

## 4.6 **GOLF**

### 4.6.1 **General:**

- (a) Information on Mailings, Classifications, Payment of Officials, Eligibility Sheets, Ejections, Playoff Declaration, Unpaid Fines, NCHSAA Clinic Dates, Body Paint and Noisemakers are found under General Requirements for Interscholastic Activities (4.1).
- (b) Date of First Practice: For women, July 30; for men, February 13.
- (c) Preseason Scrimmages: Reference 4.1.5
- (d) Date of First Match: For women, August 13; for men, February 27.
- (e) Number of Regular Season Contests: No more than three matches may be scheduled per week. Individuals are limited to one contest a day.
- (f) Women's Participation: Women can only participate in ONE season per year.
  - (1) If no women's team is available, then women may play on the men's team in the spring.
  - (2) If the player chooses to enter the women's regional, or play as an individual during the fall season, she may not play on the men's team in the spring.
- (g) Health and Safety Guidelines: Reference General Requirements for Interscholastic Athletic Activities for a listing of Guidelines (4.1.22) and Health and Safety Guidelines (2.3) for all the information.
- (h) Coaching: The NCHSAA will allow TWO designated coaches from each school to coach during the regional and state championships. It is a conference option during the regular season. The following regulations must be followed:
  - (1) The TWO coaches who are allowed to give advice must be identified during the match via armband, neck tag or other identification measure.
  - (2) The two designated coach may give advice, of a short and quick duration, from the tee to the greens and the walk between holes. NOTE: Coaches may not provide continuous coaching while walking with a player. Once finished, coaches must return immediately to the cart path.
  - (3) Any violation of the coaching rule can result in a two-stroke penalty and may cause the coach to lose his privilege to communicate with players the remainder of the event during the round/rounds.
  - (4) Prior to any stroke, the coach must step back from the player.
  - (5) Coaches may not be on the tee box or enter onto the green(s) at any time.
  - (6) Use of radios, walkie-talkies, cell phones and other electronic devices by players or coaches is not allowed. All cell phones must be turned to silent. Violation results in disqualification. A cell phone with a range finder application is illegal.
  - (7) Use of USGA approved range finders is permitted at any time (except for cell phone applications).
    - (i) Yardage measuring devices and information may be shared among players.
    - (ii) A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only.
    - (iii) If, during a round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect play (e.g. Slope/gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of USGA Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used.
  - (8) Others will not be allowed to give advice and must limit conversations to words of encouragement only. Any other types of conversations could be considered advice, which would result in a two-stroke penalty.
- (i) Pull Carts: Non-motorized pull carts are allowed at any time; however, courses may prohibit use of pull carts.
- (j) Players may not ride on any form of transportation during a stipulated round unless authorized by the NCHSAA.
- (k) Conditions of Competition: Please refer to the NCHSAA website for specific conditions of competition for playoffs.
- (l) Supervision: All individuals participating in playoff competition must be supervised. If not, they will be eliminated from competition.
  - (1) If anyone besides school personnel accompanies participants, a letter from the principal must be sent to the NCHSAA authorizing this and a copy of the letter must be in hand at the tournament.
- (m) Tiebreaking Procedure: Please refer to the NCHSAA website for specific tie-breaking procedure (men's and women's golf page).
- (n) Filming, Videotaping or Video Streaming: Reference 4.1.25.
- (o) Double-Par Rule: No player shall score more than double par on any hole (6 on a par 3, 8 on a par 4 and 10 on a par 5) during the regular season. Once a player has reached this threshold, the player shall pick their golf ball up, record a double-par on the scorecard and let the group complete the hole and move onto the next hole.

