

FOUR-BALL BETTER-BALL MATCHPLAY

Format, Scoring, Handicap Allowance

Team competition with just two teams competing against each other, played under matchplay rules, scored as in matchplay. The player with the lowest playing handicap must play off scratch and concede strokes to the three other players based on 90% of the difference between the playing handicaps, rounded to the nearest integer (≥ 0.5 is rounded up, < 0.5 is rounded down). Please note that for the rare occasion where there is a '+' playing handicap (i.e. better than scratch) a rounding of exactly 0.5 goes towards zero (e.g. +1.5 rounds to +1, while 1.5 rounds to 2).

e.g. if the players have the following playing handicaps:

Player A=20, Player B=6, Player C=4, player D=30

then the handicap strokes they would receive is:

A=14 (90% of 20-4 i.e. 16), B=2 (90% of 2), C=0 and D=23 (90% of 26)

Course Adjustment

If one or both of the teams is "mixed", all players play off the men's tee's stroke indexes, consequently there is course adjustment. If both teams are of the same gender, all players play off their own tee's stroke indexes and as such there is no course adjustment. Any adjustment is made prior to subtracting the lowest playing handicap.

Please note that the **PAR of a hole has no bearing in matchplay**, it is completely ignored and the net score on a hole is the only thing that determines the result.

Description

Teams comprise two players.

The competition is played hole-by-hole and as in a normal matchplay competition a player should "pick up" if he/she is unable to better or equal the opposing team's net score on a hole. If it is obvious that a team cannot win or halve a hole then that team should concede the hole to the opposing team. If it is obvious that the opposing team player would sink the next putt, then the team should concede that putt.

Once a putt has been conceded the player must not play the ball unless the result of hole has been decided. If a player plays his/her ball after it has been conceded then that player's score is taken as their team score, even if his/her partner could possibly post a better score. Of course once the result of the hole has been agreed the player could replace his ball and have a practice putt.

Before teeing off on a hole both teams should agree the result of the previous hole and the overall match result so far. Once a player tees off the result of the previous hole cannot be changed, even if a mistake is discovered at a later time. The competition is scored hole-by-hole and the matchplay score: **win (+)**, **lose (-)** or **halved (0)**, should be recorded in the "points" column.

Since the result is agreed between the two competing teams after each hole it is not necessary to record the gross score, nor is it necessary to sign the card.

Example scorecard for a Four-Ball Better-Ball Matchplay competition

COMPETITION							Medal/Stableford/Bogey							
Better Ball							Matchplay							
DATE	01/04/2014		TIME	08:30			H'CAP	STROKES			TEES	PAR	CR	SR
PLAYER A	Jake Nicklaus		21.5 (Yellow)				20	14 (0.9x16)			RED	71	71.6	118
PLAYER B	Flora Davies		5.0 (Red)				6	2 (0.9x2)			YELLOW	71	68.4	121
PLAYER C	Neil Faldo		6.2 (Yellow)				4	0			WHITE	71	70.9	123
PLAYER D	Anita Sörenstam		28.2 (Red)				30	23 (0.9x26)						
HOLE	MARKER	WHITE	YELLOW	RED	PAR	S.I.	SCORE				POINTS			
							A	B	C	D				
1	-	354	326	320	4	4					+	(1 up)		
2	0	131	124	110	3	18					0			
3	+	452	439	397	5	12					-	(even)		
4	+	287	241	201	4	14					-	(1 down)		
5	0	336	314	302	4	10					0			
6	-	392	386	358	4	2					+	(even)		
7	+	359	333	323	4	6					-	(1 down)		
8	+	162	146	139	3	16					-	(2 down)		
9	-	354	339	315	4	8					+	(1 down)		
OUT	+1	2827	2648	2465	35						-1	(1 down)		

10	+	165	160	146	3	9					-	(2 down)	
11	0	273	259	232	4	17					0		
12	+	299	272	240	4	15					-	(3 down)	
13	+	150	118	75	3	11					-	(4 down)	
14	+	338	324	298	4	3					-	(5 down)	
15		524	476	434	5	1							
16		368	353	302	4	13							
17		414	380	352	4	5							
18		485	453	407	5	7							
IN	+4	3016	2795	2486	36						-4		
OUT	+1	2827	2648	2465	35						-1		
TOTAL	+5	5843	5443	4951	71						-5		
HANDICAP													
NET													
Marker's Signature					Player's Signature					Stableford-Points <i>Result</i>			
										<i>(A & B) LOST 5 & 4</i>			

PLEASE AVOID SLOW PLAY AT ALL TIMES

Distance markers are measured to the centre of the green in metres. *Please replace all divots and repair pitchmarks.*