

**GOLF 2016-2017**

**7. GOLF — BOYS AND GIRLS**

**A. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**1) Interscholastic Participation**

1.1) **PARTICIPATION LIMITATION** — 9th-12th Grades — 20 matches (20 days) 7th & 8th grades — 14 matches (14 days). A high school team and/or golfer may participate in a maximum number of 20 regular season contests. Any and all matches participated in by an individual shall count towards the team's match limitation of 20. 7th and 8th grade golfers are permitted 14 matches. Each contest counts as one whether 9 or 18 holes and regardless of number of opponents.

1.2) **INTERRUPTED CONTEST** (regular season)

When play is interrupted/suspended due to events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority, the contest may be resumed from the point of interruption that day, provided the golf course can be played in the same layout on which the course was found at the beginning of the competition that day. If play cannot be resumed from the point of interruption that day, the match/tournament shall be replayed from the beginning on a future date and any suspended play will not count. The determination to resume play shall be made by the PGA Professional and/or home coach in accordance with OHSAA guidelines.

1.3) **INTERRUPTED TOURNAMENT**

Any OHSAA tournament contest interrupted due to events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be resumed from the point of interruption. (At the state tournament, the tournament manager retains the right to determine whether to resume play or revert to an 18 hole event.)

1.4) **SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE** — No team or individual entry will be permitted to compete in a contest unless accompanied by the coach or a person authorized by the Board of Education. Teams or individuals unaccompanied by such school representative will be disqualified. The school representative shall be present throughout the contest.

1.5) **CADDIES** — Caddies are not permitted during a contest. Participants will be disqualified if any person assists by caddying or if the participant rides in any type of vehicle.

**EXCEPTION:** A medically authorized waiver is permitted for the use of a vehicle. A copy of the doctor's statement and school request cover letter must be filed with the OHSAA and the OHSAA authorization shown to the referee.

1.6) **PULL CARTS** — Pull carts are permitted.

1.7) **SCORING** — Stroke-play shall be utilized for all contests. The team score shall be determined by totaling the scores of the four players with the fewest strokes for the contest. The team with the fewest number of strokes is the winner. During regular season matches, schools may play six individuals and score four by mutual agreement of the opposing coaches, prior to the match.

1.7.1) Ties in team scoring shall be resolved by comparing the scores of the 5th lowest score, and the team with the 5th lowest score shall prevail. If one team does not have a 5th score, the team with a 5th score shall prevail. If the 5th lowest score does not break the tie, schools playing six individuals shall compare the sixth lowest score to break the tie. If the tie remains, the contest shall end in a tie or tied teams may play off the tie using four players selected by the coaches of the tied teams.

In regular season play if a playoff is not feasible, the contest will end in a tie.

In regular season play, ties for medalist or other awards will be left up to the host school.

**EXCEPTION:** Two non-league matches may be played in a match-play format mutually agreed upon by opposing coaches prior to the contest, not to exceed 36 holes.

- 1.8) CONDUCT — A two stroke penalty shall be assessed for unsporting conduct. Unsporting conduct shall include but not be limited to: club throwing, willful acts which damage property or equipment on the course, use of abusive language, profanity, obscenities, and other unsporting conduct as determined by the Golf Rules Committee. Penalties imposed may include disqualification.
- 1.9) The home school coach shall serve as referee, enforcing all OHSAA regulations and U.S.G.A. rules. Any coach and/or designee serving in that capacity who is giving advice pertaining to these regulations and/or rules must have the regulations and rules book with him/her to ensure the rule/regulation is administered correctly.

1.10) COACHING — The coaching regulation permits the school board-approved coach/designee assigned to the event to speak with his/her player(s), without delay of play, at any time. Participants will be disqualified if any other individual assists the participant by coaching and giving advice which could influence a player in determining play, the choice of a club or method of making a stroke (Rule 8).

