

#### **FORMAT:**

1. The Two Man Team Match Play event is an ongoing single-elimination tournament in which two teams play match play (best ball net, aka Four Ball Match Play), during each round. The winning team advances to the next round. All players must be active members of the Eastern Shore Association of Golf Course Superintendents.
2. Each player plays their own ball from tee to green. The player with the lowest net score on a given hole wins that hole for his team. The match is won by the team that is leading by a number of holes greater than the number of holes remaining to be played. (e.g., 4 up with 3 holes to play – known as winning 4 &3).
3. The stipulated round is 18 holes; however, if both teams agree in advance, the stipulated round may be adjusted to 9-holes. This does not apply to the Championship match, which must be 18 holes.
4. If the match is even after the last hole, the match continues until a winner is decided. Handicap strokes remain the same for playoff holes. **In the event of darkness approaching for a tied match, teams may agree to a closest-to-the-hole chip-off or a coin flip to decide the outcome.**
5. USGA Rules apply - Four Ball Match Play: a. <http://www.usga.org/Rule-Books/Rules-of-Golf/Rule-30/#30-3> b. Decisions: <http://www.usga.org/Rule-Books/Rules-of-Golf/Decision-30/#30-3/1>.

#### **HANDICAPS:**

1. **A verifiable handicap must be submitted to Todd Cowing by April 2nd. If you do not have a handicap submitted by April 2nd your team will not be eligible to participate and the first team on the waiting list will be eligible.**
2. Identify your USGA handicap index. **Max handicap for an individual is 24 for this competition.**
3. Work with the Pro Shop to find your course handicap according to course and tees being played for the match.
4. Take 80% of the course handicap. (i.e., max competition handicap is 19, once 80% is applied)
5. Handicap strokes are allocated as net strokes from the lowest handicap player in the match per USGA guidelines 9-4a (iii) (i.e., lowest handicap plays with no strokes).
6. Ask the Pro Shop to prepare a card with dots on the appropriate holes for the match. Please let the Pro Shop know that this is a Two-Man Best Ball Match (Four Ball) when making your tee time so they can prepare the card in advance.

#### **BRACKETS:**

1. The winners of each round shall advance to the next round. The bracket will be displayed at all ESAGCS events as well as on the website. 2. After completing your match: a. Send an e-mail or text with a picture of the signed scorecard and date of your match. Please include a picture of the winning team so we can post on website.  
Todd Cowing: [todd@genesisturfgrassinc.com](mailto:todd@genesisturfgrassinc.com)  
Danielle Haley: [admin@esagcs.org](mailto:admin@esagcs.org)

#### **ENTRY FEE:**

1. Individual entry fee (for prizes): \$25.00  
Team Entry: \$50

**PRIZES & AWARDS: (Presented at Fall Turfgrass Conference)** (Prizes are dependent upon the number of teams registered – prize amounts below are based on 24 teams – prizes may be increased or decreased based on more or less teams registered)

- 1st place team - \$500 split (\$250 each player)
- 2nd place team - \$250 split (\$125 each player)
- Two Semifinalists - \$200 split (\$100 each player)
- Prize amounts will be paid out in Visa gift cards.

**SCHEDULE & PARTNER STIPULATIONS:**

1. It is the responsibility of the players to arrange their own matches, including the scheduling of tee times and course location. In the event of one player being absent at the starting time, a side may be represented by a single player. If the second player joins during the match, they must join between holes. See <http://www.usga.org/rules/rules-and-decisions.html#!rule-30,30-3>.

2. Please schedule your next match as soon as both winning teams are known. Do not wait for the email from the Tournament Chairman (Todd Cowing) at the conclusion of the round – you can schedule a match as soon as possible. **It is your responsibility to touch base with your opponents.**

3. If the opponents can't agree on a date within the allotted time, please contact the Tournament Chairman. **If a match schedule cannot be mutually agreed upon by the participants, assuming both teams made a good effort to find a mutually agreeable time, the match will be decided via a coin toss.** The main goal is to complete the final match prior to November 1<sup>st</sup>.

4. **You can only change your partner before the start of the first-round match. Once you play the first round, you cannot switch partners. If the event your partner is unable to play after the first round, you must compete as an individual.**

**DEADLINES TO COMPLETE EACH ROUND:**

<b>Round 1: 38 Days</b>	<b>April 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>May 16<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Round 2: 38 Days</b>	<b>May 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>June 24<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Round 3: 45 Days</b>	<b>June 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>August 9<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Round 4: 45 Days</b>	<b>August 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>September 25<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Championship: 37 Days</b>	<b>September 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b>

**SCORE CARDS:** Please fill in your score card completely!

- Record each player's gross and net score on every hole (put "x" if the player picked up).
- Circle the winning score for each hole.
- Clearly mark on the front of the card the match play score (for example "Smith/Wilson d. Howard/Manning, 2 & 1").
- Sign, attest, and date your card.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** If you have questions regarding your match, please contact:

Todd Cowing: [todd@genesisturfgrassinc.com](mailto:todd@genesisturfgrassinc.com); 443-790-0013

Danielle Haley: [admin@esagcs.org](mailto:admin@esagcs.org); 302-423-7492