

FOURSOMES MATCHPLAY

Format, Scoring, Handicap Allowance

Team competition with just two teams competing against each other, played under matchplay rules, scored as in matchplay. The team with the higher sum of their playing handicaps (the aggregate) receives a handicap allowance equal to 50% of the difference between the aggregate playing handicap of each side, rounded to the nearest integer (≥ 0.5 is rounded up, < 0.5 is rounded down). The team with the lower aggregate playing handicap plays off scratch.

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

Each of the two teams comprise two players.

- The two teams: Team X and Team Y, each team each consist of two players, Player A and Player B;
- Prior to playing, each team decides separately which player on their team will tee off on the odd-numbered holes. The other player will then tee off on the even-numbered holes.
- If Player A tees off, then Player B must play the next shot with that ball (and vice versa) and the team players alternate in this way until the ball is holed, or until it is picked up because the team cannot better or equal the opposing team's score on a hole.
- “Penalty shots” and relief do not affect the order of play (e.g. if Player A hits the ball out of bounds then Player B must play the next shot from where Player A played the original ball, under penalty of 1 stroke, i.e. “stroke and distance”), even if it means that a lady golfer has to play from the men's tee and vice versa.

The competition is played hole-by-hole and as in a normal matchplay competition a player should “pick up” if his/her team is unable to better or equal the opposing team's net score on a hole.

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

Team X consists of Jake Nicklaus and Flora Davies, while team Y is Neil Faldo and Anita Sörenstam. Team X decides that Flora will tee off on the even-numbered holes and Jake on the odd-numbered ones. Team Y decides that Anita will tee off on the even-numbered holes and Neil on the odd-numbered ones.

Team X, with a (50% combined) handicap of 13 plays off scratch, while Team Y, with a handicap of 17 receives 4 strokes.

Jake manages to hit his ball off the tee into the water hazard on hole 13, while Neil manages to land his tee shots about 7 metres from the hole. Flora decides to drop a ball (under penalty of 1 stroke) in the dropping zone and promptly puts it 4 metres from the hole (she had the option, under penalty of 1 stroke, of teeing up the ball on the teeing ground used by Jake, but chose to use the dropping zone instead).

Anita manages to sink Neil's ball for a birdie. Flora and Jake know that they cannot win or even halve the hole, so they pick up and concede the hole to Anita and Neil. The scorecard for such a scenario follows.

Example scorecard for a Foursomes Matchplay competition

COMPETITION							Medal/Stableford/Bogey					
Foursomes							Matchplay					
DATE	01/04/2014		TIME	08:30			H'CAP	STROKES	TEES	PAR	CR	SR
PLAYER A	Jake Nicklaus		21.5 (Yellow)				20	Aggregate= 26	RED	71	71.6	118
PLAYER B	Flora Davies		5.0 (Red)				6	Team strks = 0	YELLOW	71	68.4	121
PLAYER C	Neil Faldo		6.2 (Yellow)				4	Aggregate= 34	WHITE	71	70.9	123
PLAYER D	Anita Sörenstam		28.2 (Red)				30	Team strks = 4				
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.*

