GOLF MANUAL

2016-17

NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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 2016-2017 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 FOR GIRLS & BOYS GOLF MANUAL - 2016-2017

Mandatory Input for Varsity Schedules (Class A Only):

All Class A Varsity golf teams will be required to enter their complete regular season schedule by the respective deadline:

Girls Class A Varsity Golf Schedules- Due: Thursday of Week 6 (August 11, 2016)
Boys Class A Varsity Golf Schedules- Due: Thursday of Week 36 (March 9, 2017)

Once the golf season has begun, schools CANNOT add contests to their regular season schedules.
All Varsity scheduled contests shall be played with a Varsity team. Postponed contests shall be rescheduled by all participating schools if possible.

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.

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.

Mandatory Rules Meetings for Head Coaches:

NSAA Rules Meeting. All head golf coaches are required to attend an NSAA Rules Meeting or complete an NSAA Rules Meeting online annually. Failure to do so will result in possible late fees and suspension penalties. Coaches that coach both Girls Golf and Boys Golf will only need to complete the NSAA Rules Meeting once per year.
Online rules meetings are initially offered at no cost to coaches, followed by a period with a $25 "Basic" Fee, followed by a period with a $50 "Late" Fee. The following sanctions and fees are applicable to those coaches who fail to complete the rules meeting by the expiration of the "Delinquent" Fee period.

FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE ONLINE RULES MEETING by:
Friday of Week 6 (Girls Golf)
Friday of Week 36 (Boys Golf)
will result in the following sanctions:

First Offense in Three-Year Period
The head coach will be suspended from coaching in any competition in that activity until:
(1) The head coach COMPLETES THE NSAA'S ONLINE RULES MEETING OFFERED AT THE LATE FEE of $100; and
(2) The school's administration verifies that the coach has read all the supporting NSAA and safety information.
During this regular season suspension period, the head coach may continue to coach the team at practices.

Second and Subsequent Offenses in Three-Year Period
The head coach will be suspended from coaching in all NSAA end-of-season play (sub-districts, districts, playoffs, and state competition).
(1) The head coach COMPLETES THE NSAA'S ONLINE RULES MEETING OFFERED AT THE LATE FEE of $200; and
(2) The head coach successfully completes the open book (Part I) test for officials/judges of that activity (70% or higher); and the school's administration verifies that the coach has read all the supporting NSAA, National Federation, and safety information.
During this regular season suspension period, the head coach may continue to coach the team at practices.

2016-2017 Rules Meetings Schedule

Online Girls Golf Rules Meetings
July 18 to August 2 - No charge
August 3 to August 9 - "Basic" Fee of $25
August 10 to August 12 - "Late" Fee of $50

Online Boys Golf Rules Meetings
July 18 to August 2 - No charge
February 13 to February 28 – No Charge
March 1 to March 7 - "Basic" Fee of $25
March 8 to March 10 - "Late" Fee of $50

Coaching and Advice During Competition:

1. Only the Head Coach will be allowed to coach and to give advice under the following provisions:
    a. Coaching/advice may be given by one designated coach, who has met all NSAA coaching requirements and who is appointed by the school, to members of their respective team only, at any time during the course of the competitive round.
    b. USGA Rule 8 entitled "Definition of Advice" must be used.
    c. Coaching/advice must be provided in a private manner, must not unduly delay play and must not distract or impede the play of other competitors.
    d. Coaches are prohibited from the putting green surface and entering all hazards (other than to search for golf balls).
    e. Coaches may use electronic measuring devices the per the NSAA golf "distance measuring device" policy during all competitions sanctioned by the NSAA.
    f. A player may have a target line indicated to him/her by a coach, but he/she may not be positioned on or close to the line or an extension of the line beyond the hole while the stroke is being made.
    g. Coaches are considered an outside agency and would not be penalized if their ball struck them (or their cart if applicable).
2. Head Coaches who elect to coach and advise their players during matches must not make rulings on matters of play that are the responsibility of the meet director, tournament committee, or rules officials.
3. Head Coaches should assist in promoting the proper 'Pace of Play'. A player in violation of USGA Rule 6-7, "Undue Delay," will be assessed a two-stroke penalty for the first offense and disqualified from competition for the second offense.
4. All other individuals (assistant coaches, parents, spectators, etc.) Are not permitted to coach or offer advice during the course of the competitive golf round and must comply with the "spectator guidelines" as defined in the NSAA Golf Manual.
5. A breach of the any of the above coaching provisions will result in a 2-stroke penalty for the player. For each additional infraction by a coach, a 2-stroke penalty may be assessed to the player.

