

**IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC  
ASSOCIATION**

**WELCOME TO THE 2015 FALL GOLF  
ON-LINE RULES MEETING**

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**GOLF RULES MEETING**

- We want to let you know that you should not close, pause, fast forward, or reverse your browser anytime during this presentation.
- After the final slide, do not close your browser.

**PLAYER PARTICIPATION**

- A player may participate in only 12 meets, but coaches need to understand, if you sign a contract with a school to play in a varsity meet, that means you will be taking your varsity team to this meet. You can not send your JV team to a varsity contracted meet, in order to play on a course you are assigned for district play, or just to enter and play in a meet of your liking.

**FIRST LEGAL PRACTICE AND PLAYING  
DATES**

- First legal practice date is Monday August 10, 2015
- First legal playing date is Thursday August 13, 2015
- Each individual player may participate in 12 dates of competition, excluding IHSAA tournament play.

## TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS

- Fall Golf District Tournament assignments and host sites are posted on-line under golf.

[www.iahsaa.org](http://www.iahsaa.org) (click on golf under sports at the top of the home page).

**2015 STATE Fall Golf Tournament will be held at Elmcrest Country Club, Cedar Rapids**

## CONCUSSIONS

*Iowa Code Section 280.13C states, in part,*

- “Annually, each school district and nonpublic school shall provide to the parent or guardian of each student a concussion and brain information sheet, as provided by the Iowa High School Athletic Association.
- The student and student’s parent or guardian shall sign and return the concussion and brain injury information sheet to the student’s school prior to the student’s participation in any interscholastic activity for grades nine through twelve.”

## Concussions

- All coaches are required to view the 20-minute NFHS online course titled, “Concussion in Sports: What You Need to Know” before the first official day of practice. While an administrator from your school should have already informed you about the course requirement, we also wanted to remind you.

## CONCUSSIONS

- If you do not view the course by August 10, 2015, you will **NOT** be eligible to coach during the post-season. Check your status now!
- If you are the head varsity coach for another sport, you are only required to view the course before the first sport that you coach each school year.

## CONCUSSIONS

*Iowa Code Section 280.13C continued –*

- “If a student’s coach or contest official observes signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion or brain injury in an extracurricular interscholastic activity, the student shall be immediately removed from participation.
- A student who has been removed from participation shall not recommence such participation until the student has been evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and other brain injuries and the student has received written clearance to return to participation from a certified health care provider.”
- This includes practice as well as meet competition.

## Guidelines for Handling Contests During Lightning Disturbances

- ALL thunderstorms produce lightning and are dangerous.
- Lightning often strikes as far as 10 miles away from the storm.
- **Each school should have a lightning safety plan**, which includes knowing where teams & spectators will go when out on the course and how long it will take them to get to a safe destination.



## Guidelines for Handling Contests During Lightning Disturbances

- If thunder is heard, or lightning is seen, immediately **suspend the contest** and instruct everyone to take safe shelter.
- Once the contest is suspended due to lightning, **wait at least 30 minutes after hearing the last thunder or seeing lightning before having teams & spectators, leave safe shelter and resuming the contest.**
- Complete guidelines regarding lightning safety appear on the IHSAA web site.
- Remember, **lightning kills, play it safe!**

## RANGE FINDERS

- **Approved The Use of Range Finders:** Range Finders are permitted, but no cell phones allowed. Range finders that are stand alone devises (laser & GPS devices) are permitted for use during regular season and IHSAA tournament competition to measure distance only. Devices capable of measuring conditions other than distance, that might assist the player is not permitted. This would include but not limited to wind/slope or club selection.

### CONTINUING

- Players and designated head coaches (same designated coach who can coach from tee to green) are encouraged to share distance information upon request. Players will not go out of their way to hold up play, but can shoot distance from their position on the course and relay that information to another player upon request. **Spectators will not be allowed to provide this information or assist golfers in any way pertaining to this rule.**

### CLARIFICATION

- Due to the fact all players in the group do not always hear what each player in the group shot following each hole, we need every player to provide **everyone in the group** their previous hole score on the next tee box, before anyone puts their ball in play.

