

# Play Nine™

Card Game for 2 to 6 players/Ages 8 and up

Match wits and win!

Each hand is a hole. Each turn is a shot.

Object is to shoot the lowest score. After nine holes, the lowest score wins!

## Rules of the Game

Read rules through before starting Play Nine.™ Be sure to see “Shaving Off Strokes.”

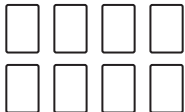
## Setting the Order of Play

Players select a card, lowest card deals. For ties, reselect until tie is broken. Player seated to the dealer’s left starts and play continues to pass clockwise.

## Preparing Your Course

Shuffle all cards (108 total). Card stroke values range from 0 (Mulligan) to 12 (Out of Bounds) with eight of each card value. There are also four Hole-in-One cards valued at -5 strokes.

Deal each player eight cards, face down. Keeping cards face down, each player arranges cards into two rows of four cards across, creating an individual playing area.



Place remaining cards in a face-down stack in the center. Turn over top card to form a discard pile.

## **Teeing Off**

All players tee off by turning over any two cards. The tee shot is the only time two cards are turned over.

After teeing off (turning over two cards), the player to the left of dealer starts play. The player may choose to draw the top card from the deck or from the discard pile.

If the player draws from the deck:

- Player may use the drawn card to replace either a face up or facedown card and discard the replaced card, or
- Player may discard the drawn card and then turn over any facedown card. If choosing this option, don't forget to turn over a facedown card.

If the player draws the top card from the discard pile:

- Player may use the drawn card to replace either a face up or facedown card and discard the replaced card.

After discarding, play passes clockwise to the next player.

## **Advancing Down the Fairway**

Play continues in order with all players drawing, then turning over or replacing a card as they shoot for the lowest score. Have a bad shot? Don't despair. With some strategic thinking and a little luck of the draw, you can turn a wayward shot into a stroke of genius. (See *Shaving Off Strokes* on last page.)

Players must turn over or replace a card on every turn. A player may replace face up cards repeatedly, as long as one facedown card remains.

### **Lining Up the Final Putt**

When a player has only one facedown card remaining, that player has the option of skipping a turn in order to line up that perfect final putt. To skip a turn, the player draws, then discards without replacing or turning over the last facedown card. Play moves to the next player. A player may skip turns repeatedly, as long as one facedown card remains.

### **Putting Out**

When a player replaces or turns over the last facedown card, showing eight face up cards, play ends for that player. All other players then take one last shot, drawing one last card. After all players have taken their last shot, all remaining facedown cards are turned over and individual scores are counted and posted on the score card.

### **Tallying Individual Scores**

Count strokes according to the face value of each card. (The negative value of the Hole-in-One card removes strokes from the score.) Before counting, be sure to check the position of all cards to determine any point reduction situations. (See Shaving Off Strokes on last page.)

### **Starting the Next Hole**

Cards are shuffled and dealt, by the player to the left of the last dealer, for the next hole. All players tee off. The player to the left of the dealer starts play.

### **Ending the Game**

Play continues for nine holes. After the last hole, scores for all nine holes are tallied and the lowest overall score wins. Ties may be decided by a sudden death playoff.

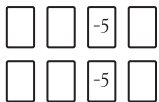
## Shaving Off Strokes

Improve your score by paying close attention to the lie of your cards! The following configurations will shave strokes off your score:

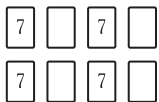


### Matching Two-cards

Same face cards in top row and directly below in bottom row cancel each other out for 0 strokes. Turn matching sets facedown before adding score.

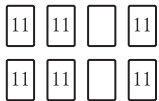


**Hole-in-One exception** – matching Hole-in-One cards do not cancel out the strokes; score each card at its face value of  $-5$  strokes.



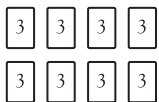
### Matching Four-cards

Two same face cards in top row and two directly below in bottom row cancel each other out for no strokes, PLUS a  $-10$  stroke bonus.



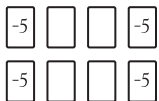
### Matching Six-cards

Three same face cards in top row and three directly below in bottom row cancel each other out for no strokes, PLUS a  $-15$  stroke bonus.



### Matching Eight-cards

Four same face cards in top row and four directly below in bottom row cancel each other out for no strokes, PLUS a  $-20$  stroke bonus.



### Four Hole-in-One Bonus

Two hole-in-one cards in top row and two directly below in bottom row score a  $-10$  stroke bonus for a total of  $-30$  strokes ( $-5$  each card, plus bonus).