

Rules of Golf: Match Play vs. Stroke Play

	Match Play	Stroke Play
General Penalty Rule 1	Loss of Hole Exception: ball in motion from a stroke on the on putting green strikes another ball at rest on the putting green: NO PENALTY (see Rule 11.1a)	2-strokes (such as: Playing a Wrong Ball; Playing from a Wrong Place; improving line of play, asking/giving advice; incorrectly substituting a ball, purposely deflecting a ball in motion)
Concessions Rule 3.2	Player may concede the 1. match before the match or anytime before the result is decided; 2. before start of the hole or before hole is completed; 3. next stroke at anytime before next stroke is made; <u>Concessions cannot be declined or withdrawn; holes may NOT be conceded to shorten a match.</u> May agree “good-good” but must begin hole w/ stroke.	No concessions; player must hole out and finish the play of the hole
Winner Rule 3	The player/side leads by the number of holes greater than the number remaining to be played.	The player/side who plays the round or rounds in the fewest number of strokes.
Doubt as to procedure Rule 20.1	The player must make a timely request for a ruling; <u>DO NOT PLAY TWO BALLS;</u> Immediate loss-of-hole penalty for the competitor playing 2 balls.	Play two balls under Rule 20.1c(3)
Order of Play Rule 6.4	The player or side that won the last hole has the honor & tees off first on the next hole. During play of the hole, the side/player whose ball is farther from the hole plays first . BREACH: Opponents may recall the stroke OR NOT— <u>no other penalty.</u> Players may play out of turn to save time (must agree every time – no “ready golf” agreement)	The competitor with the lowest score at a hole has the honor on the next tee. During play of the hole, the ball that is farthest away plays first. BREACH: No penalty unless played out of turn to give an advantage. “Ready golf” allowed and encouraged.
Ball at Rest moved by Opponent, Player, Outside Influence Rule 9	Moved accidentally/deliberately by opponent, NOT during a search: opponent gets a 1-stroke penalty and ball is replaced. Player MAY NOT mark and lift opponent’s ball on Putting Green without first getting permission. No penalty for opponent lifting ball at player’s request, by mistake on Putting Green or to concede the hole. [See stroke play for ball in match play moved by player, partner caddie or outside influence.]	Moved accidentally by another player or outside influence (spectator, grounds staff): no penalty and must be replaced. If player, partner or caddie move ball accidentally, EXCEPT on putting green, the player gets a one-stroke penalty and it must be replaced.

<p>Wrong Tee/ Teed outside Teeing Area Rule 6.2</p>	<p>No penalty; opponent may recall stroke, OR NOT -- <u>no other penalty</u>.</p>	<p>Two stroke penalty; strokes made outside the teeing area are canceled and player must play from within the teeing area before teeing off on the next hole or be DQd</p>
<p>Ball in motion stopped/ deflected... Rule 11</p>	<p>By opponent: Accidentally, no penalty & player must play as it lies (except after a stroke on a putting green: stroke does not count and original or another ball must be replaced and replayed); Deliberate deflection by opponent: LOSS of HOLE (except when no chance ball can be holed for a tie or for a concession)</p>	<p>By any person/player: Accidental – no penalty & player must play as it lies (except after a stroke on a putting green: stroke does not count and original or another ball must be replaced and replayed); Deliberate deflection by any player: 2-stroke penalty—See 11.2c for relief options.</p>
<p>Wrong Information on Rule 3.2</p>	<p>If a player gives incorrect information about # strokes taken to the opponent, & does not correct before next stroke/tee shot, LOSS OF HOLE; Includes failing to report a penalty the opponent did not witness.</p>	<p>If Competitor gives marker incorrect information, he/she should correct mistake ASAP – no penalty</p>