



2019 SCGA MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR REFEREES

Pre-Tournament Preparation

- Familiarize yourself with the Local Rules for Omni La Costa (available when you arrive).
- Determine whether you plan to walk or take a golf cart. If both players in your match are walking, we'd encourage you to walk if you're able. However, you may certainly take a cart if you feel more comfortable doing so.

On the First Tee

- Introduce yourself on the first tee and **set a positive tone for the round ahead**. Explain your role as a referee, which includes assisting the players throughout their round, preventing infractions when possible, and applying the Rules of Golf when necessary.
- Remind players to make their concessions loud enough for their opponent and you, the Referee, to hear.
- Remind players to identify their golf balls and count their clubs.
- Each player will be given a copy of the Notice to Players (Local Rules) by the starter. To be consistent, SCGA Staff will brief the starters on which points should be covered – you, as a referee, won't need to cover these items on the first tee.

On the Course

- Unlike a stroke play competition, you will be involved much more frequently in determining who is away. Try to anticipate when you might be called upon to make this decision and determine who is away in advance.
- Do not go on the putting green unless waived over by players to assist with a question or to determine who is away. Instead, stand on the collar of the putting green in the direction players will walk to the next tee.
- If you are walking, keep up with the players and do not stand on an extension of their line of play behind the ball. If you are riding, keep your cart on the cart path (or to the side of the players) unless called over for a question.
- Any Referee may decide on which he or she is certain. If you have the slightest doubt, please use your radio to consult with SCGA staff.
- Pace of Play: The Referee should encourage the players to speed up when they are approaching being out of position. Each referee should keep track of the time they finish each hole on their scorecard. If a group falls out of position, contact a rover or SCGA staff.
- It is important to sense when to talk to a player and when to be silent. Although there is no formula to follow, always use tact and good judgment.
- We will be using a wide variety of teeing grounds throughout the championship. The Men's Match Play will play from the **BLACK** markers. The Senior Match Play will play from the **BLUE** tee markers. The Women's Match Play will play from the **WHITE** tee markers. The scorecard will have the accurate yardage for the round.

New Match Play Information and New Rules

- **2019 Terminology changes:**
 - **Tying a hole** (previously “halving a hole”)
 - Status of a match is **tied** (previously “all square”)
 - “Dormie” is no longer used in the rules book.
- **2019 Rule changes:**
 - Players can agree to play out of turn on a case-by-case basis to save time. (Rule 6.4a[2], Exception)
 - If a player marks and lifts the opponent’s ball on the putting green by mistake thinking it is the player’s, there is no penalty. (Rule 9.5b, Exception 2)
 - Concessions can be made while a ball is in motion and apply to the next stroke if the ball is not holed. (Rule 3.2b[1])
 - An opponent’s ball in motion may be stopped without penalty when it was done specifically to concede the next stroke, or the current stroke needed to be holed to tie the hole and there is no reasonable chance the moving ball will be holed. (*Jordan Spieth Exception* – Rules 3.2b[1] and 11.2a)
 - Accidental deflection of a ball by opponent, opponent’s caddie or equipment is no penalty and ball played as it lies (Rule 11.1b), except of the putting green – the stroke does not count and **must** be replayed. (Rule 11.1b, Exception 2)

Scoring Responsibilities

- **Clearly announce each player’s score and the status of the match after every hole. Make sure you speak loud enough for both players to hear you.**
- Each referee will be given a scorecard before their match begins. Please keep track of each player’s score and the status of the match on this card and return it to SCGA Staff at the scoreboard following your match.
- Each official will be asked to download the USGA TM application on their smart phone. The scorecard for your match will have a 6-digit GGID that will allow access for you to enter scores on your phone. (*Please make sure your phone is charged prior to arriving at the course.*)
- After every hole, you will enter the score for each player, and this will automatically transmit to our live scoring website on scga.org. If you need assistance with scoring during the round, contact the SCGA Staff on the radio.
- Any match going extra holes will continue to the 1st hole. Please radio staff to allow for the 1st tee to be available. Scoring for extra holes must be done over the radio to SCGA staff.

Thank you for your being with us and have an enjoyable time watching some great golf!