

# NSAA GOLF MANUAL



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### **NSAA MISSION STATEMENT**

**The public and non-public high schools of Nebraska voluntarily agreed to form the Nebraska School Activities Association for the following purposes:**

- To formulate and make policies which will cultivate high ideals of citizenship, fair competition, sportsmanship and teamwork which will complement the member schools' curriculum programs.
- To foster uniformity of standards in interscholastic activity competition.
- To organize, develop, direct & regulate an interscholastic activity program which is equitable & will protect and promote the health and physical welfare of all participants.

The **GOLF MANUAL** serves as a guide to participating schools and provides information for the administration of Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) competition. The Girls and Boys golf manual information is combined for the 2020-2021 school year. The regulations in this manual shall be considered official unless schools are notified of specific changes.

Coaches and athletic directors are urged to read this manual on the NSAA website for future reference.

Any questions regarding this manual please Contact:

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### **APPROVED RULINGS AND LEGISLATIVE CHANGES FOR THE GIRLS & BOYS GOLF MANUAL – 2020-2021**

**Scoring (Circle 10) – Page 10**

**Inclement Weather at State Championships – Page 18**

## NSAA GIRLS AND BOYS GOLF INFORMATION

The Nebraska School Activities Association's (NSAA's) website: <http://www.nsaahome.org> is an important means of communication including a page for each of the NSAA's sponsored activities. Administrators, coaches and others involved in this activity should make themselves familiar with what is offered on the Girls/Boys Golf pages as this is the primary source of general information.

Topics included on the website: Current year classifications, district assignments, district results, NSAA championship schedules, NSAA championship qualifiers, assignments, tee-times, NSAA championship results and Championship history and records.

It is important to regularly check the NSAA homepage for the latest information about your activity.

### GIRLS' KEY DATES

<u>Year</u>	<u>First Practice</u> <u>Monday, Week 6</u>	<u>First Contests</u> <u>Thursday, Week 7</u>	<u>District</u> <u>Dates</u>	<u>NSAA</u> <u>Championships</u>
2020-21	August 10	August 20	October 5-6	October 12-13
2021-22	August 9	August 19	October 4-5	October 11-12
2022-23	August 8	August 18	October 3-4	October 10-11
2023-24	August 7	August 17	October 2-3	October 9-10

1. The Girls Golf season starts the first day of practice, August 10, 2020. On-line eligibility lists are due by August 20, 2020.
2. The season ends with the NSAA Girls Golf Championships, October 12-13, 2020 or when a school's entire golf team is eliminated from further participation in the sport.

### BOYS' KEY DATES

<u>Year</u>	<u>First Practice</u> <u>Monday, Week 35</u>	<u>First Contests</u> <u>Thursday, Week 37</u>	<u>District</u> <u>Dates</u>	<u>NSAA</u> <u>Championships</u>
2020-21	March 1	March 18	May 17-18	May 25-26
2021-22	February 28	March 17	May 16-17	May 24-25
2022-23	February 27	March 16	May 15-16	May 23-24
2023-24	February 26	March 14	May 13-14	May 29-30

1. The Boys Golf season starts the first day of practice, March 1, 2021. On-line eligibility lists are due by March 18, 2021.
2. The season ends with the NSAA Boys Golf Championships, May 25-26, 2021 or when a school's entire golf team is eliminated from further participation in the sport.

## NSAA ATHLETIC BYLAWS GOVERNING GOLF

Golf exists as a high school activity by authority of the constitution and bylaws of the Nebraska School Activities Association.

### 3.11.5 **GOLF**

3.11.5.1 Girls golf shall be conducted during the fall sports season.

3.11.5.2 Boys golf shall be conducted during the spring sports season.

3.11.5.3 The season for golf shall begin with the first day of practice as permitted by the NSAA rules and shall end with the state tournament.

3.11.5.4 Participation in interschool golf competition by any school student shall be limited to **12 meets**. No more than 9 of the 12 meets allowed can involve more than four teams. This does not include district or state competition.

**\*HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULING:** Schools should plan their golf events with the intent to minimizing lost class time.

### **PROTESTS**

3.12.4.1.1 Protests based upon the eligibility of players will be considered by the Executive Director and Board of Directors.

3.12.4.1.2 Protests based upon play situations and situations which involve judgment on the part of game officials will not be considered.

## NSAA ATHLETIC BYLAWS

### 3.1 SPORTS SEASONS

3.1.1 Interschool sports sponsored by the Association shall be divided into three seasons: Fall, Winter, and Spring.

#### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.1.1**

*A season begins on the first day of allowable practices for that sport, as designated in 3.1.1.2 below. The season officially ends with the conclusion of the State Championship in that sport. Students may not participate in outside group instruction or competition once the season officially begins, and outside group instruction or competition may not commence until the school team has been completely eliminated from further participation in the sport.*

3.1.1.1 A season begins the day of opening practice as permitted by the NSAA rules rather than the first day of interscholastic competition.

3.1.1.2 The division of sports seasons shall be as follows: No school shall register more than one varsity team per sport and no student shall participate simultaneously in more than one sport per season.

Note: Week designations are for the standardized calendar. The standardized calendar usually begins with the first full week in July.

<b>FALL</b>	Date of 1 <sup>st</sup> Practice	Date of 1 <sup>st</sup> Contest	Close of Season
Girls Golf	Monday, Week 6	Thursday, Week 7	State Championship
<b>SPRING</b>			
Boys Golf	Monday, Week 35	Thursday, Week 37	State Championship

#### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.1.1.2**

1. *If a student is participating in one sport during a sports season and decides to quit that sport and participate in another sport during the same season, the student shall be restricted from practice and competing for seven school days. No student who has practiced or competed in one sport will be allowed to switch to another sport if the district or state meet in the student's former sport is in progress or has been completed or a season has ended.*

2. *If a student participates in two sports simultaneously during a sports season, that student shall become ineligible to participate in the district and/or state contest during that sports season.*

*Refer to the Nebraska School Activities Association calendar or the Manual for the specific sport for the date of the*

**Q:** Can a student who initially went out for cross country or tennis change his mind and come out for football after the first day of permitted football practice?

**A:** Yes. The student shall be restricted from practice and competing for seven school days and will also be required follow heat acclimatization requirements.



## 3.2 OUT-OF-SEASON PROGRAMS

- 3.2 A member school shall not provide support, hold an organized practice or enter students in any non-high school competition in NSAA sponsored sports outside of the defined NSAA season.

### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2**

*Faculty vs. student, alumni vs. student, or parent vs. student contests are not permissible during the season of the sport involved. If such contests are held out-of-season, the organized practice rule must be followed.*

- 3.2.1 **“School-Year, Out-of-Season” Definition.** “School-year, out-of-season” is defined as that period of time during the school year in which no organized practice can be conducted. The “school-year, out-of-season” period begins on the first day of fall practice and runs until the first allowable date of practice in that sport, and the period after a team or individual has been eliminated from further competition during the championship series of district and state tournaments/meets through Memorial Day or the end of the school year, whichever is later. For non-varsity competition, “school year, out-of-season” begins the day following the last date of interscholastic competition or the last date of the varsity season, whichever is later.
- 3.2.2 **“School-Year, Out-of-Season” Participation.** Except during the season of the sport involved, a student may be a member of a non-high school team and compete unattached in non-high school competition. Students are prohibited from wearing high school uniforms during non-high school sponsored competition.
- 3.2.3 **Organized Practice.** No organized practice in any sport shall be held during the “school-year, out-of-season” period. An organized practice shall be defined as follows:
- a. **Football and Soccer.** An organized practice in 11-man football and soccer shall mean more than seven students under direct supervision of a sponsor. An organized practice in 8-man football shall mean more than five students under the direct supervision of a sponsor. If more than one group is practicing at the same time, it shall be called an organized practice. The only pieces of general equipment shall be footballs, shoes, helmets, kicking tees, and hand held dummies and there shall be no contact with mechanical training devices or blocking sleds or with another player.
  - b. **Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Volleyball, Tennis and Wrestling.** An organized practice shall mean more than four students under the direct supervision of a sponsor. If more than one group is practicing at the same time, it shall be called an organized practice. In baseball and softball, beginning four weeks prior to the official start of softball and baseball practice, sponsors may work with up to eight (8) players using only balls, gloves and protective catcher’s equipment. No other equipment; including bats may be used by players or coaches. An organized practice shall mean more than eight (8) students under the direct supervision of a sponsor. If more than one group is practicing at the same time, it shall be called an organized practice. During the four weeks prior to the official start of practice, sponsors will have the option of working with four (4) student athletes or eight (8) student athletes using the prescribe allowable equipment.
  - c. **Track & Field, Swimming & Diving, Golf and Cross Country.** An organized practice shall mean more than three students under direct supervision of a sponsor. If more than one such group is practicing at the same time, it shall be called an organized practice.

### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2.3**

*Any individual who served as a school’s head coach, assistant coach, coach’s aide, or volunteer coach shall not coach athletes from that member school in non-high school competition if the number of athletes from the school which the individual served exceeds the number permitted for an organized practice in the sport involved.*

- 3.2.4 **Conditioning Program.** A member school may organize and supervise a “school year, out-of-season” conditioning program to include weight lifting, running, and exercising for its members in accordance with the following provision:
- a. Such a conditioning program shall be general in nature and may include only exercises designed to promote physical fitness.
  - b. Sport specific drills are not allowed, and sport specific equipment may not be used.
  - c. The conditioning session shall be no longer than 60 minutes in length, and no student shall participate in more than one such session per day.
  - d. Conditioning programs shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend conditioning sessions as a prerequisite for membership or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2.4**

*Conditioning sessions organized and run by members of the school’s coaching staff are subject the 60-minute limitation. Students, for example, who work out on their own at the school facility in weight lifting, general calisthenics, running, or agility-type exercises shall not be considered to be involved in an organized conditioning program.*

- 3.2.5 **Open Gym.** It is permissible for students to be involved in NSAA activities of a school’s open gymnasium program during the “school year, out-of-season” period under the following conditions:
- a. The gym is open for all individuals and all activities.
  - b. Schools may not designate sport specific times.
  - c. Coaching or instruction is not provided.
  - d. School employees who are present shall restrict their duties to supervision of the facility.
  - e. Open gym shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend open gym as a condition for membership or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

### 3.2.6 CAMPS AND CLINICS DEFINITIONS

**Camp Definition:** Camps include planned physical participation that is of a competitive nature where actual games are played or simulated by camp attendees. Participation shall mean physically taking part in the sport activity in which instruction is offered in the camp or school.

**Clinic Definition:** A clinic includes planned activities of instruction or demonstration directly related to the Teaching of individual skills. There shall be no competition between athletes who are in attendance.

3.2.6.1 **“School-Year, Out-of-Season”.** Athletes and coaches may attend professional or commercial sports camps/clinics sponsored by non-member high schools. During the “school-year, out-of-season” period, the organized practice rule for the sport in which instruction is being given shall apply. No more than the limit permitted for organized practice may attend and receive instruction. Attendance to “school-year, out-of-season” clinics shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend a clinic as a condition for membership on the high school team or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

#### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2.6 and 3.2.6.1**

*The purpose of specialized sports camps/clinics is to give individual athletes an opportunity to improve his/her skills in a particular activity. The athlete and/or his/her parents shall pay the fees and expenses for attendance to such camps or schools. The school, booster clubs, individuals and/or other organizations shall not provide expenses, or support for individuals participating in clinics. Team fundraisers may be used to finance summer league and camp/clinic activities. The AD/coach can hold money collected from fundraising in a school account until the money is needed to pay for summer league or camp/clinic activities. Any athlete receiving money for summer league, camps/clinics must participate in the fundraising activity. The school may provide transportation for individuals participating in camps/clinics with prior approval from the district’s Board of Education.*

Q: Can a coach (head, assistant or volunteer) attend a school year out-of-season camp or clinic?

A: Only if the organized practice rule for that particular sport is followed. If the number of athletes from the team exceeds the organized practice limit, the coach cannot be in attendance. Organized Practice numbers are defined in Bylaw 3.2.3

3.2.7 **Summer Activities.** From the Tuesday following Memorial Day to July 31, a member school may not sponsor a team or individual, provide uniforms, individual player equipment (except football, baseball, and softball protective equipment for commercial camps), or otherwise be responsible for a student in summer competition. Attendance at summer activities shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend summer activities as a condition for membership on a high school team or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

#### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2.7**

*Applicable to Coaches During The Summer.*

*The school year out-of-season period begins on the date of the official start of fall practices. Summer activities are regulated between the Tuesday following Memorial Day and July 31. Between the end of the summer activities period and the start of the school year, out-of-season period (August 1 through the official start of fall practices), the following shall apply: (1) The organized practice rule shall be in effect; (2) Conditioning programs may be held; (3) Attendance at commercial camps and clinics is permissible, but the organized practice rules shall be in effect for such camps and clinics; and (4) No school-sponsored clinics or camps may be held.*

*NSAA Catastrophic Insurance does not cover coaches/students/schools during the summer activities period (Tuesday following Memorial Day through July 31).*

1. Q: Can schools provide school vans for coaches to drive to a summer camp?

A: Yes, NSAA Bylaw 3.2.8(d) allows school transportation for individuals participating in team sports camps/clinics with prior approval from the district’s Board of Education. However, the NSAA Catastrophic insurance would not cover this transportation.

2. Q: Can a student voluntarily attend the school-sponsored, 60-minute conditioning program, and then return to that school that evening to lift weights?

A: Yes, NSAA Approved Ruling 3.2.7.3 states that students may work-out on their own at the school facility and it shall not be considered to be involved in an organized practice.

3. Q: Could a coach conduct voluntary practices during the summer activity period?

A: Yes, NSAA Bylaw 3.2.7.6 allows a coach to have unlimited contact with students during the summer activities period, provided no support is received from the school/district. The organized practice rule is not in effect during the summer activities period.

4. Q: Can schools allow student participating in summer activities to wear school-issued uniforms (practice, game, warm-up, or scrimmage vest)?

A: No, NSAA Bylaw 3.2.7.9 does not allow for the use of school equipment which includes school uniforms.

5. Q: Can a high school coach conduct a commercial camp/clinic at their high school?

A: Yes, NSAA Bylaw 3.2.7.8 (b) allows high school coaches to rent school facilities for use by individuals. Camps conducted by high school coaches shall be publicized as open to all area individuals wishing to attend and not limited to students from the coach’s high school.

6. Q: As a reward, can a coach excuse a student from the first day of high school practice because of the student’s

participation in summer activities?

A: No, NSAA Bylaw 3.2.7 states that attendance at summer activities shall be voluntary.

7. Q: What does school support mean?

A: It can include but may not be limited to the school funding or sponsoring individuals/teams or allowing the use of school issued apparel. School support also includes booster club funds. Coach's compensation and renting outside facilities would also be school support.

If the school/school district provides any financial support or provisions to assist/conduct the activity, then it will be considered school support.

3.2.7.1 **Allowable Summer Activities.** During the summer a member school may organize the following:

3.2.7.2 **Summertime School-Sponsored Camps/Clinics:** A school may organize a camp or clinic in any sport from the Tuesday following Memorial Day through July 31. The camp shall be limited to no more than ten days over a period of 21 consecutive calendar days starting with the first date of the camp/clinic.

- a. Summertime school-sponsored camps/clinics include planned physical activities that are instructional and competitive in nature where actual games can be played or simulated by camp attendees.
- b. Summertime school-sponsored camps/clinics shall be voluntary and open to all interested students from grades 9-12.
- c. The use of school facilities and equipment is permitted in accordance with local school board policy.
- d. If a summertime school-sponsored camp/clinic is held in football, contact shall be allowed with the use of hand held dummies only. The no-contact rule shall prohibit contact with mechanical or training devices, as well as with other players. The use of blocking sleds and other mechanical devices is prohibited. The no-contact rule does not preclude incidental or inadvertent contact, or the touching of a ball carrier with the hand(s). The only pieces of general football equipment shall be footballs, shoes, helmets, kicking tees and hand held blocking dummies.

3.2.7.3 **Summertime Conditioning Program.** A member school may organize and supervise a summer conditioning program to include weight lifting, running, and exercising for its members in accordance with the following provision:

- a. Such a conditioning program shall be general in nature and may include only exercises designed to promote physical fitness.
- b. Sport specific drills are not allowed, and sport specific equipment may not be used.
- c. Conditioning sessions shall be no longer than 60 minutes in length, and no member shall participate in more than one such session per day.

#### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2.7.3**

*Conditioning sessions organized and run by members of the school's coaching staff are subject the 60-minute limitation. Students, for example, who work out on their own at the school facility in weight lifting, general calisthenics, running, or agility-type exercises shall not be considered to be involved in an organized conditioning program.*

3.2.7.4 **Summertime Open Gym.** It is permissible for students to be involved in NSAA activities of a school's open gymnasium program during the summer under the following conditions:

- a. The gym is open for all individuals and all activities.
- b. Schools may not designate sport specific times.
- c. Coaching or instruction is not provided.
- d. School employees who are present restrict their duties to supervision of the facility.
- e. Permitting the participation by non-high school students (graduates, adults or individuals not a member of the school) shall be determined by local school board policy.

3.2.7.5 **Summertime School Recreation Programs.** Schools may sponsor summer recreation programs provided all individuals who wish to participate are permitted to attend and the competition is intra-school. Individual player equipment, except football helmets and pads, may be provided.