**Note:** A team member is not a partner and may not give advice to or receive advice from another member. The following procedures govern on-course coaching:

1.10.1) During the player's stipulated round, coaches are not permitted on any green or in any sand bunker.

If a group should lose their position the group must be playing at a pace slower than 15 minutes per hole. To fall behind the group in front does not always mean a group is playing slow.

If the group fails to regain their position on the course within a reasonable time established by officials then the group should be notified that they are "going on the clock." At that point, any player who does not complete his/her turn to play in the allowed forty-five seconds is assessed a two stroke penalty. A second violation is another two stroke penalty, and a third violation results in a disqualification.

ie. "45 second rule" – once a player reaches their ball, and their turn has arrived to play, they must complete their shot within the 45 seconds allowed.

1.11) DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES — In accordance with USGA Rules of Golf "A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, windspeed, 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." Cell Phones **may not** be used as distance measuring devices in OHSAA events.

## 2) Non-Interscholastic Participation

2.1) A member of an interscholastic golf squad (any student who has played in a scrimmage, or regular season/tournament contest) sponsored by the Board of Education shall not participate in a non-interscholastic program (tryouts, practice or contest) as an individual or member of a team in the sport of golf during the school's golf season (Sports Regulation 7.2.2).

**Note:** Examples of golf contests include, but are not limited to, club or course championships, scrambles, tournaments, leagues, charitable events and other events that are organized for the purpose of competition.

2.2) An athlete who has participated for the school in the sport of golf in that season but has been invited to/qualified for the U.S. Amateur for boys and girls, the Junior Ryder Cup for boys and girls and/or the Junior Solheim Cup for girls may be granted a waiver/exemption to participate in those competitions without jeopardizing eligibility provided written permission is obtained from the OHSAA Commissioner's Office. If applicable, the student granted such a waiver/exemption may return to participate in OHSAA tournament competition so long as tournament regulations regarding entry/participation are adhered to.

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2.3) Participation in “skills contests” (such as but not limited to “Drive, Chip and Putt”) is **not** a violation of OHSAA Non-Interscholastic Individual Sports Regulation 7.2.2 for student-athletes.

2.4) **INDIVIDUAL NON-INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION DATE** — An individual who has not participated as a representative for the school in a golf contest during the current season must cease non-interscholastic competition six weeks (42 days) prior to the Monday of the week of the State Golf Tournament to be eligible for OHSAA tournament competition in golf.

In addition, an athlete who has participated for the school in golf who violates this non-interscholastic competition date by participating in a non-interscholastic contest in golf shall be ineligible for OHSAA tournament competition in golf in addition to any other penalties that may be prescribed.

Date: September 5, 2016 - For all boys and girls divisions

2.5) Interscholastic golf coaches may coach athletes from the school where employed outside the interscholastic season of the sport. No coach may require participation until the official start of the interscholastic season.

### 3) Sponsorship

3.1) A school that sponsors girls golf, with four or more girls participating, shall have a separate girls team in order to enter the OHSAA-sponsored girls tournament competition.

3.2) A school that sponsors girls golf and has less than four girls participating may permit the girls to participate as individuals with the boys team during the regular season, and the girls will be permitted to enter and compete as individuals in the OHSAA-sponsored girls tournament provided the school is registered for the girls tournament.

3.3) A school that sponsors boys and girls golf and has separate teams shall schedule separate contests, but both may be held at the same time.

3.4) A school that does not sponsor girls golf but has four or more girls participating may permit the girls to participate on the boys team, but they must enter the OHSAA-sponsored boys tournament competition.

### 4) Penalties

The maximum penalty for violation of Sports Regulation 7.2.2, participation on a non-interscholastic golf squad, or any OHSAA regulations for any member of the school squad EXCEPT a senior is ineligibility for the remainder of the interscholastic golf season or the ensuing season. For a senior, the maximum penalty shall be ineligibility for the remainder of the school year.

