

Golf (Boys)

SEASON REGULATIONS

(Rules in this section are specific for sport involved. Refer to Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules of Eligibility for regulations related to age, residence, scholarship, amateur status, etc.)

ALERT: State Law (175.22) prohibits use of cell phones (and other image-recording devices) in locker rooms except in emergency situations.

1. PRESEASON AND OUT-OF-SEASON

- a. Organizational meetings may be conducted outside the season provided no instruction or practice is included and the meeting(s) has been approved by school administration.
- b. So long as participation is voluntary and available to all interested students, there shall be no restrictions upon schools, school teams and school coaches (grades 9-12) relative to assembling in the summertime, for up to 5 days which do not need to be consecutive for all WIAA sports sponsored by the school. Sanctioned school contact days must conclude no later than July 31.
- c. It is the philosophy of this Association that athletes should not be unreasonably restricted, except during the actual school season of a sport. Subsequently, students may voluntarily assemble at any time without school and/or school coach involvement. With school consent, in the summertime, members of a school's team may voluntarily assemble with their teammates and coaches for purposes of instruction and/or competition for up to 5 days in all WIAA sports sponsored by the school, without restriction. **Note: Whether an opportunity is school sponsored or not, coach contact may not exceed Board of Control approved contact days.**
- d. Other than during the actual school season and those days designated as sanctioned school coach contact days in the summertime, the following provisions shall apply to nonschool participation in accordance with the above:
 - (1) An acceptable nonschool program or activity is one which is not limited to students on the basis of a school affiliation, athletic experience, team status, etc. and no school monies or resources can be applied.
 - (2) The person who will be coaching a student in the following school season shall not be permitted to coach that student other than during the designated school season and Board of Control approved coach contact days in the summertime. Board of Control approved summertime contact is as follows:
 - (a) Sanctioned School Coaching Contact - Coaches in all WIAA recognized sports (baseball, cross country, football, golf, gymnastics, lacrosse, softball, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, volleyball, soccer, basketball, hockey and wrestling) have been afforded up to 5 days of sanctioned school coaching contact between the end of school and July 31, in accordance with the Bylaws and as described in item B of this section. The five days do not need to be consecutive.
 - 1) There must be a minimum of one calendar week (Sun.-Sat.) of no sanctioned school coaching contact prior to (i.e. the week immediately preceding) the first allowed practice in a fall sport. This does not affect nonschool programming.
 - 2) Football must follow the WIAA Fall Acclimatization policy.
 - (b) Nonschool Programming – Coaches in all sports except football have been afforded nonschool program contact beyond the five sanctioned school contact days that is permitted to continue throughout the summertime (when school is not in session from the last day of school to the start of school) in accordance with the Bylaws and as described in Section 2 – A and C-1) of Rules of Eligibility, Article VI - Nonschool Participation.

Note: Coaches or others may not mandate participation or provide any incentives to athletes for participating in summertime/out-of-season activities/programs. Participation may not be a requirement for making a school team or earning a letter award, etc.

2. LENGTH OF SEASON

The earliest day practice may begin is Monday of Week 39 (March 25). The season ends on Tuesday of Week 49 (June 4).

3. MINIMUM DAYS OF PRACTICE

- a. There must be practices on a minimum of three different days before the first competition may be conducted.
- b. The minimum days of practice may not involve a team from outside the school.
- c. The minimum days of practice prior to the first competition is a team requirement. While it is desirable for each participant to satisfy this requirement, schools will determine when students may begin competition.
- d. Teams must rest from all physical activity for at least one calendar day after six consecutive days of practice or competition. In the event extreme weather forces a WIAA tournament contest to be cancelled, school administration may request relief.

4. SCRIMMAGES

Any interschool scrimmage counts toward the maximum allowed meets.

5. DATE OF FIRST MEET

The first meet may not be held before Thursday, March 28.

6. MAXIMUM ALLOWED MEETS

- a. The maximum number of meets is 15 if one meet is scheduled on a non-school day. Schedules of all teams should be clearly published and separated by level for each team sponsored by a school.
- b. Conference tournaments must be included in count of regular season maximums.
- c. No meet may be scheduled (but may be rescheduled if postponed) after any of the schools involved have begun WIAA tournament series competition.
- d. No meet may continue more than two days.
- e. The WIAA tournament series is not part of the maximum allowed meets.
- f. Competition involving students not eligible for the school's official interscholastic teams (e.g., Grade 7-8 students) must be conducted at a time other than during the period (start to finish) of a meet.

- g. Except for events held in bordering states (MN, IL, MI and IA), no approval shall be provided for more than one out-of-state competition, event and/or scrimmage per team each school season.
- h. A two-day meet will count as one meet when scores for all teams are combined total of the two days played and awards can only be given for two day total scores.

7. INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS

- a. A student who participates at both the varsity and nonvarsity levels during the season may not participate in more than 15 meets.
- b. Only students eligible for the school's official interscholastic teams may participate on an exhibition basis.
- c. For information about non-school participation, refer to Rules of Eligibility, Article VI, Section 1 of the Senior High Handbook and consult with Athletic Administration.

