

FAQ 8:

a) In greensomes what do you do if both players on a team drive their ball out of bounds?

b) In foursomes what do you do if player does an "air shot"?

Applicable Rule(s): Rule 29-1 (Threesomes and Foursomes)

In a threesome or a foursome, during any stipulated round the partners must play alternately from the teeing grounds and alternately during the play of each hole. Penalty strokes do not affect the order of play.

Answer:

a) You nominate one of the balls as the one you choose and if it is Player-A's ball then Player-B plays the next shot and vice-versa.

If in this instance it is a mixed greensomes and Player-A is a man, then his lady partner must play the next shot from the men's tee from which he played.

The Rules of Golf do not mention "greensomes" specifically, but greensomes is a special case of foursomes once both players have teed-off and nominated their chosen ball.

b) If Player-A did the "air-shot" then Player-B must play the next stroke and vice-versa.

An "air-shot" is a stroke, since the player intended to strike the ball, so the rule of alternate strokes means that the player's partner must play the next shot.

However, if Player-A deliberately did an "air shot" (e.g. to give his team some sort of advantage – say when playing over water), then he has not made a stroke and if Player-B takes the next shot he has played out of turn and would incur a 2-stroke penalty (or loss of hole in matchplay). In strokeplay, if before teeing off on the next hole Player-A did not play the ball from where Player B hit it, **their team would be disqualified**.