



2009 Rules

Senior Eight-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. Players must be at least 55 years of age as of the date of competition. If a player is a member of multiple MPGA member clubs that player can compete for only one senior 8-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. *Teams will play a round robin schedule* on these dates: May 5, May 19, June 2, June 23, July 14, August 4 and August 18.

TEE TIMES: The opposing captains will agree on starting tee times at each site; the host captain is responsible for arranging two tee times for each date. *Each team will send four players to their opponent's course.* The host Captain should recommend to the host course to charge the patron or 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.

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. 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 without approval from the opposing team designate. A playing partner may join a match between holes, but not during the play of a hole. *If a question of player's eligibility arises, the determination of eligibility rests solely with the Minnesota Public Golf Association.*

FORMAT: Each team consists of 8 players and will play 4 matches. Teams will play 2 matches at their home course and 2 matches at their opponent's course. The competition is 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 (4 matches x 3 = 12 match points available). 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 6 and 1/2 points. The forfeiting team will receive 0 points.

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 league will advance to the first round of playoffs on September 8th at a neutral site. 1st place will play 4th place and 2nd place will play 3rd place. The winners will advance to the championship on September 22nd at a neutral site.

INTERRUPTED PLAY: 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. Accumulated points will be the first tie breaker in the case of two teams having the same win/loss record a maximum effort should be made to complete the match.

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 will be points won during regular season competition. If a match is interrupted or suspended, every effort must be made to bring all matches to conclusion. The following should be used as a guide. 1) Complete the match as quickly as weather permits. 2) If it is impossible to complete the match and all teams have completed more than nine holes, the captains may determine the outcome by the current state of each match at that point and award points accordingly. 3) Reschedule all or part of the unfinished matches to bring them to a conclusion before the start of the next scheduled match.

REPORTING RESULTS: Each team captain is responsible to combine their team points and report the result to his chairman as soon as possible after the match. Results will be posted on the MPGA web site (www.mpga.net).

Palmer and Nicklaus League Chairman: Greg Baron 952-212-6369 gregbaron@hotmail.com
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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.'