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INTERNET 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

Year	First Practice Monday, Week 6	First Contests Thursday, Week 7	District Dates	NSAA Championships
2016-17	August 8	August 18	October 3-4	October 10-11
2017-18	August 7	August 17	October 2-3	October 9-10
2018-19	August 6	August 16	October 1-2	October 8-9
2019-20	August 12	August 22	October 7-8	October 14-15

1. The Girls Golf season starts the first day of practice, August 8, 2016. On-line eligibility lists are due by August 18, 2016.
2. The season ends with the NSAA Girls Golf Championships, October 10-11, 2016 or when a school's entire golf team is eliminated from further participation in the sport.

BOYS' KEY DATES

Year	First Practice Monday, Week 35	First Contests Thursday, Week 37	District Dates	NSAA Championships
2016-17	February 27	March 16	May 15-16	May 23-24
2017-18	February 26	March 15	May 14-15	May 22-23
2018-19	February 25	March 14	May 13-14	May 21-22
2019-20	March 2	March 19	May 18-19	May 27-28

1. The Boys Golf season starts the first day of practice, February 27, 2017. On-line eligibility lists are due by March 16, 2017.
2. The season ends with the NSAA Boys Golf Championships, May 23-24, 2017 or when a school's entire golf team is eliminated from further participation in the sport.

(NOT ALL CONSECUTIVE BYLAWS OR APPROVED RULINGS SHOWN HERE)

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.

FALL	Date of 1st Practice	Date of 1st Contest	Close of Season
Girls Golf	Monday, Week 6	Thursday, Week 7	State Championship
SPRING			
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

1. *In <u>all athletic activities, teams wishing to enter a subdistrict, district, or state contest shall have participated in a minimum of five interschool varsity contests prior to the subdistrict, district, or state contest</u>.*
   (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 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 subdistrict, 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. *In all athletic activities, students wishing to enter a subdistrict, district, or state contest shall have been available to participate in at least 30% of the school's varsity interschool contests prior to the subdistrict, district, or state contest.*
   (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. School, team, or game suspensions, regardless of the underlying cause, shall not be considered as exceptions to this participation rule.*
   (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, not suspended from participation in activities for violation of school, team, or NSAA rules, and not involved in outside participation activities (exception: Olympic Development Program or national team activities as approved by the NSAA.)*
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.

APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.5.1

Refer to Article 3.1 for information on the beginning of each sport season.

Eligibility for District/State Competition. To be eligible to participate in a district and/or state contest, a student shall have been a member of the school's team and shall have been available to participate in at least eighty percent (80%) of the school's scheduled interschool contests and not have missed more than twenty percent (20%) of the school's scheduled contests because of participating in non-high school competition

a. 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 not involved in outside participation activities (exception: Olympic Development Program or national team activities as approved by the NSAA.)

b. The term, "school's scheduled interschool contests," is defined as those contests which appear on the school's varsity schedule at the beginning of the season. An exception to this requirement will be considered if a student was unable to participate because of injury, illness, or had transferred from another high school. During the season of a particular sport, athletes participating in that sport for a high school may attend, but may not physically take part, either as an individual or as a member of a team, in the sport activity in which instruction is being offered in the clinic, camp, or school. At no time during the high school sport season can a student who is a member of the school squad in that sport compete in non-school organized competition in any skill of the sport. A person maybe considered to be a participant without being an official entry in the competition. The phrase "compete in non-school organized competition in any skill of the sport" is interpreted to mean to take part in any skill of the sport of season. For example, a student out for cross country or track would become ineligible to represent the high school if he/she participates in a road race or a marathon. A student on the high school basketball team would become ineligible if he/she participates in a free throw contest, 1 on 1, 2 on 2, 3 on 3, 4 on 4 basketball contest, or other similar contest. A student out for high school football will become ineligible if he competes in a punt, pass and kick contest. A wrestler shall not participate in a non-school takedown tournament during the wrestling season.

An exception to this rule may be granted by the Executive Director for special circumstances. Schools must contact the Executive Director in advance of the event to determine whether an activity would qualify under this exception.

If prizes or awards are provided for such participation, such awards need to be in compliance with NSAA guidelines. Awards to individuals for activity participation in the form of cash, merchandise certificates, or any negotiable instrument are not allowed. A student may participate as an individual, without loss of interscholastic eligibility under the following conditions:

(a) As a member of a national team (and the actual direct tryouts) which is defined as one selected by the National Governing Body of the sport on a national qualification basis, either through a defined selective process or actual tryout for the purpose of international competition which requires entries to officially represent their respective nations.

