



## 2009 Rules

# 16-Man/24-Man Match Play Team Competition

**ELIGIBILITY:** Players must be an amateur, a member of the MPGA member club they are representing and have a current Handicap Index for 2009. If a player is a member of multiple MPGA member clubs that player can compete for only one 16/24 man team during the season. Captains must have access to E-mail during the season.

**DATES OF COMPETITION:** Matches are to be played on scheduled date unless both captains agree to a change due to a club conflict. The MPGA class chairman must be notified of any date change before the match is to take place. Scheduled dates for 16/24-man are May 3, June 7, July 12, August 2, September 13 and September 27.

**TEE TIMES:** The opposing captains will agree on starting tee times at each site; the host Captain is responsible for arranging tee times for each match. The host Captain should recommend to the host course to charge the patron for the lowest available green fee for visiting players. The respective captains should contact each other at a least one week prior to the match. The visiting team is required to timely notify the opposing captain and host course of no shows; failure to do so could result in your men's club being held responsible for no-show green fees. The start time should not be delayed for any cause other than severe weather conditions.

**LINE-UPS:** Team captains or their designate will meet at the starter's station 10 minutes prior to the first tee time and exchange line-ups and order of play. Each team captain or designate must have a current roster of his club members available to show that team members are a member of the club they are representing. *If a question of a player's eligibility arises, the determination of a player's eligibility rests solely with the Minnesota Public Golf Association.* Pairings will be posted to a Match Play Line-up sheet. A scoring sheet should be maintained by both team captains and point totals compared as results come in.

**LINE-UP EXCEPTIONS:** If a team member does not show, the captain may substitute another player not listed in the line-up, or the remaining team partner must play the match alone until the absent member or a substitute appears. No player listed on the line-up sheet can be realigned once the line-up sheets have been exchanged.

Once a substitute has started play, the absent player is no longer eligible for play in any match, including his originally scheduled match. An absent player or a substitute partner may join a match between holes, but not during play of a hole.

It is the responsibility of the team captain to ensure that lineup changes are within these guidelines, and make timely claims known to any member of the opposite team, regarding any applicable rule violation.

**FORMAT:** The competition is played under 4-ball match play rules in which team members play their better ball against the opponent's better ball. No handicaps are involved. A point is awarded for winning each nine and a point for winning the 18 hole round, for a total of 3 points per match. If matches are tied at the completion of play, each team will be awarded a ½ win. In the event of a forfeit, the other team will be declared the winner and receive all the points. The forfeiting team will receive 0 points. If a total match is tied, each team selects 2 team members for a sudden death play-off starting on a tee designated by the course manager or representative.

**24-Man Teams** (Class "A" and Class "AA") will play home/away matches on May 2/June 7 with the winners advancing to a home /away series on July 12/August 2, the winners of that series will play the final home/away series on September 13/September 27. ***NOTE: If a total match is tied, each team shall select 2 team members for a sudden death playoff starting on a tee designated by the course manager or representative. The winner of the match will advance to the next round of competition.***

**16-Man Teams** (Class "BB", Class "B", Class "C") will play a round robin competition on May 2/June 7/July 12 and August 2 against 4 opponents in their class. Teams will be ranked by 1) Wins and 2) Match Points. Tie breaker will be the results of head to head season competition, then a coin flip. The top four teams from each class will advance to the first round of playoffs on September 13<sup>th</sup> at a neutral site. 1<sup>st</sup> place will play 4<sup>th</sup> place and 2<sup>nd</sup> place will play 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The winners will advance to the championship on September 27<sup>th</sup> at a neutral site.



**INTERRUPTED PLAY:** (Class-A & AA) In the event play must be suspended because of lightning or other unplayable conditions, players will mark the exact spot where their ball rested when play was suspended and return to the clubhouse. If conditions permit and players resume play, the match will continue to completion. Maximum effort should be made to complete the match.

Should the severe conditions persist, causing the course to be officially closed for the remainder of the day, all matches shall be determined using the following format:

(1) If all teams have completed the first nine holes, the match will be considered complete on the basis of the first nine holes only (one point only for each winning two man team). Should any of the “home and away” matches are shortened due to the above conditions, match points will be proportionally adjusted to total 36 points..

(2) If the last foursome has completed less than nine holes the match should be rescheduled. If it is impractical to reschedule, the captains have discretion to determine the match results by any mutually agreed upon means.

In all cases, particularly of interrupted play, the respective captains have the responsibility to achieve decisions mutually agreeable. Players are required to follow decisions of the captains. Comments from the course Pro-Manager may be helpful, but are not binding, except when the course is closed for an extended period.

**INTERRUPTED PLAY:** (Class-B &BB). In a Round Robin format, wins will determine who will move on to the play-offs. If two teams are tied the first tie breaker is points won during competition in the four matches to determine who will advance to the playoffs. If a match is interrupted or suspended, every effort must be made to bring all matches to a conclusion. The following should be used as a guide line; 1) Complete the match as quickly as the weather permits. 2) If it becomes impossible to complete the match and all teams have completed more than 9 holes, the captains can determine the out come by the state of each match at that point and award point accordingly. 3) Reschedule all or part of the unfinished matches before the next scheduled match. The following should be used as a guide line; 1) Complete the match as quickly as the weather permits. 2) If it becomes impossible to complete the match and all teams have completed more than 9 holes, the captains can determine the out come by the state of each match at that point and award point accordingly. 3) Reschedule all or part of the unfinished matches before the next scheduled match.

**SLOW PLAY:** Please do everything possible to complete matches within an acceptable time frame. In general, each club’s Match Play Team consists of their better golfers. These players should be setting the example for pace of play.

**SPECIAL NOTES:**

(1) To make the competition run smoothly and without incident, it is imperative that the team captain work together with the member club and the club’s Pro-Manager to insure that the event dates as scheduled do not conflict with other club events, etc.

(2) It is recommended the team captains contact one another at least a week prior to the match. “No shows” cause a host course considerable revenue loss. Each competing club will be responsible for their lost revenues to the host course for such occurrences. Be sure to clarify tee times (some courses start rounds on both the front and back nines simultaneously). Your Event Chairman has available the name and number of all team captains, feel free to call if you need information.

(3) Team participants must be members of the Minnesota Public Golf Association as well as the club they are representing.

(4) The Rules of Golf as approved by the USGA govern all play, unless otherwise amended on a local level.

(5) Players should adhere to the dress code of the host club if one is stated, but at a minimum the players are expected to wear a shirt (no tank tops), slacks or golf shorts, shoes and socks.

(6) A USGA decision regarding a common situation: Decision 2-4/6  
‘Rule 2-4 does not cover the question of whether a player may putt out after his next stroke has been conceded. A player incurs no penalty for holing out in such circumstances. However, if the act would be of assistance to a partner in a four-ball or best-ball match, the partner is, in equity (rule 1-4), disqualified for the hole.’

**REPORTING RESULTS:** Each **winning team captain** is to phone his MPGA Event Chairman **before 5:00 P.M. the same day**. Results will be posted to the MPGA web site [www.mpga.net](http://www.mpga.net). Please report your match results promptly.