8. FLAGRANT OR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

- a. A student, disqualified from a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, is suspended from interscholastic competition for no less than the next competitive event (but not less than one complete game or meet) at the same level of competition as the disqualification.
- b. Athletes who are ineligible during the WIAA Tournament (for any reason) may not appear in uniform, participate in warm-ups, and may not participate in the awards ceremony at the WIAA Tournament. Exception: An injured athlete will be allowed to participate in the awards ceremony provided he/she is included in the roster allotment for that game. During the regular season, schools should establish their own policy as to whether athletes are allowed to be in uniform and participate in pregame and postgame activity, if they are ineligible to compete due to flagrant and/or unsportsmanlike conduct, athletic and/or academic code violations, or for any other reason.
- c. Any player who in the judgment of the official, intentionally spits on, strikes, slaps, kicks, pushes or aggressively physically contacts an official at any time shall be immediately ineligible for competition a minimum of 90 calendar days from the date of the confrontation. In addition, the player is ineligible to compete for the first 25% of the next season in that same sport.
- d. Disqualifications as a result of USGA rule violations (e.g., signing for a wrong score, arriving late for a tee time, etc.) shall not require a player to miss the next event for unsportsmanlike conduct.

9. PROHIBITION OF PRACTICE AT TOURNAMENT SITE

A school which practices on a course (except home course(s)) where later in the season (regular season and WIAA tournament series) it will be competing must count such practices in its maximum allowed meets. Each school golf team may designate up to three courses within 25 miles of their school as their "home course" for practice. Exceptions: One practice round will be allowed at the sectional site outside the 15 meet maximum. Teams participating in the State Tournament will be allowed one designated practice round on the State Tournament site outside the 15 meet maximum. The course used for the State Championship may not be designated as a "home course" for any school golf program.

10. CONTEST CONTROL

- a. All schools are responsible before, during and after a meet for the proper conduct of their coaches, athletes, students and other spectators and, when requested, a school must complete a report regarding the meet in which a problem occurred (WIAA Bylaws, Article X).
- b. Schools are expected to prohibit and/or eliminate pranks, mischief or any other activity involving destruction, theft, etc., of athletic facilities, equipment and material.

11. LICENSED OFFICIALS

NOT APPLICABLE

12. MEDICAL COVERAGE

For all meets and practices, emergency procedures should be in place as per DPI and Wisconsin Statute 121.02 (1) (g) Emergency Nursing Service. These should include, but are not limited to, such things as:

- a. A physician available by phone or on location.
- b. Phone location and phone numbers available for contacting physician and/or ambulance service.
- c. A designated physician or licensed athletic trainer will determine whether an injured athlete may continue whether or not consciousness is involved. They may consult with another physician if they desire, but their decision will be final. Coaches cannot keep medical personnel from examining athletes that are or may be injured.

13. CONCUSSION AND/OR UNCONSCIOUS PARTICIPANT

No athlete shall return to play or practice on the same day of being diagnosed with a concussion. Any athlete suspected of having a concussion must be evaluated by an appropriate health-care professional that day. Any athlete with a concussion must be medically cleared by an appropriate health-care professional prior to resuming participation in any practice or competition. Return to play must follow a step-wise protocol which includes provisions for delaying return to play based upon the return of any signs or symptoms. Any athlete deemed unconscious must have medical evaluation and clearance before being allowed to return to participation.

14. OXYGEN AND FLUIDS PROVIDED INTRAVENOUSLY

- a. Oxygen administered by mechanical means for recuperative purposes is not permitted.
- b. Fluids provided intravenously is an invasive procedure to be used only in emergency situations. An athlete may not return to competition the same day.

Note: See WIAA Medical Policies and Procedures for additional medical information.

15. RULES GOVERNING COMPETITION

WIAA Season Regulations and WIAA Season Regulations approved at the January Board of Control meeting (**as identified on the WIAA website**) and the official rules for all interscholastic competition as contained in the (a) current edition of RULES OF GOLF and (b) related publications and interpretations of the United States Golf Association with these additional provisions:

ADAPTATIONS TO USGA RULES

- a. The host school or a conference will determine the type of play (match, medal or combination match-medal) governing competition.
- b. A player improperly attired will not be allowed to tee off. If the player removes an outer garment during play, and the clothing underneath is illegal, that player shall receive a warning for their first offense, and if they fail to correct the problem or commit a second offense, they will be disqualified from competition for unsportsmanlike conduct.

When a golf course has specific attire rules, (i.e., collared shirt) players will comply with the rule or will not be allowed to participate in the meet. Host school shall enforce the attire rule.

Inappropriate dress includes, but is not limited to, clothing displaying anything relating to drugs, alcohol, tobacco or inappropriate language or gestures.

