

SMGA 2011 Match Play Bracket Tournament

May- September 2011

During the year the SMGA plays some form of Medal Play (Stroke Play) on our Tuesday Play Days. Even during Interclub events the majority of us play Medal Play. However match play is important! It is the format for the annual Tin Cup tournament.

In an effort to increase Match Play, two years ago the SMGA implemented a Challenge Ladder and while this format had some initial success it did not produce the overall results that were hoped for. During this past year we attempted to conduct Match Play one Tuesday each month but experienced scheduling difficulties. Match Play requires that there be an even number of golfers and there always seemed to be an uneven number of golfers who signed up those Tuesdays. Not being able to increase Match Play during the past several years has been a missed opportunity.

Going forward there are several questions that need to be asked;

- How can we increase SMGA match play?
- How can it be made easy and to be fun to compete?
- How do we make it rewarding? \$\$\$\$\$

During the late spring and summer months (May- September) of the 2011 season the SMGA will conduct a Flighted Single Elimination Match Play Tournament for individual golfers.

Briefly, participants will compete in a single elimination match play format, using 100% of their handicap. The matches within a flight are determined by a draw. Participants are responsible for scheduling their own matches within the allotted time period. The tournament begins immediately after the draw and concludes in September.

The tournament is a bracket format with four flights, with each flight having eight golfers. Each flight will be set up so that all the golfers in a flight will have handicap indexes that are as evenly matched as possible.

If necessary there will be provisions for a "Play-In Round" to accommodate more golfers in a given flight. The "Play-In-Round" may or may not be necessary but will be used to keep each flight at 8 golfers and balanced based on handicap indexes. Each match will be contested off the lower handicap.

Each round of the tournament will have approximately 4 weeks to complete, the play-in round time may be slightly shorter. The matches can be scheduled on any day of the week but must be completed by the deadline for each round of the tournament. This should give everyone time to schedule and complete their matches at their mutual convenience, and to report the results to Kelly Towery. This approach should greatly assist those golfers who have personal travel plans throughout the season, as well as those inconvenienced by the inevitable weather delays.

The master brackets will be posted in the Men's Locker Room and updated as each round is completed.

You can respond to this email indicating you desire to enter the Match Play Tournament or use the Sign Up Sheet is in the SMGA Book in the Pro Shop. Sign up deadline is April 29, 2011

The entry fee for the 5-month long match play tournament is \$10 per golfer, payable to Kelly Towery before the sign up deadline.

The 4 match play golfers who make it to the semi-finals (flight **winners**) will qualify for the Tin Cup Team. The distinction between 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place is the prize money to be awarded. The prize money pool is a **100% pay out!!!** The payout at the September completion of match play will be 40% to first-place, 30% to second, 20% to third, and 10% to fourth place.

In addition to the potential for winning prize money, all match play golfers will receive Tin Cup points that increase in value based on how many rounds you advance.

- 5 points if eliminated in Play In Round
- 15 points if eliminated in Round 1
- 25 points if eliminated in Round 2
- 50 points if eliminated in Round 3



Match Play Bracket Rules

1. **You can respond to this email indicating you desire to enter the Match Play Tournament or use the Sign Up Sheet is in the SMGA Book in the Pro Shop. Sign up deadline is April 29, 2011**
2. The match play bracket tournament will run from May through September of 2011. The entry fee for the 5-month long match play tournament is \$10 per golfer, payable to Kelly Towery no later than April 29.
3. The brackets will be published April 30. The brackets will be populated using USGA guidelines and with the assistance of our Head Golf Professional. During matches you will play off the lower handicap based on the handicaps in effect at the time of the match.

Example: If your opponent is a 15 handicap, and you're a 17, you will receive a total of two strokes during your match. The strokes will be on the two most difficult holes.

4. Each round will have approximately 4 weeks to complete all the matches. This should give everyone time to schedule and complete their matches at their mutual convenience, and to report the results to Kelly. This approach will greatly assist those golfers who have personal travel plans throughout the season, as well as those inconvenienced by the inevitable weather delays.
5. Matches not completed in the allotted time will be determined by a coin toss to allow the tournament to proceed on schedule. One or both competitors must be present at the coin toss. The coin toss will be performed by the SMGA President and Vice President.
6. Time extensions will be granted only with the approval of the Competition Committee (current SMGA President, current SMGA Vice President and the past SMGA President).
7. All match play golfers will receive Tin Cup points that increase in value based on how many rounds you advance.
 - 5 points if eliminated in Play In Round
 - 15 points if eliminated in Round 1
 - 25 points if eliminated in Round 2
 - 50 points if eliminated in Round 3
8. The 4 match play golfers who make it to the semi-finals (flight winners) will qualify for the Tin Cup Team. **The distinction between 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place is the prize money to be awarded. . The 100% prize money payout at the September completion of match play will be 40% to first-place, 30% to second, 20% to third, and 10% to fourth place.**
9. Master brackets will be posted in the Men's Locker Room.