3.2.7.6 **Summertime Regulations for Athletes and Coaches.** From the Tuesday following Memorial Day or final day of school (whichever is later) until July 31, there shall be no restrictions on the contact between students and high school coaches, provided no support is received from the school district.

#### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2.7.6**

*The organized practice rule shall be in effect during the school year until Memorial Day, except in the case of organized teams (e.g., Legion baseball, ASA softball, etc.). If a high school coach or other adult associated with the school program is also the coach of an organized non-school team, practice and competition involving the coach and athletes of that non-school team may begin at the conclusion of the state tournament of that activity or during Week 46 of the standardized calendar, whichever date is later.*

3.2.7.7 **Summer Leagues.** High school coaches are permitted to coach students from their school in summer league competition and games, provided there is no direct support from the school.

- a. There must be evidence that the organization or individual conducting the league has rented or leased the school facility to prove the school is not involved with sponsorship or funding.
- b. All league fees and costs are to be paid by the athlete and/or his/her parents. The school, booster clubs, individuals and/or other organizations shall not provide expenses or support for individuals participating in such leagues.
- c. Team fundraisers may be used to finance summer league and camp activities. The AD/coach can hold money collected from fundraising in a school account until the money is needed to pay for summer league or camp

activities. Any athlete receiving money for summer league/camps must participate in the fundraising activity.

- d. The use of school names and uniforms (practice, game, warm-up or scrimmage vests) shall be considered school support and are prohibited.

3.2.7.8 **Summertime Use of School Facilities.** Member schools may permit the use of their facilities in accordance with the school board rental policy. Examples of acceptable use of school facilities for activities are:

- a. **Summer Leagues.** There must be evidence that the organization or individual conducting the league has rented or leased the facility to prove the school is not involved in its sponsorship or funding.
- b. **Commercial Sport Camps/Clinics.** A school may rent its facility for use by individuals, including its own school coaches or other organizations for commercial camps/clinics or schools. Camps conducted by high school coaches shall be publicized as open to all area individuals wishing to attend and not limited to students from the coach's high school.
- c. All-Star competition that involves graduated seniors.
- d. Competitive meets and contests sponsored by non-school groups.
- e. Facilities approved under the above stipulations include: gymnasiums, tracks, swimming pools, tennis courts, athletic playing fields, and baseball and softball diamonds.

3.2.7.9 **Summertime Use of School Equipment.** Member schools may permit the use of school equipment, other than individual player equipment and uniforms, as long as the school is in no way responsible or involved. Acceptable equipment shall be: shot puts; discus; vaulting poles; landing pits; hurdles; balls; tennis racquets; golf clubs; nets; vaulting, high jump, and volleyball standards; swimming kick boards; weight machines; football helmets and pads for students attending commercial camps; and batting helmets and catcher's equipment for students attending commercial camps.

3.2.8 **Summertime College/Professional/Commercial Team Sport Camps/Clinics.** High school coaches are permitted to accompany students from their school to college, professional, or commercial sports specialized team camps/clinics during the summer.

- a. The purpose of a specialized sports camp/clinic/school is to give team members an opportunity to improve their skills in a particular activity.
- b. The athlete and/or his/her parents shall pay the fees and expenses for attendance to such camps or schools. The school, booster clubs, individuals and/or other organizations shall not provide expenses or support for individuals participating in camps, schools, and non-school competition.
- c. Team fundraisers may be used to finance team commercial camp/clinic activities. The AD/coach can hold money collected from fundraising in a school account until the money is needed to pay for camp activities. Any athlete receiving money for summer team camps/clinics must participate in the fundraising activity.
- d. The school shall not provide uniforms (practice, game, warm-up or scrimmage vests) but may provide transportation for individuals participating in such camps/clinics, or schools with prior approval from the district's Board of Education.

3.2.9 **Summertime Individual Commercial Camps/Clinics.** During the summer, students may attend any individual skill/technique camps or clinics.

- a. The purpose of an individual camp/clinic/school is to give a student an opportunity to improve his/her skills in a particular activity.
- b. The athlete and/or his/her parents shall pay the fees and expenses for attendance to such camps or schools. The school, booster clubs, individuals and/or other organizations shall not provide expenses or support for individuals participating in camps.
- c. Team fundraisers may be used to finance individual commercial camp/clinic activities. The AD/coach can hold money collected from fundraising in a school account until the money is needed to pay for summer individual camp/clinic activities. Any athlete receiving money for camps/clinics must participate in the fundraising activity.
- d. The school shall not provide uniforms (practice, game, warm-up or scrimmage vests).

3.3.7 **State Contests.** The Board of Directors shall have charge of all state interscholastic contests in activities sponsored by the Association. The Executive Director shall be the director of all such contests. He/she may delegate the details to someone else and have such other help as he/she deems necessary.

### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.3.7**

#### *Eligibility for Sub-District/District/State Competition*

1. In all athletic activities, teams wishing to enter a sub-district, district, or state contest shall have participated in a minimum of five interschool varsity contests prior to the sub-district, district, or state contest.
  - a. Exceptions to the requirements for a team that has not participated in at least five interschool varsity contests would be considered if the team was unable to participate if weather conditions forced a cancellation of scheduled contests. Other extenuating circumstances would be considered by the Executive Director on a case-by-case basis.
2. In order to participate in a sub-district, district or state tournament, a student is required to have been a member of the school's team for at least twenty school days prior to the first day of the sub-district, district, or state tournament.
  - a. Exceptions to the requirements for a student who is not a member of the school team for twenty school



- days would be considered if an individual was unable to participate because of illness, injury, or transfer from another high school. School, team, or game suspensions, regardless of the underlying cause, shall not be considered as exceptions to this participation rule.
3. *To be eligible to participate in a sub-district, district and/or state contest, a student shall have been a member of a school's team and shall have been "available to participate" in at least thirty percent (30%) of the school's scheduled interschool contests.*
    - a. *Exceptions to the requirements for a student who has not been available to participate in at least (30%) of the school's varsity interschool contests would be considered if an individual was unable to participate because of illness, injury, transfer from another high school, or if weather conditions forced a cancellation of scheduled contests.*
    - b. *When determining whether a student has been available for (30%) of the school's varsity interschool contests, one would divide the number of varsity interschool contests for which the student was available by the school's total number of varsity interschool contests; all decimals .1 or above would be rounded up to the next higher whole number.*
    - c. *The term "available to participate" means that the student was a bona fide member of the team eligible to participate for the school at some level of competition in the sport and is not suspended from participation in activities by virtue of NSAA rules.*
  4. For situations pertaining to eligibility to participate in district or state contests that are not specifically addressed by these guidelines, the Executive Director shall have the authority to waive membership and participation requirements on a case-by-case basis.

### **NON-SCHOOL PARTICIPATION BY STUDENTS**

- 3.5.1 Any student who participates in any athletic contest other than as a representative of his/her school during the season of the sport involved becomes ineligible to represent his/her school in that sport for one or more contests or the remainder of the season.
- 3.5.2 **Individual Instruction.** During a season of a sport, a student is permitted to take individual instruction from a person other than the high school coach at times other than scheduled high school practice sessions, but such instructions shall not interfere with, nor be substituted for the high school coaching, practice sessions, or contest.

### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.5.2**

*During a season of a sport, a student is permitted to take individual instruction from a person other than the high school coach. Group instruction, practices with outside teams, and tryouts for outside teams other than as part of a college or university recruiting visit, however, are not permitted.*

### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 2.1.2**

*Medical Personnel at Regular Season Contests Severe injuries, sudden illnesses and other critical incidents do not often occur during school activities, but it is important for every school to have an emergency action plan (EAP) for administrators, faculty, coaches and staff members to follow should emergencies occur. Due to lack of universal availability of medical coverage and other logistical reasons, NSAA does not require that schools have a physician, trainer or ambulance on-site at regular season activities; however, each school should have a plan in place should there be an emergency involving students, coaches, officials, or spectators requiring medical attention.*

*The following section is not located in the NSAA bylaws or Approved Rulings:*

### **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR NSAA GOLF PARTICIPATION**

Girls have been permitted to compete on the Boys Golf team of their respective school given their school not sponsor a girls' team in the fall. If a school sponsors girls' golf, girls cannot participate in the boys' golf program at the school in the spring. Boys must play only in their designated golf season.

### **MUSIC LICENSES**

Generally, music used for contests (warm-up, half-time, "walk-up" music, etc.) needs to be licensed. Some music may be in public domain; however, most music is not and will require a license. This season, take the necessary time to verify your music is licensed through the proper entities. Visit [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com) for additional resources.

### **NSAA POLICY ON COMMENTS AND NEGATIVE ACTIONS AGAINST OFFICIALS AND JUDGES**

The National Federation of State High School Associations has devised Code of Ethics guidelines for high school coaches. The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. The coach or sponsor shall respect and support contest officials and judges. The coach or sponsor shall not indulge in conduct that would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials, judges or players is unethical.