### CLARIFICATION CONTINUED

All participants are entitled to know what each individual player shot on the previous hole, in case there is any uncertainty. It is the player(s) responsibility to request the previous hole's score(s) if they did not hear a group members score from the previous hole.

If players can't agree on each players score following discussion, circle the hole and have a rules jury make the final decision before any players sign off on any scorecards.

### CLARIFICATION CONTINUED

- Once players complete their final hole of competition that day, they need to clear the green area, but stay together and finalize their past hole scores and sign each others cards as long as there is no discrepancies. When determining if the previous holes scores are correct or not, it is up to these players to communicate and get the correct score for each player in their group.

## IHSAA TOURNAMENT PLAY

- In IHSAA tournament competition, no players from the same school are allowed to compete in the same threesome or foursome. It is the coach's responsibility in the coaches meeting or before the meet starts to rectify an error with a player(s) from the same school competing in the same threesome or foursome. See online fall golf manual regarding regular season play.

## Sportsmanship

### POINT OF EMPHASIS

- The Unified Activities Federation has made Sportsmanship a point of emphasis for the 2015-2016 school year.
- Participants, coaches/sponsors, spectators, administrators and contest officials each play a vital role in the promotion of good sportsmanship.
- Acts intended to create ill will toward individuals/teams have no place in educational activities.
- Information focusing on Sportsmanship have been sent to schools for the 2015-2016 school year.

## VARSITY GOLF SHIRT REGULATION

- All **VARSITY** participants are required in regular season and tournament competition to wear the same (color and style) school issued/school approved **golf uniform shirt (collared or non collared), during competition.**

## VARSITY SHIRT REGULATION

- Due to adverse weather conditions, if an individual **VARSITY** player desires to wear clothing (jacket/sweatshirt) over the top of his shirt, this jacket/sweatshirt does not need to be the same as his teammates.
- Caps/visors, shirts, pants/shorts, jackets/sweatshirts must all be **school approved** and have no alcohol, tobacco or any inappropriate logo signage.

### CONTINUING WITH SHIRT REGULATION

Please remember, the only attire that needs to be the same on each **VARSITY** participant is the collared or non collared shirt. All other levels of clothing, including caps, must all be **school approved** and have no alcohol, tobacco or any inappropriate logo signage on it, but understand, each participant below the **varsity level** does not need to wear the same style and color shirt.

### UNIFORM REQUIREMENT CONTINUED

- **Penalty:** Each individual player is required to meet this requirement before participating. Any player(s) who participate and do not follow these requirements will be disqualified.
- **Rationale For This Requirement:**  
An increasing number of players were participating wearing clothing and caps/visors that promote alcohol and tobacco products and other inappropriate attire.

### PLAYER DISQUALIFICATION

- If a player is disqualified for any unsporting like act, he is ejected from the entire one or two day tournament. If a player is deemed disqualified from any two day tournament on day one, for a misapplication of a rule (not unsportsmanlike conduct), the player is disqualified and his score will not count only on the day he is disqualified.

### PLAYER DISQUALIFICATION

- This individual would be able to compete and his score would count on the second day only of a two day event. The three coaches' golf rules jury at this particular tournament site would make the final ruling pertaining to any unusual circumstances dealing with a disqualification, (except for unsportsmanlike conduct).

## PARTICIPATION

If a player becomes ill or injured during competition on day one of our state tournament, and the player withdraws, his score will not count on day one.

- If this individual is able to participate on day two of the state tournament, his score will only count if used on day two. Obviously, he would not be eligible for any individual honors.

## COACH/SPECTATOR CELL PHONE

- **Coach/Spectator Cell Phone:**
- If a coach/spectator cell phone rings while a player's swing is in progress, the player may take his original shot or hit a second ball. If the player elects to hit a second shot, the player must take the second shot regardless of the outcome. Understand, if a **player's cell phone** rings during competition the player is disqualified.

