Major Differences in the Rules between Match Play and Stroke Play Competitions

Match Play – General Penalty is Loss of Hole	Stroke Play – General Penalty is a 2 stroke penalty
Player and opponent	Player and Fellow Player
No scorecards issued – score is kept by number of holes up, holes down, All Square, dormie. Keep separate score card to post for handicap.	Rule 3.3b: Scorecards are issued and marker records individual hole scores and signs scorecard at end of round. Player countersigns.
Rule 3.2b: May concede a hole or a match at any time; concession of the opponent's next stroke provided the ball is at rest. No need to finish a hole in all cases. (For handicap, record most likely score on conceded holes.)	Rule 3.3c: Failure to hole out will result in a requirement to rectify before making a stroke from the next teeing ground, otherwise he is disqualified.
Rule 20.1b (2) (3.2d): Asking for a ruling – must be settled between players without undue delay otherwise make a claim and seek ruling later	Rule 20.1c(3): Playing 2 balls when uncertain what to do – may play a second ball, following certain procedures and seek answers later.
Rule 5.6: Referee/Committee allowed to assess Slow Play penalties under guidelines	Rule 5.6: Slow Play penalties assigned in stages based on guidelines issued by Committee.
Rule 5.7a: Players may discontinue play without informing Committee unless it delays competition.	Rule 5.7a: Specific circumstances when play may be discontinued – generally only when suspended by Committee
Rule 5.2a: May practice on the course on any day of a match-play competition, before a round.	Rule 5.2b: May not practice on the course on any day of a stroke play competition.
Rule 3.2d: not informing opponent of a penalty stroke in a timely manner, loss of hole. Information as to strokes taken must be given as soon as possible when asked by opponent. Knowingly giving wrong information could result in disqualification.	Rule 3.3b (1): Only need to inform marker if you have a penalty and may do it before signing your score card. Would not be asked how many strokes you have taken. Again only need to inform marker.
Rule 6.4a: Order of play is determined on the tee by draw/honour and when not on the tee, it is determined by who is farthest from the hole. If a player plays out of turn, the opponent may recall the stroke, but there is no penalty	Rule 6.4b: Order of play is determined on the tee by draw/honour and when not on the tee, it is determined by who is farthest from the hole. There is no penalty for playing out of turn.
Rule 6.1b(1): If a ball is played from outside teeing ground or from a wrong teeing ground, there is no penalty and the opponent may recall the stroke.	Rule 6.1: If a ball is played from outside teeing ground or from a wrong teeing ground, there is a General Penalty and must rectify, otherwise player is disqualified.
Rule 7.4: If searching for your opponent's ball and it is accidentally moved, no penalty. Rule 9.5b: If you touch or move opponent's ball when not searching, you receive 1 penalty stroke and ball must be replaced.	Rule 9.6: Moving a fellow-competitor's ball, during a search or otherwise, there is no penalty. Ball must be replaced.
Rule 6.3c (1): If you play a wrong ball, you lose hole but not the entire match; you may continue the match	Rule 6.3c (1): If you play a wrong ball, you receive General Penalty and must rectify, otherwise be disqualified
On the putting green – if you putt and your ball strikes opponent's ball, also on green, there is no penalty.	Rule 11.1a Exception: On the putting green – if you putt and your ball strikes your fellow-competitor's ball, also on green, there is a General Penalty.
Rule 14.7a: If a player makes a stroke from the wrong place, they receive a General Penalty (loss of hole)	14.7a: Playing from a wrong place has two stages General Penalty (2-strokes) for doing it and if it is a serious breach, must rectify, otherwise the player is disqualified.
Rule 22.3 (3-somes & 4-somes also known as alternate shot) – If a player plays out of turn in any match, the penalty for making a Stroke in the Wrong Order is a General Penalty	Rule 22.3: Playing in incorrect order, (General Penalty 2-strokes) side must correct the mistake. Strokes made in the wrong order do not count. If not corrected the side is disqualified.