

Match Play vs Stroke Play – Major Rules Differences

	Match Play	Stroke Play
General Penalty	Loss of Hole	2-stroke Penalty
Hole Out	No requirement if stroke, hole, match conceded	Must Hole Out
Scorecard	No requirement	Must return scorecard
When uncertain about rules	Must decide what to do and play on or request ruling in time	May play 2 balls under 20.1c(3)
Breach of Rule	<p>Does not always result in penalty if player chooses to ignore (but not discuss with opponent) a breach of a rule</p> <p>Players may agree how to decide a rule as long as they both don't deliberately agree to ignore a penalty</p>	<p>A breach must always result in a penalty</p> <p>Players knowing rules can play on, can play 2 balls, or ask for a rules official</p> <p>TC/Rules official determination is final</p>
Committee becomes aware of a player's breach after play concludes but before the competition is closed (e.g., player made a stroke at the wrong ball)	If no timely request for ruling was made, result of match stands	The player must be disqualified
Handicaps	If not given correctly before match and affects # strokes given, player is disqualified, even if affected hole not yet played	If not given correctly, must be corrected before scorecard returned