## FOOD AND DRINK

- **Food and Drinks At Golf Sites:** Coaches may provide water, or sport drink for the players throughout a one or two day event. Coaches will be permitted to provide a sandwich or energy bar for the players. Golf courses are hosting events for a minimal green fee and we need to respect these people and their opportunity to sell food and drink at their snack shop.

## FOOD & DRINK CONTINUED

- **Coaches are not to place coolers out on the course,** they are to keep them in their car or on their cart and provide food to their players only as they see fit. Coaches are not to provide food for spectators nor will spectators be allowed to bring food or drink on the premises. We appreciate your cooperation pertaining to this regulation. **Please notify your spectators in advance of this regulation.**

### **SPECTATORS**

Spectators are not to interfere in any way, should not communicate with players, should keep their distance from the players, and have no influence on the results. If any interference occurs, spectators may be asked to leave.

### **PLAYERS/SPECTATORS**

- It is up to the individual players to abide by the rules or circle the hole and receive a ruling at the earliest opportunity from an authorized rules person or the selected jury at the conclusion of the round before all players sign their scorecard. Once all scores are posted and approved at the end of that days' competition by coaches/players, all scores for that day are final.

### **MEDAL PLAY**

- USGA playing rules will be followed unless modified by the host school and or conference during regular season play. Modification changes must be in writing and agreed upon by all schools involved, otherwise USGA rules apply. All IHSAA sanctioned tournaments will follow USGA playing rules unless otherwise specified in the IHSAA Fall Golf Manual.
- Manual may be found on-line under Golf.

### **ERRORS OR DISCREPANCIES**

- Any errors or discrepancies that take place during medal play are to be corrected prior to signing the scorecard and turning the scorecard in. The round begins with the first tee of competition and ends when the scorecards have been attested too, signed by all participants in the group, and turned in.



### ERRORS OR DISCREPANCIES

- If at any time during play an interpretation arises, the individual should confer with his group, and if all are not in agreement, the individual should hit a second ball. When a hole is completed and the group is confirming scores, if any score discrepancy arises, players should make every effort to resolve the discrepancy before playing the next hole.

### CONTINUING WITH ERRORS AND DISCREPANCIES

- If the discrepancy can not be resolved, circle the hole/score and when you finish the round, the player involved should not sign his card, nor turn it in. The involved player(s) need to notify the host manager/club pro and allow the predetermined jury to make a ruling. Once the ruling is made all players in the group need to sign each others card.

### MEDAL PLAY

- At the conclusion of play (each day, one or two day tournament) **every player in the group needs to verify that all scores are correct, attested to, and signed by each member in that group.** This procedure will allow all members in the group at the conclusion of play each day to verify and agree on what each individual in their group shot that day.
- If a player turns in his scorecard and any score for any hole is lower than actually taken, he is disqualified. If he turns in a score higher than actually taken, the score turned in stands.

### MEDAL PLAY

- Coaches, individual hole by hole score is what counts on a player's scorecard. Even if the score is added incorrectly, the hole by hole score is the player's score for that round. Most scoring computer programs total the score once all the hole by hole scores have been entered.

## COMPETITION

- During the regular season or IHSAA sanctioned tournament play (district or state competition), players are not allowed to chip or putt on any hole on the course before competition begins, except practice greens. This also applies once competition play begins, regardless if you have already completed a hole in tournament competition. This is a safety concern.

## COACHING RULE

- The **Designated Head Coach** is allowed to coach a player up until the player and the player's ball are on the green. **If any part of the player's ball is on the actual green, the ball is considered on the green.**

## COACHING RULE CONTINUED

- Once the player arrives at the green (no delay by the player) the team or individual Designated Head Coach can have no more communication with competing player(s) until all players in the group have holed out.
- Coach, if visiting with your player in the prescribed time period, be sure to **respect other participants in the group.**

## COACHING RULE CONTINUED

If a player hits a shot from 100 yards out and the ball lands on the green, the Designated Head Coach can communicate with this young man up until they reach the green (providing no delay walking to the green) once the player is on the green, coach player communication must cease.