The Nebraska School Activities Association has embraced that Coaches Code of Ethics and has established policies and standards that will cultivate the ideals of good sportsmanship, professionalism and conduct. It shall be the responsibility of

each member school to ensure that all individuals directly associated with the interscholastic program conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike and professional manner.

The high school coach or director is a representative of the school at interscholastic activity events. It is the responsibility of all coaches and directors to serve as role models for students and the public.

It is the expectation that all coaches, directors, administrators and student participants shall refrain from negative criticism of NSAA member institutions, officials, adjudicators, judges, etc. in public statements before, during or after interscholastic events. The appropriate public response to media questions at all venues regarding officiating/judging is “per NSAA policy, I am unable to comment.” Any other response is a violation of this board policy and is subject to penalty.

It would be considered a violation of this NSAA policy to include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Making degrading and/or critical remarks about officials or adjudicators or the officiating or judging before, during or after an event either on or off-site, via social media, or through any public means.
- b. Detaining the officials/adjudicators/judges during or following the event to request a ruling or explanation of actions or evaluation by the official(s)/adjudicator(s)/judges.
- c. Entering the officials dressing area following the contest.

Negative actions by an individual directly associated with the program shall be reported to the NSAA office by the school and/or by the head contest official, adjudicator, judge, or manager. The school shall document the results of their investigation and actions taken, where necessary and appropriate. The NSAA Executive Director shall determine the appropriate penalties for violation of this board policy.

## NSAA SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES & EJECTIONS

*(NSAA APPROVED RULING JUNE 2, 2009)*

1. Enforcement of the “sit-out rule” for ejections from high school contests for unsportsmanlike conduct is a responsibility of the member school. Failure to properly enforce this rule could result in other sanctions by the NSAA.
2. Administrators will be expected to promptly file a report with the NSAA whenever a participant or coach from their school has been ejected from any high school contest. Such filing must be done online under the AD login section of the NSAA webpage.
3. A participant or coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next athletic contest at that level of competition and any other athletic contest at any level during the interim.
4. Enforcement of the “sit-out rule” is expected to begin immediately, regardless whether it is regular-season or tournament play.
5. Any participant ejected a second time during a season from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next two contests at that level of competition and all other athletic contests at any level during the interim, in addition to other penalties the NSAA or school may assess.
6. Any participant ejected a third time during a season from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next three contests at that level of competition and all other athletic contests at any level during the interim, in addition to other penalties the NSAA or school may assess.
7. During the time of their “sit-out” suspension, athletes who are ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct may not suit up or participate, but it is the school’s discretion whether such athlete is able to travel with the team or sit on the team bench.
8. Coaches who are ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct may not coach in any contest or be present at the contest site during the time of their “sit-out” suspension. Coaches who are ejected will also be required to successfully complete the NFHS online course “Teaching and Modeling Behavior” within 10 days of the ejection. Failure to successfully complete the course will result in a suspension from coaching for the remainder of the season. In those situations in which the ejection of the coach occurs near the end of the season or during the NSAA end-of-season play, the coach will be required to successfully complete the NFHS online course “Teaching and Modeling Behavior” before being able to coach the following season or year.
9. Coaches who are ejected a second time in a season will be required to sit-out the next two contests at that level, plus all other contests at other levels during the interim. Coaches may not be present at the contest site during the time of their “sit-out” suspension. Any coach ejected a second time will also be required to successfully complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching online course within 10 days of the ejection. Failure to successfully complete the course will result in a suspension from coaching for the remainder of the season. In those situations in which the ejection of the coach occurs near the end of the season or during the NSAA end-of-season play, the coach will be required to successfully complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching online course before being able to coach the following season or year.
10. **If the ejection takes place in the final game of the season, the suspension will carry over to the following season.**
11. **When schools have students or coaches with multiple ejections, the school shall submit to the NSAA a written management plan on how they plan to remediate the problem.**
12. Officials will be expected to file with the NSAA an ejection report for any ejection of a player or coach from a contest online. Any unusual situation that occurs prior to, during, or after a contest should also be reported.

13. Prompt reporting to the NSAA office by the official is necessary. Officials are asked to submit their electronic report or call the NSAA office by the day following the ejection.
14. Officials are asked to be specific in listing the reason(s) for an ejection.
15. Affiliated officials (officials registered from contiguous states) will also be required to perform this reporting function.
16. There is no appeal process for ejections for unsportsmanlike conduct.
17. The Executive Director shall reserve the right to consider the length of suspensions when some levels of competition are scheduled on an irregular basis (e.g., three weeks between regularly scheduled non-varsity contests).

## CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Violations within the Rules of Golf may be cause for penalty or disqualification. Objectionable conduct by a player, reported to the Rules Committee during or after a competitor's round may also be cause for action under Rule 1.2b modified in this way:
  - a. Any player that engages in conduct detrimental to the integrity and image of the game of golf and/or public confidence in the NSAA is subject to penalty. Such conduct may include, but is not limited to, abuse of clubs or the course; being disrespectful of other players, referees, volunteers, staff or spectators; unacceptable language; failure to abide by course rules or any other unbecoming conduct.
  - b. **Penalty Structure:** First breach – **Warning**; Second breach - **General Penalty** for the hole during which the breach occurs. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole; Third breach or any serious misconduct – **Disqualification**.
2. The NSAA may also suspend the player from future tournaments or events and/or expel them from the District Tournament or NSAA Golf Championship if the action warrants removal.
3. Review Rule 1.2a (conduct expected of all players) with your players during the season and before postseason events. As an educational activity, high school players need to model the highest standards of player conduct. The NSAA should not receive complaints about players failing to play in the spirit of the game by not: acting with integrity, showing consideration to others and taking good care of the course during high school events.

## STEROID POLICY

*The Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), strongly oppose the abuse of anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing substances by high school student-athletes. Such use violates legal, ethical and competitive equity standards, and imposes unreasonable long-term health risks. The NSAA and the NFHS support prohibitions by educational institutions, amateur and professional organizations, and governmental regulators on the use anabolic steroids and other controlled substances, except as specifically prescribed by physicians for therapeutic purposes.*

## SMOKELESS TOBACCO BAN

*The NSAA Board of Directors has approved the following regulation: During district or state competition in activities sponsored by the Nebraska School Activities Association, the use of smokeless tobacco by any participant is prohibited. If a participant or substitute is detected using smokeless tobacco during competition, that individual shall be disqualified from participation in further competition in that contest.*

## NSAA GOLF GUIDELINES:

### RULES OF PLAY

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and the R&A govern play and where applicable, by any Local Rules and Terms of the Competition including the current NSAA Golf Manual. Players are responsible for knowing the Rules of Golf and complying with all "Terms of the Competition". It is the school's responsibility to instruct its players on these matters and to see that these rules are followed during competition.

### SCORING

During the regular season, District Tournaments and State Tournaments, a player's score for each hole will be capped at 10 strokes (a circle 10). Once a participant reaches 11 strokes or more, the participant has the option to pick up their ball, wait for the others to finish the hole and then move on to the next hole to continue play. The player who "picks up" their ball will be able to continue their round but will be disqualified from the meet and their score will not be used to earn a medal during the meet or for the team score. (Ex: If a team has four golfers entered in the meet and one of the golfers "picks up", the team is disqualified from the team competition.) During the regular season, any player who "picks up" and takes a circle 10 will not be able to have their used in the scoring differential as submitted to the NSAA.

## REFEREES

The NSAA does not register referees in the sport of golf. Each host school shall be responsible for securing referees for the events for which it hosts, and for negotiating with those referees for their compensation. Please supply your referee with a current version of both the NSAA Golf Manual and NSAA Local Rules and Terms of the Competition.

## AMATEUR GUIDELINES

The NSAA does not make decisions regarding a player's Amateur Status. A player that is found to be in breach of the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by the R&A and the United States Golf Association cannot participate in high school golf. The NSAA encourages all schools to familiarize their golfers with the Rules of Amateur Status.

1. To play high school golf, a student must be considered an amateur golfer. Violations of the Amateur Status code include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Conduct or identification as a professional golfer.
  - b. Playing for prize money (cash) or its equivalent in a match, competition or exhibition.
  - c. Accepting a prize or prize voucher in excess of \$750 or the equivalent.
  - d. Accepting expenses to play in a golf competition (with some exceptions).
  - e. Accepting payment or compensation for giving golf instruction (with some exceptions).
  - f. An amateur golfer of skill or reputation using that skill or reputation for monetary gain.
  - g. Acting in a manner that is detrimental to the best interests of the amateur game, including actions related to formal golf gambling, that is contrary to the purpose and spirit of the Rules.