#### 4.6.2 Regional Playoffs:

- (a) Dates and Sites: Women's regional tournaments will be October 15 or 16. Men's regional tournaments will be May 6 or 7.
- (b) Regional Assignments: Regional assignments, along with the most current information about regional sites, dates and times, are posted on the NCHSAA website.
- (c) Playoff Entries: Schools qualifying for the regionals will be permitted to enter five players, and entries are to be submitted by 3:00 p.m. October 10 (women) and by 3:00 p.m. May 1 (men)
  - (1) Late entries may be submitted to the NCHSAA and must be in by 9:00 a.m. the Friday prior to the regional. Use the form on the NCHSAA website. A \$50 fee will be assessed for each individual entry. No entries after this will be accepted.
  - (2) Once entries have been submitted to the regional director, coaches can substitute any or all team members up to the start of the tournament. Individuals cannot be substituted.
- (d) Women's Regional Qualifying Standard:
  - (1) Teams
    - (a) Conference champions will receive an automatic berth.
      - (i) Top 3 players on the team.
      - (ii) Players 4 and 5 may qualify through the Individual Qualifying Standard.
  - (2) Individuals
    - (a) 1A/2A and 3A - Golfers must average a 55.0 or better for 9 holes during regular season high school matches.
    - (b) 4A - Golfers must average a 50.0 or better for 9 holes during regular season high school matches.
    - (c) The average score will be calculated using the best five (5) 9-hole scores from throughout the season. Double-par rule will apply.
      - (i) Example 1: Golfer plays three 9-hole matches and an 18-hole conference match for the year. The total number of 9-hole matches is five (5). Golfer must count all five 9-hole scores when determining her average.
      - (ii) Example 2: Golfer plays six 9-hole matches and an 18-hole conference match for the year. The total number of 9-hole matches played is eight. Golfer may drop the three highest 9-hole score; therefore, the average will come from the best five 9-hole scores.
      - (iii) Example 3: Golfer plays in four 9-hole matches. Golfer is not eligible for regional competition due to failure to meet the qualifying standard of a minimum of five 9-hole matches.
- (e) Verification Process for Reporting Women's Scores: Please refer to the NCHSAA website for the template and instructions for reporting.
- (f) Men's Regional Qualifiers: Team qualifiers will be based on conference determination.
  - (1) Teams
    - (a) The number of qualifiers from a conference is based on half the number of teams (schools with at least four (4) players on the eligibility summary form) participating in golf in that conference (without rounding up; e.g., 7-school conference is allowed three (3) teams). This number is listed under the regional assignments (Refer to NCHSAA website).
    - (b) One team from the independent members will qualify and be assigned to the regional closest to their location.
  - (2) Individuals
    - (a) Men's individual regional qualifiers are the top four individuals from a conference, not on one of the qualifying teams (must compete only as individuals).
    - (b) One medalist (not on the qualifying team) from the independent members will qualify and be assigned to the regional closest to their location.
- (g) Playing Rules:
  - (1) Eighteen (18) holes stroke play
  - (2) Women on men's teams must play from men's tees.
  - (3) USGA rules shall prevail, except where modified by local course rules and approved by the games committee (check with the local pro for any unusual ground rules).
  - (4) A games committee must be established and decisions of the committee are final. There should be a minimum of three people knowledgeable about golf rules on the committee, preferably including the local course pro.
  - (5) All spectators must stay on the cart paths.
  - (6) Caddies are prohibited in the state playoffs, with the exception of those necessitated for physical handicap reasons (this does not include injuries).

- (h) Team Scores:
  - (1) The four lowest men's individual scores from a five-player team will be totaled to determine the men's team score.
  - (2) The three lowest women's individual scores from a five-player team will be totaled to determine the women's team score.
- (i) Awards: Regional champion and runner-up plaque and awards for the individual medalist and runner-up will be given. Ties will be broken according to the tie-breaking procedure in the conditions of competition.
- (j) Expenses: Each team will bear its own travel expenses to the regional.
- (k) Regional Site Determination: At the regional, a meeting of coaches must be held to select a site and a director for the upcoming season.
  - (1) This is a mandatory meeting that will be conducted by the current regional director.
  - (2) The current director will then notify the NCHSAA office within 10 days after the completion of the tournament, of the host school and director for the next season.
- (l) Women's State Championship Qualifiers: 26 golfers per regional will advance to the state championship:
  - (1) Top 3 teams automatically qualify with the best 3 scores.
  - (2) Top 17 individuals not on a qualifying team.
  - (3) If a school does not finish in the top 3, but qualifies at least 3 individuals, that school will also advance to the state championship as a team.
  - (4) A top 3 team could still qualify players #4 and #5, if among the top 17 individuals qualifying.
- (m) Men's State Championship Qualifiers: 21 golfers per regional will advance to the state championship.
  - (1) Top 3 teams of 5 players automatically qualify with the best 4 scores.
  - (2) Top 6 individuals not on a qualifying team.

#### 4.6.3 **State Championship:**

- (a) Dates and Sites: The women's state tournaments will be held in all classes on October 22-23. The men's state tournament will be May 13-14. Sites TBA on NCHSAA website.
- (b) Pairings and Starting Times: The pairings will be made in the NCHSAA office. Tee times will not be available until Wednesday after 3pm prior to the tournament.
- (c) Conditions of Competition: Please refer to the NCHSAA website for specific conditions of competition for state championship play.
- (d) Format: Thirty-six (36) holes, stroke play.
- (e) Team Scores:
  - (1) The four lowest men's individual scores from a five-player team shall be totaled to determine the team score.
  - (2) The three lowest women's individual scores from a five player team will be totaled to determine the women's team score.
  - (3) Team members may be substituted for, but not after the round has begun.
- (f) Awards: The winning and runner-up teams and individuals will be given plaques. Individual awards will be given to members of the winning and runner-up teams (6 women's and 6 men's medals) as well as the third-place and fourth-place individuals.
- (g) Team Expenses: Travel will be paid at the rate of five cents per mile for each qualifier, including coach, up to a maximum of 35 cents.

## 4.7 **LACROSSE**

### 4.7.1 **General:**

- (a) Information on Mailings, Classifications, Payment of Officials, Eligibility Sheets, Ejections, Playoff Declaration, Unpaid Fines, NCHSAA Clinic Dates, Body Paint and Noisemakers are found under General Requirements for Interscholastic Activities (4.1).
- (b) Date of First Practice: February 13
- (c) Preseason Scrimmages: Reference 4.1.5
- (d) Date of First Game: February 27
- (e) Health and Safety Guidelines: Reference General Requirements for Interscholastic Athletic Activities for a listing of Guidelines (4.1.22) and Health and Safety Guidelines (2.3) for all the information.
- (f) Number of Regular Season Contests: No more than three per week may be scheduled.
  - (1) Teams are limited to 16 games.
  - (2) An individual is limited to no more than one game per day.
  - (3) Junior varsity conference tournament games count toward the 16-game limit.
  - (4) Varsity conference tournament games are considered part of the state playoffs.
- (g) Endowment Games: Reference 4.1.6