

## BAY AREA PINSEEKERS

2026 Match Play Championship Tournament  
(Coordinator: Dan Jones)

1. The winner of this tournament will be designated as “Match Play Champion.” All matches are double elimination.
2. All club members are eligible to participate. Players sign up by submitting an e-mail to the match play coordinator and a \$20 entry fee (payable to Bay Area Pinseekers and designated “Match Play”) to the Secretary/Treasurer or Match Play Coordinator (“Coordinator”) by the date specified. Matches will normally begin in April each year. No players will be added once play begins. Matches will be made by the coordinator. Match assignments will be random and part of one overall bracket (comprised of Winners & Losers brackets).
3. Matches will be played using handicaps as they exist at the time of the match. Strokes will be assigned based on the difference between the players’ course handicaps. For example, if a “20” plays a “12,” the “20” will be assigned strokes on the 8 most difficult holes; the other 10 holes will be played “straight up,” with no strokes assigned to either player. If both players have the same course handicap, obviously no strokes would be assigned to either player. In all male vs. female matches, course handicaps shall be determined per the World Handicap System Rules of Handicapping, Section III, Rule 6.2a&b ( <https://www.usga.org/handicapping/roh/2020-rules-of-handicapping.html>). Go to GHIN.com to look up an opponent’s index. You sign-in by entering your last name and GHIN #. Select “Golfer Lookup” and “My Clubs” to find a handicap index for other players in our club. The format is net match play. Low net score on a hole wins.
4. All entrants must play in at least four regular stroke play tournaments during the calendar year (i.e., comply with By-law section 3F).
5. All matches shall be played at courses mutually agreed-upon by the competitors. If the competitors cannot agree on a golf course, then the match must be held at Poppy Ridge. Any tees may be played if each competitor agrees.
6. If any match is tied at the end of 18 holes, players shall attempt to continue play, on a sudden-death basis, until a winner is determined (as recommended by USGA rules). Before the start of a match, players shall advise the course staff at check-in that they are playing a match play round. Course staff, however, shall decide if & when a match may continue and which nine will be played. Handicap strokes shall be applied in the same order as during the 18-hole round.
7. If a winner is unable to be determined after 18 or more holes (as in #7 above) because a course is unable to allow more than 18 holes to be played, the following process shall be employed:
  - a. The players schedule another match within the same time frame (tournament round time frame as was determined by the coordinator) as that of the original match.
  - b. If the match cannot be scheduled within the time frame (above in 8.a.), scorecards shall be matched, using the “last 9 - last 6 - last 3” under the same handicap stroke allocations in effect for the match. And counting holes won. This means first try to find a winner by looking at the last 9 holes, then as a second try, the last 6 holes; and finally try to get a winner by looking at the last 3 holes). If, under this option, the players still cannot determine a winner, the players must find a way to schedule another match as soon as possible (see #8.a. above). If they cannot find a date/time suitable for a follow-up match (per 8.a. above), both players forfeit that match.

8. In order to complete the match play by October, matches shall be played within the assigned time frame (“tournament round time frame”), which is normally about 3 weeks, unless prevented by injury or illness or due to schedule conflict (see below).
  - a. Injury or illness. The extension allowed will be up to two weeks after the end of that tournament round time frame and the players must notify the coordinator of the delay. If the match cannot be played within this period, the player causing the delay will forfeit the match.
  - b. Schedule conflict. If the match is delayed due to one or both of the players’ schedule and they cannot agree on a date for the match within that tournament round time frame, they must get the match in within one week after that deadline. If not, the player who cannot make that date will forfeit that match. If neither player can make that deadline (even though both have open dates but none agree with the other player), both players forfeit that match.
  - c. If a match is delayed under either of the above conditions, both players must get their next tournament round match in by the normal deadline or either/both forfeit the next match.
9. Caddies are not allowed. However, opponents can invite others to fill out a four-some. No advice or information is to be given to the match play opponents, and if a non-competitor’s putting line is similar to one of the competitor’s putting line, the competitor must putt first. If a motorized golf cart is used, opponents must ride in the same golf cart.
10. Players **MUST** post their scores after the round. It is **highly recommended** that they complete the remaining holes even if a winner is declared before the completion of hole 18. However, if they decide to not complete the 18 holes after a winner closes out the match, each player **must** use the GHIN option of reporting their score BY HOLE **PLAYED**. GHIN will then determine what their score will be for the remaining un-played holes and then calculate the differential to be included in their handicap.