

Honors on the tee if ready
Farthest ball from the hole hit first if ready

SRPGA Golf Rules Education

Order of Play in SRPGA Tournaments

Teeing Off

- On the **first tee**, the order of play does not matter. When **starting other holes**, generally the player with the lowest score on the previous hole has the honors (plays first); the player with the second lowest gross score should tee off next; and so on.

[Rule 6.1](#)

- If two or more players score the same on a hole, they should play in the same order as on the previous teeing area.

Note: Honors is based on gross score, not net score. (gross score – handicap strokes = net score)

After All Players Start a Hole

The ball farthest from the hole is usually played first (see exception). However, the Rules encourage “ready golf” to help improve pace of play as long as it is done in a safe and responsible manner. [Link](#)

Note: Be mindful of your playing partners’ sensitivity to “playing out of turn.” Players sensitive to the order of play should be mindful of being ready to play when it is your turn.

Exception: In all cases, there is no penalty if you play out of turn, **except** that if you and another player agree to play out of turn to give one of you an advantage, you both get the general penalty (**2 strokes**). [Link](#)

“Ready Golf.” You are both allowed and encouraged to play out of turn in a safe and responsible way, such as when:

- You agree with another player to do so for convenience or to save time,
- Your ball comes to rest a very short distance from the hole — you hole out, or
- You are ready and able to play, before another player whose turn it is under the normal order of play, *so long as in playing out of turn you do not endanger, distract, or interfere with any other player.*

But: If the player whose turn it is to play is ready and able to play and indicates that he or she wants to play first, other players should generally wait until that player has played.

Players who are sensitive to the order of play should be mindful of being ready to play when it is their turn.

- Plan your shot before you get to your ball; Keep your pre-shot routine short; Aim to play in 20 seconds. Watch the flight of a shot by other players. Keep up with the group in front of you.

SRPGA Scrambles

Generally, the order of play in scrambles is the same as in other SRPGA tournaments: The team with the lower score tees off first. The order of play among a team is up to the team members.

Match Play Note: This does not cover match play golf, which is not typical of SRPGA tournaments.