

SUMMARY OF RULES FOR 2-MAN TEAM BEST-BALL MATCH PLAY

BSMGC: INTER-CLUB TOURNAMENTS

WHAT'S IT CALLED? These “friendly” inter-club tournaments are played in a format that the USGA recognizes as “Four-Ball,” but they are also called 2-man team (net) best ball or 2-man team (net) better ball. They can be played as either stroke play or match play format – we use MATCH PLAY format. So, what rules apply? The rules below are the most friendly or courteous version of USGA four-ball match play.

HANDICAPS AND POINTS HC strokes (or pops) are determined for each group of 4 (2 teams of 2 players each) based on the lowest HC player from both teams. The three other players get strokes (on the most difficult holes) based on their difference to the lowest player. The net lowest score of each 2-player team determines who wins the hole. Two tournament points are provided to the team that wins the most holes on the front, the back, and the total. One point is provided to each team for ties, but the total maximum points is always six.

BREACH OF RULES There are no 2-stroke penalties in match play. There are loss-of-hole penalties and 1-stroke penalties only.

ORDER OF PLAY The clubs have agreed that “ready golf” can be played or you can wait for the furthest from the hole to play first.

WRONG BALL If only one of the two partners plays the wrong ball (the partner’s or the opponent’s) only that one partner is out for that hole. The other partner can finish hole and win if he has the lowest net score.

MOVEMENT OF BALL 9.4.b.exc 3. Accidental Movement on Putting Green: There is no penalty when the player accidentally causes the ball (or marker) to move on the putting green (see Rule 13.1d), no matter how that happens.

9.5.b If the opponent deliberately lifts or touches the player’s ball (or marker, 9.7.b) at rest or causes it to move, the opponent gets a one penalty stroke, unless asked or by accident or conceding the stroke.

BALL HITS BALL ON GREEN 11.1.a. If you play a stroke from on the putting green and your ball strikes another ball at rest on the putting green there is no penalty (unlike stroke play). Your ball must be played as it lies, while the ball that was moved must be replaced on its original spot.

CONCESSION A concession is final and cannot be declined or withdrawn.

TELL HOW MANY STROKES At any time during play of a hole or after the hole is completed, an opponent may ask a player for the number of strokes (including strokes made and penalty strokes) the player has taken on the hole. The player gets the general penalty (loss of hole) if they give the opponent the wrong number of strokes taken, unless the player corrects that mistake in time (i.e. before the next stroke).