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES

1. Rule 4.3a(4) is modified under Local Rule as follows: During a round, a player must not use a cell phone or any other type of electronic device, unless otherwise stated.
2. Although distance-measuring devices are permitted, the use of a cell phone application to measure distance is prohibited.
3. Non-competitors carrying cell phones on the golf course must turn off the ringer. Those who do not will be asked to turn off the phone and risk being removed from the golf course by tournament or meet officials.
4. The penalty for Breach of this Local Rule (see Rule 4.3): First breach for single act or related acts – General Penalty; second breach unrelated to first breach: Disqualification.

## DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

1. Rule 4.3a(1) permits the use of equipment that provides information on distance or direction (such as from a distance-measuring device or compass). These devices are not allowed if they measure elevation changes or interpret distance or directional information (such as using a device to get a recommended line of play or club selection based on the location of the player's ball).
2. Because cell phones and other type of electronic devices are prohibited in NSAA competitions, cell phone distance measuring applications are also not permitted.
3. It is acceptable for advice givers (coaches) and players to share distance information upon request as long as the process does not unreasonably delay play.  
**\*\*Spectators are not permitted to share or assist players with information obtained from a distance measuring device or compass.**

## SPECTATOR GUIDELINES

1. Spectators may be on the course observing the golfers, but they must remain a minimum of 50 feet in distance from all golfers. Spectators must avoid being on greens, tee boxes, and fairways.
2. Spectators can applaud a player or group of players and they may offer encouragement to one player, as long as it is not distracting to other players in the tournament.
3. Violation of this section during a tournament or meet may result in a warning by tournament or meet officials. Additional offenses may result in a two stroke penalty and potentially disqualification.
4. Schools are expected to communicate with their own golfers and spectators and enforce this policy themselves.
5. Coaches, other than the Head Coach and one designated assistant coach, may be out on the course during competition but will fall under the 'SPECTATOR' category and must abide by the respective spectator rules.
6. Non-competitors carrying cell phones on the golf course must turn off the ringer. Those who do not will be asked to turn off the phone and risk being removed from the golf course by tournament or meet officials.
7. Please see full "Fan/Spectator Support Items" document for additional guidelines.

## COACHING AND ADVICE DURING COMPETITION

Rule 24.4a is modified under the following Local Rule:

1. Each team may name two advice givers whom players on the team may ask for or receive advice from during a round. When a player is competing only as an individual, including a player from a team competing in an individual play-off, the player may name one advice giver whom the player may ask for or receive advice from during a round.
2. Each team or individual must identify the advice giver(s) to the Committee before players on the team or an individual begins his or her round. The advice givers must include the Head Coach and/or One Assistant Coach, who has met all NSAA coaching requirements and who is designated by their school to perform coaching duties. And, the advice giver must wear an identification band, when provided. The team or individual may change its advice giver during the round, but must tell the Committee when it is doing so.
3. A team's advice giver must only give advice to, and ask advice from, players on their team and the team's other advice giver, and must not ask for advice from any other representative of their school, any other advice giver or any other outside influence. When a player is competing as an individual, the player's advice giver must only give advice to the player and must not ask advice from any other representative of their school, any other advice giver or any other outside influence. If an advice giver asks advice from someone not allowed, the Committee may revoke their position.
4. Advice givers:
  - a. Are prohibited from the putting green and are not permitted entry into a bunker or penalty area (other than to search for a player's ball).
  - b. May use a distance-measuring device or compass to gather information on distance or direction per the NSAA policy.
  - c. Are outside influences and are not treated as part of the player's side. However, a player is responsible for certain actions of another person, including his advice giver, under Rule 1.3c(1). A penalty may apply when:
    - i. The player's advice giver takes an action that would breach the Rules if taken by the player or caddie and that advice giver does so at the player's request or while acting with the player's authority.
    - ii. The player sees his advice giver about to take an action concerning the player's ball or equipment that he knows would breach a Rule if taken by the player or caddie and does not take reasonable steps to object or stop it from happening.
5. The Committee trusts that all players and advice givers respect the principle of obedience to the Rules, proper conduct and fair play in the spirit of the game.
6. In addition to the Local Rule, advice givers (coaches) should:
  - a. Show consideration to others by providing advice in a private manner.
  - b. Assist in promoting a prompt pace of play; provide advice without unreasonably delaying play.
  - c. Not make rulings or decisions that are the responsibility of the Committee in charge of the competition.
  - d. Ensure spectators are in compliance with the NSAA spectator policy as defined in this manual.

## **SUPERVISION**

1. Teams and/or individual participants shall not be permitted to compete unless accompanied by the head coach (as defined by NSAA), a school administrator, or a certificated faculty member. This includes, regular season, districts and state championship competitions.
2. Directors of all tournaments will follow these regulations. **Unsupervised golfers will not be permitted to compete.** Schools withdrawing sponsorship for any competing student(s) must inform the NSAA Director of Golf of such withdrawal of supervision immediately.
3. Proper supervision needs to remain a priority during practice rounds and during regular season, district and state championship competition.
4. Coaches who elect to play during practice rounds for NSAA post-season events are subject to regular course fees and must maintain the role of supervisor for the team while students are representing their school as golf team members.
5. Coaches who elect to play during regular season events must maintain their supervisory role and in no way impede or interfere with student competitors on the golf course.

## **CADDIES AND CARTS**

1. Caddies are not permitted for NSAA competition.
2. Competitors may not use motor-driven golf carts except with the appropriate documentation and expressed permission of the NSAA.
3. Players may use non-motorized pull carts.

## **MANDATORY INPUT FOR VARSITY SCHEDULES (CLASS A ONLY)**

1. All Class A Varsity golf teams will be required to enter their complete regular season schedule by the respective deadline:
  - a. Girls Class A Varsity Golf Schedules – Due: Thursday of Week 6 (August 13, 2020)
  - b. Boys Class A Varsity Golf Schedules – Due: Tuesday of Week 36 (March 9, 2021)



2. Once the golf season has begun, schools CANNOT add contests to their regular season schedules.
3. All Varsity scheduled contests shall be played with a Varsity team. Postponed contests shall be rescheduled by all participating schools if possible.
4. If your varsity team does not compete in an event on your schedule due to reasons other than weather postponements or cancelation, the respective school will be required to provide reasoning for non-participation.
5. Contest results for ALL contests on your varsity schedule are to be entered through the NSAA website in a timely fashion. Only events played on courses with official Nebraska Golf Association course ratings will be considered in the differential program.

## **MEDIA – STUDENT MEDIA, MEDIA CREDENTIALS & BROADCASTING**

All media operations (admission, access and accommodations) for **Regular Season** contests are at the Host School discretion. The NSAA Media Manual outlines policies for Media Credentials, Student Media, Broadcasting Policies and other specifics surrounding NSAA post-season contests.

Post-season contests include: Districts, Sub-Districts, District Finals, Playoffs and State Championships.

The Media Manual is posted on the NSAA website's Media Page. <http://nsaahome.org/media-info/>

## **NSAA GOLF CLASSIFICATIONS**

**GIRLS' GOLF** schools are divided into three classes for district and state competition. This classification is based on grades 9-11 enrollment from September of the year which immediately precedes the classification period. **Class A** will be classified based on a total enrollment of 850 and above. **Class B** and **Class C** will be classified using girl only enrollment. The top 64 largest schools registered for girls' golf shall be in **Class A and Class B**. Schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above will be placed in **Class A**. The remaining schools will be placed in **Class B**. The remaining schools registered for girls' golf will be placed in **Class C**.

**BOYS' GOLF** schools are divided into four classes for district and state competition. This classification is based on grades 9-11 enrollment from September of the year which immediately precedes the classification period. **Class A** will be classified based on a total enrollment of 850 and above. **Class B, Class C and Class D** will be classified using boy only enrollment. The top 80 largest schools registered for boys' golf shall be in **Class A and Class B**. Schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above will be placed in **Class A**. The remaining schools will be placed in **Class B**. The remaining schools registered for boys' golf will be split evenly into **Class C and Class D**, with the additional school being placed in the lower class.

Beginning in 2020-21, Class A will be classified on a two-year basis. All other classes will be classified yearly.

## **DISTRICT COMPETITION**

### **DISTRICT SITES**

District host sites are determined by the NSAA office based on interest shown from member schools indicating a desire to host. The **Application to Host 2020-2021 District/Sub-District Event** form is found on the NSAA website through the school Athletic Director's page.

1. The NSAA office requested member schools to indicate who would serve as district hosts. Sites are selected based upon application, with consideration given to facility specification, travel distance and more.
2. District sites will provide practice round time for schools involved, if desired. Practice rounds are to be pre-arranged with host golf courses and according to their operational policies.
3. It is permissible for participants to walk the district course the day of the tournament and observe pin placements prior to actual play.
4. The director of the tournament must assure that reasonable accommodations are made for handicapped or special needs individuals. Such accommodation requests should be submitted for approval through the NSAA office.