- (1) A boy must be attired in a shirt (not sleeveless) and golf slacks, tailored shorts (golf or tennis shorts) or jeans (but not those frayed or altered). Golf shoes or rubber-soled shoes must be worn.
 - (2) A girl must be attired in NO LESS than a sleeveless blouse and tailored shorts (golf or tennis shorts) or jeans (but not those frayed or altered). Golf shoes or rubber-soled shoes must be worn.
- c. Coaches aware of unsportsmanlike conduct (throwing or burying of clubs, swearing, illegal use of DMD, etc.) should report the violation to the tournament manager. Unsportsmanlike conduct will be penalized as follows:
- (1) Player: first violation - warning; second violation - 2 stroke penalty; third violation - disqualification from competition. Players may also assess another player a warning for the first violation and 2 stroke penalty for the second unsportsmanlike conduct violation, but must report a third violation to the tournament manager for disqualification.
In addition, a two-stroke penalty will be assessed to a player who throws a club, which, even inadvertently, strikes any person. Any flagrant throwing of a club, causing danger to any person will result in disqualification and that player will be required to miss the next meet.
 - (2) Coach: first violation - 2 stroke penalty applied to team score; second violation - disqualification of entire team.
- Players disqualified from competition will also be required to miss the next event on their schedule.
- d. When the local committee believes temporary conditions interfere with proper playing of the game, permitting lifting, cleaning and replacing a ball anywhere through the green or on a closely mown area through the green may be provided. A closely mown area is the golfers own fairway only. If the fairway is not defined, the players will determine fairway borders
- e. Pull carts are permissible. Caddies, electric golf caddy, and riding carts are not permitted, except a riding cart may be approved by the WIAA for an individual with a permanent illness/disability. Permission must be requested for using a riding cart for a permanent illness/disability prior to the individual's first meet.
- f. Two designated coaches are allowed to coach during competition. The designated coach may give rule options to their own players anytime, and rule options to other competitors ONLY when asked by that competitor. The designated coach is only allowed on the greens to manage the flagstick and allowed to rake bunkers after a player has completed their shot from a bunker. The persons acting as a coach must be under contract with the school as a golf coach. Players may accept verbal and hand signal advice from their school's designated coach only. Notes, tees, and other items left behind by teammates and/or coaches are prohibited. Coaches cannot align players while the player is at address nor delay Pace of Play in any way. Penalty for violation of the coaching rule is two strokes on first offense and disqualification of player on second offense by same player. The penalty for violating the flagstick rule is revocation of allowing the coach on the green.
- g. Host schools must determine an appropriate length of time to play the course. Each host manager must mark the starting time on a designated card for each group, with one card marked per group. The recommended amount of time is two hours and 15 minutes for nine holes and four hours and 30 minutes for 18 holes. First violation – warning; second violation – a one-stroke penalty will be assessed to groups that do not meet the pace of play limits. Players are allowed a maximum of 40 seconds to play a shot when it is their turn to play. First violation - warning; second violation - a one-stroke penalty assessed to the player by the tournament manager.
- h. During the regular season and the WIAA tournament series, there shall be no practice putting after the completion of a hole.
- i. During the regular season and the WIAA tournament series, host schools must relocate as many forward and men's tees as necessary to create a women's length course that is approximately 15% shorter than the men's length course.
- j. A golf meet is closed and all committee decisions will stand once results of the meet have been officially announced.
- k. Players are allowed to use an electronic measuring device (EMD) as approved by USGA regulations during competition. A player can request to use an EMD and/or ask for distance information and these must be provided.
- l. Electronic communication devices (e.g., cellular telephones, smartphones, PDAs, etc.) may be used in emergency situations, to follow live scoring and to text coach to coach during competitions. Talking on one of these devices is only permitted off the golf course. Violations will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct, resulting in: first violation – two stroke penalty applied to team score; second violation – disqualification of entire team.
- m. When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by a player, his partner, his opponent or equipment.

STATE ASSOCIATION REGULATIONS

- a. Coaches must report to their school administration within 48 hours following a contest any player or coach ejection. School administrators must then report the ejection to the WIAA via written communication within three (3) school days following the contest. This written communication must also include a plan of action to prevent future ejections. Officials will continue to provide electronic reports to the WIAA.

16. NON-VARSITY TEAMS WITH ONLY GRADE 9 STUDENTS

The above rules apply with these additional provisions:

- a. The season ends on the last day of school.
- b. The maximum number of meets is 12, including any practice/scrimmage with another school.

17. GRADE 9 STUDENTS PARTICIPATING ON GRADE 8 TEAMS

- a. Rules governing junior high/middle level competition are contained in the Junior High/Middle Level Handbook.
- b. A school may not allow its students in Grades 9, 10, 11 and/or 12 to compete against another member school's students in Grade 8 and/or below.

Note: In emergency situations a waiver may be requested allowing 9th grade student(s) at member middle schools to compete at the 8th grade level at member middle schools.

- c. Rules governing Grade 9 season length apply for teams with students Grade 9 and below.