



CENTRAL GAUTENG GOLF UNION

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SENIOR SCRATCH LEAGUE

Combined Match Play Frequently Asked Questions

Each group plays two individual matches and one better-ball match at the same time. The three matches are separate, although the same strokes may count in both a player's individual match and the better-ball match.

The Golden Rule for Your Round

If either opponent concedes a putt, it is good for the team match. If your specific singles opponent concedes it, it is good for both.

1. What matches are being played?

Players 4 and 3 play individual matches against their corresponding opponents while also partnering each other in a better-ball match. Players 2 and 1 follow the same format. This produces four individual matches and two better-ball matches in the fixture.

2. How do concessions work?

The three matches remain separate. A concession by your singles opponent applies to both your singles match and the better-ball match. A concession by the other opponent applies only to the better-ball match. A concession of a hole or match must identify which match it applies to.

3. Can a player continue after a putt has been conceded?

Yes, when the stroke is still required in the other match. However, if the putt was conceded in the better-ball match and continuing could show the player's partner the line, Rule 23.6 may prevent the partner's score from counting. The safest approach is for the partner to play first.

4. May partners give each other advice?

Players paired together in the better-ball match are partners under Rule 23 and may give each other advice while the better-ball match remains in progress, even when that advice may also assist the player in their individual match. Once the better-ball match has ended, the players may not continue giving each other advice during an individual match that remains in progress, unless otherwise permitted by the Rules.

5. Who plays first when the correct order differs between the matches?

The players should pause and agree on the order before anyone plays. Better-ball partners may choose their order when it is their side's turn, but each singles opponent retains the rights provided by Rule 6.4a.

6. When may I pick up my ball?

Only when you are no longer required in either match on that hole. Even if your singles hole is over, your score may still be needed by your better-ball side, and vice versa.

7. What happens if a player arrives late?

Rule 5.3a applies to the player's individual match. If the partner started the better-ball match on time, the late player may still join that match between holes under Rule 23.4.

8. How are penalties and Rules disputes handled?

A penalty must be considered separately in the individual and better-ball matches. Rule 23.9 determines whether a better-ball penalty affects only the player or also the partner or side. For a dispute, identify which match is affected and follow Rule 20.1b and the League Conditions.