### **GIRLS GOLF DISTRICTS**

The Girls' District Golf Tournaments will be held **October 5-6, 2020**. The District hosts, sites and Class B & C school assignments will be posted to the NSAA website once all have accepted the hosting contract. Class A District Tournament assignments will be released on September 22, 2020.

#### **Class A:**

1. Class A schools are the schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above playing girls' golf and are assigned to four districts.
2. All Class A schools competing in a minimum of three VARSITY 18-hole stroke-play competitions will be assigned to four Districts using a serpentine method based on seeding determined by regular season team scoring average

differentials. Team average differentials are team score (four lowest players' combined scores) minus (course rating from tees used x four players) = differential). *The school with the lowest average differential is placed in District 1, the next lowest in District 2, the next lowest in District 3, the next lowest in District 4, the next lowest back in District 4, the next lowest in District 3, etc., until all 32 schools are assigned. Assignments will be released two Tuesdays before the district tournaments.*

3. Class A schools hosting regular season meets shall \*report to the NSAA office the following results **within 48 hours** of the competition:
  - a. the name of the golf course played,
  - b. the names of each team including individual team members with individual and team scores,
  - c. the course rating (for holes on the correct side) played from the tee box used for the competition.

\*Reports are submitted on-line from the AD's or golf coaches' personal page at [www.nsaahome.org](http://www.nsaahome.org).

*Note: Some teams that play junior varsity (JV) teams in varsity events will lower their placement as far as district ranking if those teams are listed as varsity teams. To avoid this, coaches should list these teams as JV teams when entering a varsity tournament. **Only varsity team scores should be reported to the NSAA office for seasonal differential team tracking.***

4. All season meets hosted on or prior to the third Friday before the district golf tournament, (September 18, 2020) are to be reported to the NSAA office by the meet's host director, or by the participating team's coach or AD if the varsity meet is out of state or not hosted by a Class A school.
5. Any schools not competing in at least **three** VARSITY 18-hole stroke-play competitions will be placed at the bottom of the seeding list in the order of their AVERAGE DIFFERENTIALS, lowest above highest on the list and placed in the sequential district.
6. District tournament host schools and specific golf courses will be selected before the season begins in order to secure hosts and golf courses for the events. After post-season seeding, the host schools will be assigned to one of the four districts so there is one host-school per district. The NSAA Director of Golf will make the simplest one-team trades between districts so that host teams with the closest average differentials to a team in another district are switched. Schools are not allowed to host consecutive years unless necessary.

#### **Class B:**

1. Class B schools are those remaining schools that are in the top 64 but have an enrollment of less than 850 playing girls' golf.
2. Class B schools are assigned to four districts on a geographic basis, varying from a west-to-east pattern with north and south considered to reduce travel.
3. The listed enrollments for Class B were used except for schools in a cooperative, which resulted in their enrollments being combined.

#### **Class C:**

1. Class C is made up of the remaining schools playing girls' golf.
2. Class C schools were assigned to five districts on a geographic basis, varying from a west-to-east pattern with north and south considered to reduce travel.
3. The listed enrollments for Class C were used except for schools in a cooperative, which resulted in their enrollments being combined.

### **BOYS GOLF DISTRICTS**

The Boys' District Golf Tournaments will be held **May 17-18, 2021**. The District hosts, sites and Class B, C and D school assignments will be posted to the NSAA website once all have accepted the hosting contract. Class A District Tournament assignments will be released on May 2, 2021.

#### **Class A:**

1. Class A schools are the schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above playing boys' golf and are assigned to four districts.
2. All Class A schools competing in a minimum of four VARSITY 18-hole stroke-play competitions will be assigned to four Districts using a serpentine method based on seeding determined by regular season team average differentials. Team average differentials are team score (four lowest players' combined scores) minus (course rating from tees used x four players) = differential). *The school with the lowest average differential is placed in District 1, the next lowest in District 2, the next lowest in District 3, the next lowest in District 4, the next lowest back in District 4, the next lowest in District 3, etc., until all 32 schools are assigned. Assignments will be released two Tuesdays before the district tournaments.*
3. Class A schools hosting regular season meets shall \*report to the NSAA office the following results **within 48 hours** of the competition:
  - a. the name of the golf course played,
  - b. the names of each team including individual team members with individual and team scores,

c. the course rating (for holes on the correct side) played from the tee box used for the competition.

\*Reports are submitted on-line from the AD's or golf coaches' personal page at [www.nsaahome.org](http://www.nsaahome.org).

*Note: Some teams that play junior varsity (JV) teams in varsity events will lower their placement as far as district ranking if those teams are listed as varsity teams. To avoid this, coaches should list these teams as JV teams when entering a varsity tournament. **Only varsity team scores should be reported to the NSAA office for seasonal differential team tracking.***

4. All season meets hosted on or prior to the third Friday before the district golf tournament, April 30, 2021) are to be reported to the NSAA office by the meet's host director, or by the participating team's coach or AD if the varsity meet is out of state or not hosted by a Class A school.
5. Any schools not competing in at least four VARSITY 18-hole stroke-play competitions will be placed at the bottom of the seeding list in the order of their AVERAGE DIFFERENTIALS, lowest above highest on the list and placed in the sequential district.
6. District tournament host schools and specific golf courses will be selected before the season begins in order to secure hosts and golf courses for the events. After post-season seeding the host schools will be assigned to one of the four districts so there is one host-school per district. The NSAA Director of Golf will make the simplest one-team trades between districts so that host teams with the closest average differentials to a team in another district are switched. Schools are not allowed to host consecutive years unless necessary.

#### **Class B:**

1. Class B schools are those remaining schools that are in the top 80 but have an enrollment of less than 850 playing girls' golf.
2. Class B schools are assigned to four districts on a geographic basis, varying from a west-to-east pattern with north and south considered to reduce travel.
3. The listed enrollments for Class B are used except for schools that are in a cooperative, which results in their enrollments being combined.

#### **Class C and D:**

1. Classes C and D are made up of the remaining schools playing boys' golf equally divided between C and D.
2. Class C and D schools are assigned to five districts each on a geographic basis, varying from a west-to-east pattern with north and south considered to reduce travel.
3. The listed enrollments for Classes C and D are used except for schools that are in a cooperative, which results in their enrollments being combined.

#### **DISTRICT ENTRIES AND DEADLINE DATES**

1. **District Entry Deadline:** NSAA entry forms are now accessed and submitted online. The athletic/activities director will give the certified coach the login to this activity. Go to the NSAA web site ([www.nsaahome.org](http://www.nsaahome.org)) and click on "School Login." Select your school, enter your login, and then choose "View/Edit Your Form" to complete your entry form (detailed instructions can be obtained from the web site). You will need to print this form when it is completed and e-mail a copy to the district director. You do NOT need to fax it to the NSAA. You may make changes to this form up until the due date. After that, you will need to contact the host director of your district tournament.
2. Girls District Golf entries are due **September 28, 2020**.
3. Boys District Golf entries are due **May 10, 2021**.
4. Each school may enter five or fewer competitors. Schools must have four players' scores to be eligible for team honors.
5. Eligible students may substitute for students entered previously up until the district tournament pre-round check-in is completed by each head coach on the day of the event.

#### **ONE-DAY DISTRICT TOURNAMENT**

1. The District Golf Tournament is a one-day tournament covering 18 holes.
2. A team's five players who begin the tournament are the players who will provide the team scores.
3. Final team standings will be based on the four best totals from any of the team's players who competed.
4. If the full 18 holes of the District Tournament are not completed, 9 holes will constitute a complete tournament. (All golfers must have played the same 9 holes.)

#### **DISTRICT DIRECTORS**

1. Persons appointed District Directors by the NSAA shall be responsible for the administration of the meet to include: greens fees **and all costs**, publicity, tee-off times, securing adult scoring monitors and tournament workers, special instructions if necessary, score recording, prompt completion of NSAA report, and pre-tournament communication with schools about the District meet.

2. District Directors will use the information available on the NSAA website and provided to them by participating coaches to match players in tournament playing groups (girls-threesomes; boys-foursomes or threesomes) according to similar ability.

### **PRE-TOURNAMENT MEETING**

The District Tournament Director shall attempt to conduct a meeting prior to the start directed at coaches and tournament participants to go over rules, regulations, and directions, which will govern play during the tournament.

### **COACHES NOT PERMITTED TO PLAY ON DAY OF DISTRICT TOURNAMENT**

Due to concerns about proper supervision of golfers at the District Tournament site and concerns about assuring uninterrupted play on the District Tournament course, coaches are NOT permitted to play golf on the District Tournament course on the day of the District Golf Tournament.

