it later. (R20.1b2)

☛ Players may not agree to disregard a Rules breach or waive a penalty. (R3.1b1)

In stroke play, a player may not ignore another player's breach of a Rule. (R20.1c2)

WRONG BALL or WRONG PLACE

4) **PLAYER PLAYS A WRONG BALL?**

The player loses the hole. (Definition of Wrong Ball & R6.3c1)

In stroke play, the penalty is two strokes. The player must then correct the mistake. (R6.3c1)

5) **PLAYER PLAYS FROM A WRONG PLACE?**

The player loses the hole. (Definition of Wrong Place & R14.7a)

In stroke play, the penalty is two strokes. The player must play out the hole with the ball played from the wrong place unless they've committed a serious breach. (R14.7b)

MATCH PLAY vs STROKE PLAY

6) DID THE PLAYER PLAY FROM OUTSIDE THE TEEING AREA OR FROM THE WRONG TEES? The opponent may immediately recall the stroke and require that they play from the correct teeing area. Otherwise, the ball is played as it lies without penalty. (R6.1b1)

In stroke play, the penalty is two strokes. The player must then correct the mistake. (R6.1b2)

7) DID THE PLAYER PLAY OUT OF TURN? The opponent may immediately recall the stroke and require that they play in the proper order. Otherwise, the ball is played as it lies without penalty. (R6.4a2)

However, when done solely for the purpose of saving time, a player whose turn it is to play may invite an opponent to play first. The opponent is not obligated to accept the offer. (R6.4a2, Exception)

☛ In match play, players may not agree in advance to play “ready golf.” (R1.3b)

In stroke play, “ready golf” is encouraged; there is no penalty and the ball is played as it lies. (R6.4b1)

8) DID THE PLAYER DELIBERATELY MOVE AN OPPONENT'S BALL WITHOUT THEIR PERMISSION?

The opponent's ball must be replaced. The player incurs a one-stroke penalty. (R9.5b)

In stroke play, there is no penalty for anyone. (R9.6)

9) DID A PLAYER'S BALL ACCIDENTALLY HIT AN OPPONENT'S BALL? The player must play their ball as it lies. The moved ball must be replaced. No penalty anywhere on the course. (R9.6 & R11.1)

In stroke play, if both balls are on the putting green when this happens, there is a two-stroke penalty for the player whose putt hit the other ball. (R11.1a, Exception)

10) DID THE PLAYER BREACH ANY OF THE “RELIEF” RULES SUCH AS THOSE ON LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS, MOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS, ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS, PENALTY AREAS, BALL LOST OR BALL OUT OF BOUNDS, OR BALL UNPLAYABLE? The player may incur a one-stroke penalty or they may lose the hole. (Refer to R15, R16, R17, R18 & R19)

In stroke play, the penalty is either one or two strokes.

11) DID A PLAYER GIVE WRONG INFORMATION TO AN OPPONENT? If it's about the number of strokes they have taken or of any penalty strokes they have incurred, the player may lose the hole. (See R3.2d for the details)

In stroke play, corrections to a player's score can be made up until the scorecard has been “returned.” (R3.3b2)

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SOME NOTES ABOUT REFEREEING MATCH PLAY

☛ In match play, your duties and authority depend on your assigned role. (See Committee Procedures, 6C)

When Assigned to One Match for the Entire Round - As the assigned referee, you will be with the match throughout its entirety and are responsible for acting on any breach of the Rules that you see or are told about.

Three suggestions: 1) Take notes and/or keep a paper scorecard. 2) When giving a ruling invite the opponent to listen in on the conversation. 3) When the match reaches the putting green, get out of your cart and stand near the green so that you can hear concessions, confirm scores with the players, and be in position to make your state-of-the-match announcement.

When Assigned to Multiple Matches or to Certain Holes or Sections of the Course - As a roving referee who has not been assigned to accompany a particular match, you have very limited authority to intervene in play.

As a unassigned referee you should avoid becoming involved in any match unless:

- 1) a player asks for help with the Rules, or
- 2) a player may be in breach of a Code of Conduct provision, or
- 3) a player or players may be in breach of Rule 1.3b(1), Players Agreeing to Ignore a Rule or Penalty, or
- 4) a player may be in breach of Rule 5.6, Unreasonable Delay of Play, Prompt Pace of Play, or
- 5) a player arrives late to the first tee, or
- 6) a player's search for a ball reaches three minutes.