

# **IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

## **WELCOME TO THE 2012 SPRING GOLF ON-LINE RULES MEETING**

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# FIRST LEGAL PRACTICE AND PLAYING DATES

- First legal practice date is Monday MARCH 12, 2012.
- First legal playing date is MONDAY MARCH 26, 2012.
- Each individual player may participate in 12 dates of competition, excluding IHSAA tournament play.

# **TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS**

- Spring golf district tournament assignments and host sites will be posted on-line by mid March.

## **2012 STATE TOURNAMENT SITES**

Class 1A Lake Panorama National Resort

Class 2A Spring Valley Golf Course

Class 3A Ames Golf & Country Club

# 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

***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 the health care provider.”

# 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 and how long it will take them to get there safely.



# 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 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!**

# Sportsmanship

## **POINT OF EMPHASIS**

- The Unified Activities Federation has once again made Sportsmanship a point of emphasis for the 2011-2012 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 2011-2012 school year.



# NEW UNIFORM RULE

- **UNIFORM:** Starting with the 2012 season, individual players are required to wear school issued or school approved uniform golf shirts/T-shirts, shorts or pants. This individual uniform requirement includes appropriate cap/visor, jacket/pullover, if worn, and shorts/pants (jeans are permitted) **but must be school approved.**

# **CHANGE FOR 2013**

- **NOTE:** When/if purchasing new uniform tops (golf shirt/t-shirt), please understand the **same style golf team uniform top for varsity players only, will be required starting with the 2013 golf season, just like other sports.**
- If a windbreaker/jacket is worn over the top of the uniform top, individual players are not required to wear the same color/style jacket.

# 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:** An increasing number of players are 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 the day he is disqualified.

# **PLAYER DISQUALIFICATION CONTINUED**

- 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.

# 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 the one or two day event. Coaches will be permitted to provide a sandwich or energy bar for the players. Golf courses are hosting this event 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 new regulation. **Please notify your spectators in advance of this new regulation.**



# SPECTATORS

**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 spring golf manual.

# 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

- Players are to record their score at the completion of each hole. 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 provisional 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. 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 the player(s) 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 (sectional, 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.



# COACH INFORMATION

- The head coach is able to coach his players from green to tee. Coaching must cease once the player has put his ball in play at the next tee box. If co-coaches, only one coach is permitted to coach his players from green to tee during that days competition.
- It is against the rules for coaches to play golf on the course on the day of a sectional, district or state meet. If this takes place, the team will be disqualified due to the head coach's action.

# COACH INFORMATION

- Coaches are **not** rules consultants when on the course. Let the players play.
- We appreciate coaches wanting to assist in making rulings, but there are times when the wrong ruling is provided and there is no recourse.

# 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.
- This form needs to be sent to the host school at least four days before the district/state tournament via fax or email to the host school. This will assist the host school in knowing what six players are entering in the tournament and ranking of players 1-6. Substitutions may be made up until a player puts his ball in play.

# COACH INFORMATION

- **Individual qualifiers** for the district or state meet may not be substituted for, nor will another non-qualifying golfer from that district be allowed to take this individuals place regardless of the circumstance.

# 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)
  - Use of a **golf range finder or any electronic device**
  - Failure to finish a one or two day tournament

# **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.

# 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 the district tournament, teams may play at a district site if they so desire, as long as there is no associated **loss of school time**.
- 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.

## **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 with them nor are they permitted to roll balls on the greens while they are walking the course. GPS/range finders are permitted when walking the course. Penalty, player disqualification.

# **WHAT IS LOSS OF SCHOOL TIME?**

- When a team or individual desires to go to an IHSAA tournament site for a practice round he/she may not take school time to do this. School time means when every student is dismissed that day.
- Example: School is normally dismissed at 3:10 PM, that is when a team or individual can leave for a practice round.

# **LOSS OF SCHOOL TIME CONTINUED**

- Students are not allowed to use any type of personal school days allocated by the school at the beginning of the year such as doctor appointments, family days or personal reasons to go play a practice round on the designated course for district or state play.

# IN CLOSING

- Please understand this presentation in no way covered all the Iowa High School Athletic Association 2012 Spring Golf Manual regulations.
- It is the responsibility of the head coach to read and understand the golf manual. This manual may be obtained on-line under golf.



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