



## **Four-Ball is fun**

***By Debbie Bensching***  
***Stone Creek co-coordinator***

Join us for some Four-Ball Fun! Perhaps you have heard of and even watched a Solheim, Ryder or Presidents Cup event. Odds are, you know more about match play four-ball than you might think. No worries if you are not familiar, you already know about golf.

We're hoping to make this an all-hands-on-deck match play event for so you can learn about match play in a comfortable setting, but if you'd prefer to spend your Memorial Day Monday with us just playing your regular game, that's an option, too. We will put those just wanting to play without a match play twist in separate foursomes. What we want most is to provide an opportunity to get out and play and have some fun. Don't forget the Early Birdie deadline is this Friday, May 13.

If you are unsure about trying Four-Ball, just know it's my favorite golf format. Why you ask? Let me count the "whys."

- Why 1: The support of a teammate. Two players play as partners, so throughout the round there is support built in.
- Why 2: The rules of golf allow for, and encourage, advice-giving between partners. It's not often one can have help reading a putt, picking a target or which club to hit and still play by the rules. You will be amazed to experience how much this can help your score. That's probably why it's against the rules in stroke play.
- Why 3: It is a forgiving format. The lowest total number of strokes on the hole wins a point and you have two options in play on each hole. I call this low-pressure golf. This means I can pick up my ball when I get in big trouble because my partner can finish the hole on our behalf. If we both play "adventure golf" on the same hole, we can just give the hole to the other team and move to the next one. In stroke play, you have to finish the hole or be disqualified.
- Why 4: Believe it or not, you can win a match with higher total number of strokes in a round than your opponent, which is impossible in stroke play. I'm living proof, as I've done it. How you might wonder. Total strokes for the round aren't the focus. It's total points and each hole is a potential point. You can lose a hole or point by 4 strokes and it's still just one of 18 points.

We look forward to seeing you at Stone Creek Golf Club. Be sure to sign up by May 13 to get the Early Birdie price of \$63, which includes greens fee, range balls and carts. The bogey price is \$68 from May 14-20.

We will have an information meeting beforehand to assist those new to the format. If you have questions, please contact Ann Chapman [annchapman100@yahoo.com](mailto:annchapman100@yahoo.com) or myself at [debbensching@comcast.net](mailto:debbensching@comcast.net).

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