### 5) Transfer Bylaw

Due to the many questions regarding this bylaw and its application to students desiring to participate in golf, please go to the OHSAA website ([www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)), click on the “Eligibility” link, then click on the “Transfer Bylaw Resource Center” to assist in the understanding of this bylaw. Note that students who transfer and do not meet an exception to this bylaw are ineligible for all contests until regular season contest number 11 in golf and then eligible for no more than 10 contests for the remainder of the regular season.

### 6) Other Bylaws and Regulations

6.1) For information on Ejection for Unsporting Conduct See *Ejection Policies for Coaches and Players* under Section 13 and 14 of the General Sports Regulations and in the Golf Coaches Guide posted at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org).

6.2) For information on Out of State Travel regulations see Bylaw 9-2 and the Golf Coaches Guide posted at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org).

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6.3) Spectators are permitted, but are NOT permitted to converse with participants. It will be the responsibility of contestants in each foursome to caution ANY spectator from talking to or interfering with contestants in their group. Failure to do so may result in a penalty of disqualification of contestants involved.

**B. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — Grades 9-12**

- 1) Coaching, tryouts and instruction may begin — August 1, 2016.
- 2) First contest — August 5, 2016.
- 3) Deadline date for OHSAA Tournaments — September 12, 2016.
- 4) Tournament draw/seeding meeting — September 18, 2016.
- 5) Coaching and Season end — October 29, 2016.
- 6) Scrimmages — One permitted any time during the season.
- 7) Regular season contests — 20 for team and individual and each interscholastic contest counts as one whether 9 or 18 holes and regardless of number of opponents. (20 days)
- 8) Rules — United States Golf Association.
- 9) Officials — No requirements.

**C. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — Grades 7 & 8**

- 1) Coaching, tryouts and instruction may begin — August 1, 2016.
- 2) First contest — August 5, 2016.
- 3) Coaching and Season end — October 29, 2016.
- 4) Scrimmages — None permitted.
- 5) Regular season contests — 14 for team and individual and each interscholastic contest counts as one whether 9 or 18 holes and regardless of number of opponents.
- 6) Rules — United States Golf Association.
- 7) Officials — No requirements.

<b>Golf</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Coaching Begins	8/1	8/1	8/1	8/1	8/1	8/1
Season Begins	8/5	8/5	8/6	8/6	8/6	8/6
Non-Interscholastic Date All B&G Div.	9/5	9/4	9/3	9/2	9/7	9/6
Sectional Boys Divisions II & III & Girls II	9/26-10/1#	9/25-9/30#	9/24-9/29#	9/23-9/28#	9/28-10/3#	9/27-10/2#
Sectional Boys Division I & Girls I	10/3-10/8#	10/2-10/7#	10/1-10/6#	9/30-10/5#	10/5-10/10#	10/4-10/9#
District Boys Divisions II & III & Girls II	10/3-10/8	10/2-10/7	10/1-10/6	9/30-10/5	10/5-10/10	10/4-10/9
District Boys Division I & Girls I	10/10-10/15	10/9-10/14	10/8-10/13	10/7-10/12	10/12-10/17	10/11-10/16
State Boys Divisions II & III & Girls II	10/14-10/15	10/13-10/14	10/12-10/13	10/11-10/12	10/16-10/17	10/15-10/16
State Boys Division I & Girls I	10/21-10/22	10/20-10/21	10/19-10/20	10/18-10/19	10/23-10/24	10/22-10/23
Season Ends	10/29	10/28	10/27	10/26	10/31	10/30
Rosh Hashanah	10/3-10/4	9/21-9/22	9/10-9/11	9/30-10/1	9/19-9/20	9/7-9/8
Yom Kippur	10/11-10/12	9/29-9/30	9/18-9/19	10/8-10/9	9/27-9/28	9/15-9/16

#Unless an earlier date is established by a District Athletic Board (no earlier than two days prior to the established date).