### COACHING RULE

Keep in mind each team and or individual(s), are only allowed **one designated coach** to communicate with players while competition is in progress. **Assistant Coaches** are **NOT** allowed to communicate with competing player(s) while competition is in progress.

**WHEN PROVIDING ADVICE, THE DESIGNATED COACH MUST NOT ENTER A BUNKER.**

### COACHING RULE CONTINUED

- **Designated Head Coaches are not to assist or instruct a player regarding any putting on the green.** If no part of the player's ball is on the actual green, coach instruction is permitted. Coaches must understand that there is to be **no delaying of play** anywhere anytime when providing instruction during the prescribed coaching time frame.

### COACHING RULE CONTINUED

- Designated Head Coach must understand this is additional time to coach player(s), but when visiting with players the **pace of play must NOT be delayed!** In fact, this also allows the designated head coach an opportunity to address **speed of play** to players who have fallen behind more than a hole and a half to two holes from the group in front of them, unless there is a valid reason.

### COACHING RULE CONTINUED

- Coach, **respect the rule in place for the opportunity to coach,** and I believe this rule will serve you well.

### COACH INFORMATION

- **Coaches** must understand that they are **not** rules consultants. **Coaches are not to rule on something they see, even if you feel it may have been a rules infraction.** Let the players play and if any questions arise, players should notify members in their group and resolve the problem or hit a second ball. If a ruling is needed, before signing off on any scorecard(s), get a final ruling from the rules jury/club pro, then all members in the group sign off.

### COACH INFORMATION

- We appreciate coaches wanting to assist in making rulings, but there are times when an incorrect ruling is provided and there is no recourse. Once all scores are posted and approved at the end of that days' competition by coaches/players, all scores for that day are final.

### COACH INFORMATION

- The head coach is responsible for filling out the on-line district and state team golf entry form found under golf on our Website.
- **District green fees need to be paid when you arrive at the designated tournament site!**
- This form needs to be sent to the tournament host school at least four days before the district or state tournament via fax or email. This will assist the host school in knowing what six players are entering in the tournament and ranking of players 1-6. **Team substitutions may be made up until a player puts his ball in play**

### COACH INFORMATION

- **Individual qualifiers** from the district or state meet may not be substituted for regardless of the circumstances.

## RULES FOR PLAYERS

Golf is played for the most part, without the supervision of a referee or umpire. The game relies on the **integrity** of the individual to show consideration for other players and to abide by the rules. All players should conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and good sportsmanship at all times, irrespective of how competitive he may be. This is the spirit of the game.

Always remember, actions can and do many times speak louder than words.

## RULES FOR PLAYERS

- The following items would **disqualify** an individual from competition:
  - Use of a cell phone until all competition is completed
  - Gambling
  - **Cheating**
  - Use of tobacco (including smokeless)
  - Failure to finish a one or two day tournament, (exception illness or injury).

## RULES FOR PLAYERS

- Non-motorized golf carts are permitted. Individuals desiring to use pull carts must supply their own non-motorized pull cart at each meet. You may rent a pull cart at the course if available, but courses are not responsible for this opportunity to rent a cart.
- This rule applies to regular season and tournament play.
- Motorized golf carts are only afforded for **disability reasons**, & must have **IHSAA approval**.

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS

- In regular season meets or IHSAA sponsored tournaments, a two-stroke penalty will be assessed for conduct unbecoming of high school players. Such conduct shall include, but not limited to:
  - Club throwing, defined as releasing the club in a manner to cause harm to any person or the course
  - Ball throwing, defined as could cause harm to another participant, spectator, course or means of releasing frustration
  - Use of abusive language, willful acts which damage property or equipment on the course and any other unbecoming conduct as determined by the golf rules committee
  - **A participant's second offense will result in a disqualification**

### CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS

- The Golf Coaches Advisory Committee feels the Code of Conduct rules are appropriate. A concern arises when players are unwilling to enforce an inappropriate conduct rule against another participant(s) in the group.

### CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS/COACHES

- If a **code of conduct violation** is observed (not heard about later) by a head coach and the group involved does not enforce the conduct violation, the head coach observing this inappropriate action should get the players together at the conclusion of that hole and have the players discuss the situation and enforce the proper ruling. If a code of conduct rule has been violated, a two-stroke penalty should be assessed to the violating individual(s).

### CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS/COACHES

- If a head coach observes any behavior that could lead up to a code of conduct violation, the coach should professionally warn the player of his inappropriate action and inform the player's coach and notify a rules jury member.
- Players are responsible for their actions. Appropriate behavior will keep him and his team from being penalized.

### PRACTICE ROUNDS

- Prior to district tournament, teams may play at a district site if they so desire.
- The **State Tournament Course** is closed for any practice rounds for teams or individuals once district tournament play starts.
  - Exception: Home course for state tournament host school.

### **TEAM OR INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE ROUND-DEPARTURE TIME RULE**

- When a golf team or individual desires to go to an IHSAA tournament site for a practice round during school time, the coach needs to have **local school administrations approval**. If you desire to practice during school time, this practice round policy is now a local school administration decision.

### **WALKING A COURSE BEFORE PLAY**

- There is no rule against a team arriving at the district or state site to walk the course, provided they do not cause any confusion with regard to people playing the course. Players who walk the course are not to have any clubs, nor are they permitted to roll balls on the greens while they are walking the course. **Penalty**, player disqualification.

### **COACH STATISTIC MANDATE**

#### **VARSITY GOLF COACHES:**

- Are required to post your team and individual varsity meet STATISTICS on [www.quikstatsiowa.com](http://www.quikstatsiowa.com) following each contest. Per our recommendation, if you feel you can not personally do this, please find someone on staff or in your school system who enjoys working with statistics and have them enter these stats for you.

### **STATISTIC MANDATE**

- Please keep in mind that golf coaches who do not meet this requirement will be held accountable for failure to fulfill this requirement.

### STASTIC MANDATE

- **FIRST OFFENSE:** Letter/ email to head Golf Coach and Athletic Director.
- **SECOND OFFENSE:** Letter to A.D., with copy sent to Principal and Superintendent, from the IHSAA Executive Director.
- **THIRD OFFENSE:** IHSAA member school tournament expense allowance will be withheld by the IHSAA.

### GOLF STATISTIC MANDATE

**Statistics must be completed by 3:00 PM on the following dates:**

- September 1, 2015, for meets through August 29
- September 15, 2015 for meets through September 12
- September 29, 2015, for meets through September 26, 2015

### STATISTIC MANDATE

- In addition, stats need to be entered following District & State competition.
- Thank you for your cooperation on this.
- Quik-stat questions should be directed to Jared Chizek or Bud Legg in the IHSAA office.

### REMINDER

- **Prior to the district tournaments,** teams/individuals may play/practice at a district site.
- **The course on which the STATE TOURNAMENT is to be played is closed for any practice rounds to all teams and individual(s) once district tournament play starts for class 4A.**



## INTEGRITY

- Integrity is important in the game of life as well as in the game of golf!

## IN CLOSING

- Please understand this presentation in no way covered all the Iowa High School Athletic Association 2015 Fall Golf Manual regulations.
- It is the responsibility of the head coach to read and understand the fall golf manual. This manual may be obtained on-line under [www.iahsaa.org](http://www.iahsaa.org) sport/golf.

## You're Almost Finished

CAUTION: DO NOT STOP THIS PRESENTATION OR CLOSE YOUR BROWSER

At the conclusion of the verification page, you will be provided with a certificate of completion.

Coaches – please print three (3) copies of the verification certificate  
One for your records  
One for your administrator  
One for your coaching authorization renewal

You may now click on the button to the right of your screen that says:  
I'm FINISHED Watching the Rules Meeting Video  
You will be directed to the verification screen followed by the verification certificate