

## Advice vs. Rules

Players may not give or ask for advice in either stroke play or match play (except for partner or caddie). However, information on the rules is NOT advice. It is permissible (and good sportsmanship) to prevent an opponent from breaching a Rule. Example: You may not ask your opponent, nor can your opponent suggest, that you take or not take relief from a situation or if you should declare a ball unplayable, but you may ask or give information on how to proceed under the Rules.

## Important differences between match play and stroke play:

- Pursuant to Rule 1-3b- Players must not agree to exclude the operation of any Rule or to waive any penalty incurred.  
-Unlike stroke play, which obligates players to report every breach of a Rule witnessed, in match play, a player MAY overlook an opponent's breach of a Rule provided that you do not say anything to your opponent. If you are concerned that your opponent may repeat the offense you may acknowledge the error but only after teeing-off at the next hole. To acknowledge the error any earlier would constitute an agreement to waive the rules. Note: You can also choose to simply remain silent. [This assumes the opponent does not know a breach has occurred][Rule 3.2d(4)]
- Pursuant to Rule 6.4a- Order of Play- After both players have started play of hole, the ball farther from the hole is played first.  
-While there is no penalty in stroke play for playing out of order, in match play if an opponent plays out of order her opponent may immediately require her to cancel the stroke and replay in the correct order. So, if a putt is not conceded, mark it and wait your turn.
- Pursuant to Rule 3.2b : A player may concede her opponent's next stroke, a hole, or the match. A concession may not be declined or withdrawn.  
-Unlike stroke play which requires one to finish the hole[ "hole out"], in match play, a player may concede a stroke to his opponent so that she can pick-up without holing out. Note, if you concede the putt and your opponent decides to practice and then misses, your opponent still gets the concession.
- Rule 20.1b: Resolving Rules Issues During Round  
If unsure of rule or procedure, in match play the Rules do not permit you to play a second ball [different from provisional], as they do in stroke play. You and your opponent must try and resolve the issue. If you can't agree, a request for a ruling must be made before teeing-off at the next hole. You must notify your opponent that you are making a request for a ruling, agree to the facts of the situation and make it clear that you'll be asking for a Committee ruling.
- Rule 3.2d: Responsibilities of Player and Opponent  
-In stroke play, scores need only be correctly ascertained prior to submitting scorecards. In match play, however, a player has the right to ascertain from her opponent the number of strokes taken during and after play of hole. If a player incurs a penalty that was not observed by her opponent she must inform her opponent as soon as practicable. If she fails to do so before then she loses the hole [Rule 3.2d(2)].  
-Loss of hole also applies if player gives incorrect information during play of a hole regarding the number of strokes taken and does not correct the mistake before her opponent makes her next stroke. Remember-golf is a game of HONOR, if you know that you breached a rule announce the breach if not possibly noticed!

FYI-The particular rules cited refer to the full version of The Rules of Golf. The Player's Edition of the Rules of Golf is an abridged version.

## Rule Tip - Request for Ruling in Match Play

As before, in match play you compete solely against your opponent on a hole by hole basis. You or your opponent may concede next strokes, holes or even the match to each other. Concessions stand, even if a player putts out or continues the hole or match.

Before, if there was a situation that needed a ruling the procedure was "Making a Claim", it's now called "Making a

Request for Ruling." If you are unsure how to proceed, you and your opponent can decide on the matter. The agreed to outcome is conclusive even if it turns out to have been wrong under the Rules, so long as the players did not deliberately agree to ignore any Rule or penalty they knew applied. If you and your opponent *don't* agree, you should proceed how you think is correct. A player may make a request for a ruling by notifying her opponent that a later ruling will be sought by the Committee.

A later ruling by the Committee will be given only if the request is made in time, which depends on when the player becomes aware of the facts creating the Rules issue:

- When the player becomes aware of the facts, the timely ruling request must be made before either player makes a stroke to begin another hole.
- When the player becomes aware of the facts during or after completion of the final hole of the match, the timely ruling request must be made before the result of the match is final (in the case of team matches, when score is posted on score sheet).

If the player does not make the request in this time, a ruling will not be given by the Committee and the result of the hole in question will stand even if the Rules were applied in the wrong way.

Attachments area

[Preview YouTube video Rules of Golf Explained: Bunkers \(New for 2019\)](#)



[Rules of Golf Explained: Bunkers \(New for 2019\)](#)

Website link

<https://www.usga.org/rules-hub.html>

Video presentation link

<https://youtu.be/chPOtflUHCO>

Bunkers:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ul3ZWzVA8QE&feature=youtu.be>