

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION
NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL REGIONAL AND STATE GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

Play is governed by the current Rules of Golf of the United States Golf Association and where applicable by the following Tournament Rules, Conditions and Definitions and NCHSAA policy

SUPERVISION: All individuals participating in regional and state playoff competition must be supervised. If not, they should be eliminated from competition. This is stated in the NCHSAA Handbook, page 61. If anyone other than school personnel accompanies the participant(s), a letter must be sent from the principal to the NCHSAA, as well as with the participant(s) to have available at the site.

SUBSTITUTES: Once entries have been submitted to regional director, coaches can substitute for any/all team members up to start of tournament. Individuals cannot be substituted. (At the state tournament, team members can even be substituted for on the 2nd day, but not after nine holes of play.)

TIME OF STARTING: If the competitor arrives at their starting point, ready to play, within five minutes after their starting time, in the absence of circumstances which warrant waiving the penalty of disqualification as provided in Rule 33-7, the penalty for failure to start on time is a two stroke penalty on the first hole to be played. Penalty for lateness beyond five minutes is disqualification.

GOLF BALLS: The One-Ball-Rule is not in effect.

PACE OF PLAY: Groups that are found to be out of position (not having completed the hole being played by the time the preceding group has completed the play of the next hole) will be informed of that fact and individual players will be timed. Competitors will be allowed forty-five seconds to complete a stroke. Time will commence when it is the competitor's time to play and no outside distractions are present. Penalty for breach of Rule 6-7 will be:

First offense: -----One stroke

Second offense-----Two strokes

Third offense-----Disqualification

COACHING REGULATION: ONE (1) designated coach from each school to coach. It is a conference's option during the regular season. These following regulations must be followed:

- There must be some way to identify the ONE coach who is allowed to give advice (armband, tag around neck, etc.).
- ONE designated coach may give advice, of a short and quick duration, from the tee to the greens and the walk between holes. Coaches may NOT provide continuous coaching while walking with a player. Once finished, coach must return immediately to the cart path. **COACHES MAY NOT GIVE ANY ADVICE ONCE THE PLAYER IS ON THE GREEN OR ON THE TEE BOX.**
- 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.
- Prior to any stroke, the coach must step back from the play.
- Use of radios, walkie-talkies, cell phones and other electronic devices by players or coaches is NOT ALLOWED. Violation results in disqualification. **A cell phone with a range finder application is illegal.**
- Use of USGA approved range finders is permitted at any time. Yardage measuring devices and information may be shared among players. **A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. 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 Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used."**

****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. ****

PARENT/SPECTATOR GUIDELINES: All spectators will be restricted to cart paths (Spectators may leave the cart paths to assist in finding lost balls). Spectators may carry umbrellas, food, water, medicine or a change of clothing for a competitor. Please limit all conversations to words of encouragement only. Any other types of conversation could be considered advice, which would result in a TWO STROKE PENALTY.

PULL CARTS: Non-motorized pull carts are allowed at any time. However, courses may prohibit use of pull carts.

LOCAL COURSE RULES PREVAIL. Please check with the course professional for any unusual ground rules.

ADVICE: NCHSAA rule is *Advice cannot be given by anyone except for the one designate school coach.*

SHOTGUN STARTS are not legal.

DOUBLE PAR or TRIPLE BOGEY MAXIMUM is not allowed.

SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION: When the NCHSAA Committee suspends play for a dangerous situation, if the competitors are between play of two holes, they shall not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they shall discontinue play immediately and shall not thereafter resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If a competitor fails to discontinue play immediately they shall be disqualified unless circumstances warrant waiving such penalty as provided in Rule 33-7.

Discontinue Play Immediately---One prolonged note of siren/horn.

Discontinue Play-----Three consecutive notes of siren/horn repeated.

Resume Play-----Two short notes of siren/horn, repeated.

TRANSPORTATION: Competitors shall walk at all times during a stipulated round. NOTE: Rules officials may transport competitors back to a tee in the event of a lost/out-of-bounds ball in order to expedite play. Penalty for breach of condition: Two strokes for each hole at which breach occurred. Maximum penalty per round four strokes. In the event of a breach between play of two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole. NOTE: Use of any unauthorized form of transportation shall be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach occurred. Otherwise, the competitor shall be disqualified.

CADDIES: No caddies will be allowed.

SPORTSMANSHIP: Any competitor found to be guilty of poor sportsmanship, i.e., use of profanity, throwing of clubs in anger or general misbehavior as deemed by the NCHSAA Committee will have their playing privileges revoked and they will be dismissed from the tournament.

DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE: Rule 3-3. In stroke play, if a competitor is doubtful of his rights or the correct procedure during the play of a hole he may, without penalty, complete the hole with two balls. After the doubtful situation has arisen and before taking further action, the competitor must announce to his marker or a fellow competitor that he intends to play two balls and which ball he wishes to count if the Rules permit. If he fails to do so, the provisions of Rule 3-3b(ii) apply. *The competitor must report the facts of the situation to the Committee before returning his scorecard. If he fails to do so, he is disqualified.*

PREFERRED LIES: It is up to each course to determine if ball will be played down, or if adjusting the ball for preferred lies will be allowed. At the state tournament, the ball will be played down.

EMBEDDED BALL: "Through the green" a ball which is embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground, other than sand, may be lifted without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the "course through the green".

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE: Two strokes.

PRACTICE BETWEEN HOLES: Between the play of two holes, a player shall not play any practice strokes on or near the putting green of the hole last played. PENALTY: Two-strokes at the next hole.

DECIDING TIES:

Individuals –

Regional Championships: Ties must be played off to determine top 3 individuals who will qualify to the state tournament. If two are tied for first and two for second, both ties must be broken to determine top 3.

State Championships: All ties for all places will be decided by sudden-death playoff. NCHSAA Tournament Supervisor will select holes for the playoff.

Teams –

If two or more teams are tied, go to 5th golfer's scores and compare. Lowest score wins.

If still tied, go to 6th golfer. If still tied, must have playoff. Numbers 1-2 from 1st team tee off, then

1-2 from other team(s)...then 3-4 tee off (best scores).

RESULTS OF THE COMPETITION: When all scores have been posted on the official scoreboard and approved by the NCHSAA Rules Committee, the results of the competition shall be deemed to have been announced and the competition officially closed.