### **DISTRICT AWARDS/TIES**

1. Medals will be awarded at each district to individuals finishing first through tenth. Plaques will be awarded to the district team champions and runners-up.
2. In case of a tie in the district team championship for first, second or third places, the four golfers who comprise the team score for the tied teams will play an additional hole (or holes) until the tie is broken, using the sudden-death system.
3. The competitor having the lowest score after eighteen holes will be named the individual champion. Ten individuals will be awarded medals at districts.
4. In case of a tie for first place, those involved in the tie will play an additional hole (or holes) until the tie is broken, using the sudden-death method, to determine a first place district champion. All other individual ties will be broken using a scorecard playoff sudden death method beginning with the number 1 handicap hole and continuing in handicap hole order until the tie is broken.
5. The scorecard playoffs are to determine medal winners, not state qualifying positions. The state qualifiers include the top 10 individuals, plus ties, if there are ties involved. More than 10 people can qualify for state. Only 10 medals will be presented. Therefore, any scorecard playoffs are for the medals only.

### **QUALIFYING FOR NSAA CHAMPIONSHIP (CLASS A ONLY)**

1. The first three teams and the first ten individual places plus ties in each district will qualify for the NSAA Championship, using medal play. **After districts are completed the NSAA will take as many individuals as needed so that there is a total of 15 individuals competing at the state golf tournament. Individuals will be selected according to individual differential for the season including districts. To be eligible a player must compete in at least five 18-hole competitions for the year and districts. (NSAA will keep track on all Class A player's individual differential for the season.)**
2. Playoffs will be used in case of ties for the NSAA Championship 'TEAM' qualifying spots.
3. Schools that do not finish as one of the top three teams in the District cannot qualify for team honors at the NSAA Championship, even though that school may have qualified at least four individual golfers through individual placement at Districts.
4. A school which qualifies for the NSAA Championship may play any five eligible players at the championship. They do not have to be the same people who played at the district tournament. Any roster changes to the State Championship team should be communicated to the NSAA office to reflect such changes and ensure scorecards, scoreboards and tee times will be accurate. Any substituted player will be assigned the same tee time of the player being replaced.
5. An additional charge of \$25 be added to a Class A school's registration fee for boys golf and for girls golf for one year to cover programming costs that exceed \$500

### **QUALIFYING FOR NSAA CHAMPIONSHIP (CLASSES B AND BELOW)**

1. The first three teams and the first ten individual places plus ties in each district will qualify for the NSAA Championship, using medal play.
2. Playoffs will be used in case of ties for the NSAA Championship 'TEAM' qualifying spots.
3. Schools that do not finish as one of the top three teams in the District cannot qualify for team honors at the NSAA Championship, even though that school may have qualified at least four individual golfers through individual placement at Districts.
4. A school which qualifies for the NSAA Championship may play any five *eligible* players at the championship. They do not have to be the same people who played at the district tournament. Any roster changes to the State Championship team should be communicated to the NSAA office to reflect such changes and ensure scorecards, scoreboards and tee times will be accurate. Any substituted player will be assigned the same tee-time of the player being replaced.

## SCORING MONITORS AND SCORING

1. At district tournaments adults will be assigned to accompany each group to assist with speed of play and monitor scoring. If golf carts are necessary, the costs are the responsibility of the teams competing in the district.
2. Each player and the person keeping that player's score shall be required to confirm the player's score immediately after each hole is completed and prior to tee-off on the next hole.
3. The District Director is responsible for securing the scoring monitors and the work force for the tournament. They are allowed to assign coaches these duties (or a person a school might send to take the coach's place) in the work force. Coaches will not be assigned to groups involving their own golfers. If schools are to bring someone, they should receive ample notification that this will be necessary.

## SCORECARD SIGNING

1. In district tournament play, at the completion of eighteen holes, the Head Coach should review the scorecard with each player on his/her team. Each scorecard needs to be signed by the scorekeeper and the competitor.
  - a. A scorecard should not be presented to tournament officials until the player and scorer agree to its hole-by-hole accuracy.
  - b. Tournament officials shall not accept a scorecard without both signatures.
  - c. Once accepted, the card becomes official.
  - d. One of the basic premises of golf is that a player's actual strokes taken on a hole are recorded accurately on the scorecard.
  - e. Coaches must instruct their players on their responsibilities as a marker or scorer.

## NSAA CART RENTAL POLICY:

The NSAA limits the use of motorized carts during the District Golf Tournament. Only Rules Officials, **Scoring Monitors** and Media Personnel are allowed to have a cart on the course. Spectators are not allowed to rent carts to follow the golfers. Individuals meeting the criteria of the Americans with Disabilities Act or those individuals who provide a medical physicians note dated and in their name will be allowed to rent a cart during the District Tournament. Permission must be verified and approved by the Tournament Director. Carts are available at a first come first serve basis and their availability may be limited to each course and also the conditions of the course. Only 2 people (1 of which must be the person who meets the requirement) may be on the cart at a time and the driver must meet the course age limit to operate the cart.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER - DISTRICTS

1. Snowstorms or other inclement weather conditions may force the postponement or shortening of a district contest.
2. If the full 18 holes of the district tournament cannot be completed, nine holes will constitute a complete tournament (all competitors must have played the same nine holes).
3. In determining whether to postpone or to hold the contest(s) as scheduled, the director should consider the following factors:
  - a. The weather and road conditions at the site of the contest.
  - b. Existing weather and road conditions at the location of the schools which are to compete that day.
  - c. Road conditions between tournament site and the competing schools.
  - d. The weather conditions immediately prior to, during, and following the contest, as reported by the weather bureau.
  - e. The conditions of the golf course.
3. If after considering the various factors, the tournament director determines that competition is to go on as scheduled; all schools are to be notified early enough so as to allow each team sufficient time to travel to the contest site.
4. Once the decision has been made to hold the event as scheduled and any team has begun to travel, the contest(s) shall be played.
5. If the tournament director feels a postponement is necessary, he/she shall get permission from the NSAA Executive Director before postponing the day's activities.
6. Once the tournament has been postponed, the director shall be responsible for setting the new time, date, and site, if necessary, for the continuation of the tournament.
7. The previously agreed upon schedule may have to be changed to allow the contest(s) to be completed by the required dates.
8. Neither tournament receipts nor funds from the NSAA are to be used to reimburse any school for additional expenses incurred because of a postponed contest.



# NSAA STATE GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

## NO PRACTICE BAN

Prior to the NSAA Championship, students can play or practice at any time courses are available. Tee times should be arranged with the course and regular fees may apply.

## TWO-DAY EVENT

1. The NSAA Golf Championship is intended to be a two-day event covering 18 holes each day.
2. A team's five players who begin the championship are the players who will provide the team's scores.
3. Substitutions will be allowed prior to the school's first tee time based on a medical or family emergency that would force a team player to withdraw from the event.
4. Players not a part of a qualified team and not having an official score from the first day cannot play on the second day.
5. Final team standings will be based on the four best first-day totals from each team's players, added to the four best second-day scores from any of the team's five players.
6. If 36 holes of the event cannot be completed, 18 holes will constitute a complete championship.
7. If Day One is not completed because of inclement weather, darkness, etc., Day One will be completed on Day Two. There is the possibility that the pairings may not be changed from Round One to Round Two if the beginning of a second round is attempted.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER - STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS (Classes B, C, D)

1. The NSAA Golf Championship is intended to be a two-day event covering 18 holes each day.
2. If 36 holes of the event cannot be completed, 18 holes will constitute a complete championship.
3. Weather conditions that may impact play include severe meteorological conditions (i.e. thunderstorms, snow, hail, ice pellets, freezing temperatures, high winds and heavy rain) which may endanger competitors & event staff and/or make the golf venue unplayable. The tournament committee is the responsible authority for all decisions required due to inclement weather regarding suspension, resumption, postponement or cancellation of play due to adverse weather conditions, golf course conditions, or the resulting unavailability of necessary event personnel.

If weather or golf course conditions impact the beginning or continuation of the event, the following policy will be employed:

- a. The Day 1 round will be started if possible and if started and at least 50% of the field completes 18-holes, the remainder of the Day 1 round will be completed on Day 2 before the final 18-holes is attempted. Time will be allotted to change hole locations on the golf course between 18-hole rounds on Day 2.
- b. If the Day 1 round cannot be started or if started, at least 50% of the field does not complete 18-holes, Day 2 will be used for Round 1's completion with the following options possible:
  - i. The starting time of any delayed round may be altered.
  - ii. If further delays occur or play is suspended due to darkness before the Day 2 Round is completed by all competitors, the event will be shortened to 18-holes because of weather conditions, golf course conditions or the resulting unavailability of championship workforce personnel.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER - STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS (Class A)

1. The NSAA Golf Championship is intended to be a two-day event covering 18 holes each day.
2. If 36 holes of the event cannot be completed, 18 holes will constitute a complete championship.
3. Weather conditions that may impact play include severe meteorological conditions (i.e. thunderstorms, snow, hail, ice pellets, freezing temperatures, high winds and heavy rain) which may endanger competitors & event staff and/or make the golf venue unplayable. The tournament committee is the responsible authority for all decisions required due to inclement weather regarding suspension, resumption, postponement or cancellation of play due to adverse weather conditions, golf course conditions, or the resulting unavailability of necessary event personnel.
4. If weather or golf course conditions impact the beginning or continuation of the event, the following policy will be employed:
  - a. If play is started but not finished by all players in the field, then Round 1 will be completed on Day 2, followed by 18 holes, started either shotgun or tee times, in order to compete the 36 hole total.
  - b. If no play happens on Day 1, then Day 2 will consist of 36 holes, with starting format to be determined by the NSAA.
  - c. If option B cannot be completed on Day 2, the tournament will be reduced to 18 holes, with starting format to be determined by the NSAA.

