



2024 OGA Women's Interclub Play (WIP)

RULES FOR TEAM PLAY

- **RULES OF PLAY:** The Rules of Golf as approved by the USGA and The R&A Rules limited, Local Rules and Terms of Competition for OGA and OJG Championships and events, the Women's Interclub Play Local Rules Sheet (if any) and this document will govern all matches. The Rules of Golf may **NOT** be waived at any time. The penalty for waiving the Rules of Golf is disqualification for the player or team in violation.
- **FORMAT:** Four-Ball Match Play. A match in which two play their better ball against the better ball of the other two players, both gross and net. An understanding of USGA Rules 3.2 (Match Play) and 23 (Four-Ball) is essential in comprehending the format of Team Play.
- **MATCH TIED AFTER 18 HOLES:** The result of any match tied after 18 holes is final.
- **LOCAL RULES:** Local Rules must conform with the USGA Rules of Golf. Any Local Rules which are to be in effect during Women's Interclub Play must be published and distributed to all players in advance of the start of the match.
- **WINTER RULES:** In the event that a course has adopted a Local Rule for "preferred lies" or "winter rules," it is recommended that the Local Rule be suspended during WIP competition. If it becomes absolutely necessary to use "preferred lies," the procedure shall be determined by the WIP Rules Committee in advance of the start of the match. It is strongly recommended that players fully familiarize themselves with the policy listed in the USGA Rules of Golf ("Preferred Lies" and "Winter Rules"). (Model Local Rule E-3)
- **ORDER OF PLAY:** Balls belonging to the same side may be played in the order the side considers best. If a team plays out of turn the opponent may immediately require the player to cancel the stroke and play in the correct order.
- **HONORS:** On the first tee, honors are determined by a coin flip. Thereafter, the honors on the tee go to the side having the lowest GROSS score on the last hole. If your side does not have honors do NOT play out of turn.

- **ADVICE:** When the four-ball match remains ongoing, both players are deemed to be partners and therefore may exchange advice. Team Captains must not give advice to their players that are not their four-ball match partner. REMEMBER: When making a stroke a player shall not allow her partner to position herself on or close to an extension of the line of play or line of putt behind the ball. (Rule 10.2b(4))
- **BALLS AND CLUBS:** Only golf balls listed on the USGA's latest Conforming Golf Ball List may be used (Note Rule 4.2a). Penalty for use of a ball not on the list: Disqualification of the player and her partner. The One-Ball Rule will **not** be in effect for any phase of WIP. A player's clubs shall conform with the provisions of Rule 4.1a. Under this Rule, there is no penalty for merely having (but not making a stroke with) a non-conforming club, but such a club still counts toward the 14-club limit.
- **SCORECARD:** A team scorecard will be kept by each team. The teams must complete the scores for all 4 players, be totaled, certified and agreed to by both teams and turned in to each team's Team Captain. **Players who are 'out of the hole' and cannot help the side may (and should for pace of play) pick up on the hole.** You must still post a score for handicapping purposes. You may record your Most Likely Score or Net Double Bogey, whichever is lower. Any hole where the player 'picked up' must be designated with an X on the scorecard.

For the 2024 season, an electronic scorecard will be used. One member of each group (group is defined by players and opponents in a match.) will be given a GGID to enter hole scores into a mobile device for each member in the group. Scores and points must be verified by each team's captain before the match is considered final. A match is considered final when the Team Captain has verified the results after the completion of the last match.

- **PRACTICE:** A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds. (Model Local Rule I-1.1)
- **SCORING:** There are six players per team; therefore, each team will have three matches. Maximum points available per match are 36 points (a gross and net point for each hole, with half points awarded for halved holes). Maximum points per team are 108. Points will be accumulated for the year. The teams in each division with the most Gross, Net and Overall points at the end of the season will advance to play in the playoffs.
- **CONCEDING A HOLE OR PUTT:** You may concede your opponent's hole or putt at any time. If on the putting green you concede your opponents next putt, **THE PLAYER MAY NOT FINISH A CONCEDED PUTT.** If a player finishes a conceded putt and it helps her partner, there is no penalty to the player, but her the partner's score for the hole cannot count for the side. Also remember you **MAY NOT CONTINUE** putting unless your side is away. (Rule 23.6)

- **REQUESTING A RULING**: Players competing in Team Play are reminded of Rule 20.1b: In match play, if a doubt or dispute arises between the players or side, a player may request a ruling. If no duly authorized representative of the Committee is available in a reasonable time, the players **must** continue the match without delay. The player or side may make a ruling request by notifying the opponent that a later ruling will be sought when a member of the committee becomes available. The request must be made before either side makes a stroke to begin another hole or, during or after the completion of the final hole of the match before the result of the match is final. **Remember: In match play, when you are in doubt of a Rule of Golf or how to proceed you MAY NOT play a second ball as is the case in Stroke Play.**

EXAMPLE: While playing a hole, your opponent tells you she feels that you are about to break or have broken a Rule of Golf and you disagree with her. At this point, you **MUST** make a decision yourself on how you want to proceed and play the hole out the way you think best. If your ball wins or ties the hole, your opponent may indicate that they think you broke a Rule of golf, are making a request for a ruling. They must make this statement before teeing off on the next hole or before leaving the green of the last hole. Players involved in the ruling may not know the status of their match until the Rules Committee is notified and a decision is made.

- **PROVISIONAL BALL**: You may only play a provisional ball if you believe your ball may be out of bounds or lost **outside a penalty area**.
- **LOSS OF HOLE PENALTIES**: In Stroke Play the general penalty for a rules breach results in a 2-stroke penalty. In Match Play the general penalty for those actions results in the loss of hole. All players should familiarize themselves with Match Play and Four-Ball Rules and carry a current Rules of Golf book.
- **DRESS CODE**: Proper golf attire is required. This includes no denim shorts or slacks, no cut-offs or short shorts and no halter-tops. The WIP Tournament Committee has the responsibility to inform participants of specific golf club requirements in advance of a match and or enforce the dress code policy by disqualifying competitors that do not meet the minimum dress code requirements.