1. At the NSAA Championships, adults will be assigned to accompany each group to assist with speed of play and monitor scoring.
2. Each player and the person keeping that player's score shall be required to confirm the player's score immediately after each hole is completed and prior to tee-off on the next hole.
3. The role of the scoring monitor shall be to confirm and record scores and to maintain appropriate speed of play. The scoring monitors are not to issue rules interpretations.

1. Medals will be awarded to individuals and ties finishing in the top 15.
2. Golfers from schools that did not qualify as one of the teams coming out of Districts may only compete at State as an individual, even though there may be a sufficient number of individual qualifiers from a school to otherwise be considered a team.
3. Trophies will be awarded to state champion and runner-up teams. Championship coaches will receive an award at the state championship.
4. Any participant in the state championship is eligible to win individual medals, whether qualified as a member of a team or as an individual finishing in a qualifying spot in the districts.

Education-based activities give students the ability to train, participate and compete in a structured setting. With that, students often learn lessons that are sometimes not taught in the traditional academic classroom. Some of those lessons include learning to win and lose with dignity and grace. As such, the following guidelines have been developed for awards ceremonies at the conclusion of sub-district, district and state contests.

Only one team can win a district or state championship, yet the NSAA provides trophies, plaques and medals to the losing teams in many of the postseason activities. It shall be the expectation that both teams shall accept their medals and trophies in a sporting and willing manner. Some losing teams have been reluctant to step forward and accept their awards, and coaches and administrators need to assure sporting behaviors for their students. It is natural to be disappointed in losing the contest, but stepping forward at this time of disappointment is a life lesson that helps mold proper and sporting behaviors. It is the expectation!

The executive director or the NSAA Board of Directors shall determine the type and severity of sanctions to schools that do not comply with these expectations.

1. In case of a tie for **first place** in the team championships, all players on the teams tied will play an additional hole (or holes) until the tie is broken, using the sudden-death system of the best four scores from each team.
2. Ties for the runner-up position will not be broken.
3. Duplicate runner-up trophies and medals will be provided.
4. **The team playoff will be conducted first, with the playoff for individual spots to follow immediately after the conclusion of the team playoff.**

The following tie-breaking procedure should be used for first place ties involving teams.

Team ties shall be broken by a sudden death playoff counting the four low scores relative to par on each hole. Play shall continue with new scoring on each successive hole until a winner is determined. The committee will determine the starting holes. If a playoff involves more than two teams, a shotgun format shall be used. Once the shotgun sudden-death format is started, that format shall be used until a winner is determined.

Teams will draw for positions. For a two-team playoff, the winner of the draw shall have the option of the A or B positions set forth below. For a playoff involving more than two teams, the teams shall assume the drawn letter position (A, B, C, D) set forth below.

19

## SHOTGUN FORMAT

### Three Teams

A #5 B #5 C #5 playoff hole 5  
playoff hole 5  
A #4 B #4 C #4 playoff hole 4  
playoff hole 4  
A #3 B #3 C #3 playoff hole 3  
playoff hole 3  
A #2 B #2 C #2 playoff hole 2  
playoff hole 2  
A #1 B #1 C #1 playoff hole 1  
playoff hole 1

### Four Teams

A #5 B #5 C #5 D #5 playoff hole 5  
  
A #4 B #4 C #4 D #4 playoff hole 4  
  
A #3 B #3 C #3 D #3 playoff hole 3  
  
A #2 B #2 C #2 D #2 playoff hole 2  
  
A #1 B #1 C #1 D #1 playoff hole 1

### Five Teams

A #5 B #5 C #5 D #5 E #5  
  
A #4 B #4 C #4 D #4 E #4  
  
A #3 B #3 C #3 D #3 E #3  
  
A #2 B #2 C #2 D #2 E #2  
  
A #1 B #1 C #1 D #1 E #1

Players will play the numbered position they held at the start of the championship. The format in pairings for a playoff of six teams or more shall be consistent with the foregoing format as determined by the Committee.

## INDIVIDUAL PLACES

1. A playoff will be conducted in the case of a tie for first place only. The tied players will play additional holes until the tie is broken.
2. Ties will remain unbroken in all other individual standings. All players finishing in the top 15, including ties, will receive medals.
3. The top 15 places will include all ties. The following is an example of the medals policy, if the scores listed below were the top scores in the NSAA Championship:

### Example:

#### **Score—Place**

156—First Place  
158—Tie for Second, Third. Both get second-place medals.  
158—  
160—Fourth place, gets fourth-place medal  
161—Three-way tie for fifth, sixth and seventh. All get fifth-place medals.  
161—  
161—  
162—Eighth place, gets eighth-place medal.  
165—Three way tie for ninth, tenth and eleventh. All get ninth-place medals.  
165—  
165—  
166—Five way tie for twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth. All get twelfth-place medals.  
166—  
166—  
166—  
166—  
167—Seventeenth place. Not among the top 15 places. No medal awarded.

## NO NSAA CHAMPIONSHIP SNACK/LUNCH PROVIDED FOR TEAMS

The NSAA will not provide the snack/lunch tickets for NSAA Golf Championship participants and coaches. Schools will be responsible for purchasing meals/snacks at the respective courses.

## NSAA CART RENTAL POLICY:

The NSAA limits the use of motorized carts during the State Championships. Rules Officials, **Scoring Monitors** and Media Personnel are allowed to have a cart on the course. Spectators generally are not allowed to rent carts to follow the golfers.

However, individuals meeting the criteria of the Americans with Disabilities Act may be allowed to rent a cart during the State Tournament. Permission must be verified and approved by the NSAA staff member at each course.

1. Cart rental fee shall be \$50 per cart.
2. Cart is for a maximum of two riders only.  
NOTE: Due to the limited number of carts those riders who have proper documentation may be assigned to ride with another person who has proper documentation that is following the same tee time.
3. Those who provide a current DMV authorized handicap card that has the card holder's name on it, along with a photo ID, will be rented a golf cart, as available. Those carts will be checked out between 8:00 and 8:50 am.

NOTE: This is the card you carry on your person, NOT the placard that hangs in the car.

4. Those who provide doctor's notes indicating the need for the use of a cart will be put on a list to be given on a first come first serve basis. At 8:50 am those carts will be rented to those who provide an official doctor's note if carts still remain.
5. The number of carts is limited at all golf courses. Those who provide the proper documentation are not guaranteed a cart.
6. All persons who rent a cart must follow all course and tournament rules and be of the age 16 and over.

### **COACHES – STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

1. Each team's Head Coach and one Assistant Coach will be supplied a COACHING WRISTBAND which will designate them as the only individuals permitted to communicate with their players during the course of the official round.
2. All other individuals and spectators must abide by the SPECTATOR GUIDELINES detailed previously.

### **NSAA CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES**

NSAA State Participation Certificates are accessible and printed by each member school having students who have qualified for the NSAA State Championship in that activity program. The NSAA State Participation Certificates link can be found at the bottom of your school AD's page identified as: **"NSAA State Participation Certificates"**.

### **SPECIAL NSAA SCORECARDS AND USGA RULES BOOKS**

1. The NSAA has developed and printed some golf scorecards for use at contests, which are designed to reduce the chance for a scorekeeping error.
2. The cards have an area where the marker can keep their own score. The area is perforated. At the end of the round, the perforated area may be torn from the card and the marker can lay it on the official card to compare the hole-by-hole recordings. These cards can be used at any golf competition. The hole length and par areas are blank.
3. When used at NSAA Championships, the NSAA prints par and distance on each hole.
4. Scorecards are available in packages of 50 cards for \$8.00 (including postage). United States Golf Association "The Rules of Golf" rules books are available for \$3.00 each (including postage). Both are listed on the "Order Form for Rules Books" under the "Administration Forms" section of the NSAA website: <http://www.nsaahome.org>.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Each state association may, in keeping with applicable laws, authorize exceptions to NFHS playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique and extenuating circumstances. In order to determine if the NSAA can authorize such an accommodation, the school administration should contact the NSAA to request an accommodation hearing.