(b) In an Olympic Developmental Program, which is defined as a training program or competition.
   (1) Conducted or sponsored by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), or
   (2) Directly funded and conducted by the USOC member national governing body on a national level (e.g. NGB national championship and direct qualification therefore); or
   (3) Specifically authorized by a national governing body involving only athletes previously identified by some qualifying procedure by the national governing body as having potential for future participation in regional,

national, or international competition in the sport involved.

(4) Coaches from schools involved with an Olympic Development Program must adhere to the organized practice rule.

(c) While representing the National Federation as a member of its United States national entry in an International School Sport Federation event.

(d) In an athletic contest sponsored by a non-high school organization, provided the individual has qualified prior to the sports season through actual competition in a meet or series of meets which were designated in advance by the sponsoring organization as qualifying meets. Times, distances, placement, or performance in high school competition shall not be considered as qualifying criteria.

(e) Provided in a, b, c, and d, such participation has been approved by the high school principal and the Nebraska School Activities Association. The high school principal and the coach of the sport involved must approve the request for a waiver of Section 3.5. The school then may request a waiver from the Nebraska School Activities Association. If the student(s) has not qualified for the competition through actual competition in a meet or series of meets which were designated in advance by the sponsoring organization as qualifying meets, or the competition is not a part of the United States Olympic Development Program, a waiver may be granted provided the student(s) does not represent his/her school in varsity competition of the sport involved for the same number of days in which he/she participated in the non-school competition. Requests for the certification of distances or times attained in state meet competition shall be submitted by the individual along with information on how these marks are to be used. In order to be considered, the use of such marks must meet established minimum qualifying standards and competition must be open to any athlete meeting such standards. Certification of times or distances will not be given if qualification is based upon placement in a contest sponsored by the membership of the Nebraska School Activities Association.

Q: My daughter wants to run in a fun run in support of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure while she is out for Cross County, can she do this?
A: Not without the approval of the Executive Director.

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.

The following section in 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.

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

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 USGA Rule 33-7. Objectionable conduct includes, but is not limited to, foul language, equipment throwing, abuse of the golf course or officials, or any unbecoming conduct. 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.

Review golf course etiquette with your players during the season and before postseason events. As an educational activity, high school players need to model the highest standards of acceptable golf course conduct. The NSAA should not receive complaints about unfixed ball marks on greens, divots not being replaced in fairways, sand traps not being raked, or clubs and balls being thrown in anger during high school events. Instruct players to always display respect for the golf course, for the rules of the game, their competitors, rules officials and themselves.

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 current edition of the United States Golf Association Rules of Golf, combined with local course ground rules, and NSAA rules and regulations shall govern play. Each school has the responsibility to instruct its players on the rules of golf and to see that these rules are followed during competition.

RULES OFFICIALS

The NSAA does not register rules officials in the sport of golf. Each host school shall be responsible for securing rules officials for the events for which it hosts, and for negotiating with those rules officials for their compensation. Please supply your rules official with the respective NSAA Manual and local rules.

AMATEUR GUIDELINES

1. The NSAA does not make pro-amateur determinations. Anyone declared a pro (in violation of amateur codes) by the United States Golf Association (USGA) cannot participate in high school golf. The Association encourages all schools to remind their golfers of the USGA amateur code. High school players should never receive cash instead of merchandise from any amateur events. To do so, even when other "amateur" players take the cash, is a violation of the code.
2. To play high school golf, a student must have amateur status by United States Golf Association standards. The key sections of these standards are:
   A. **Professionalism makes a student ineligible:**
      1. Receiving payment of compensation for serving as a professional golfer or identifying oneself as a professional golfer.
      2. Taking any action for the purpose of becoming a professional golfer.
   B. **Prize Money:**

Playing for prize money or its equivalent is not allowed in a match, tournament or exhibition. Note: A player may participate in an event in which prize money or its equivalent is offered, provided that prior to participation the player irrevocably waives the right to accept prize money in that event.

   C. **USGA Merchandise Limit:**

USGA Rule 3-2a permits for an amateur golfer to accept a prize in the form of merchandise or a prize voucher up to a retail value of $750. USGA defines a "prize voucher" as a voucher or gift certificate issued by the Committee in charge of competition for the purchase of goods from a professionals' shop or other retail source. (Examples of prize vouchers that are acceptable under the Rules of Amateur Status include a gift certificate to a golf shop, department store, on-line store, etc. Also, gift cards, such as a VISA or American Express gift card, are permissible provided the recipient redeems the full amount for merchandise and does not exchange any portion of the card for cash.)

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

1. Golfers are not allowed to use a cell phone or any other type of electronic device during competition unless otherwise stated.
2. Non-competitors carrying cell phones or pagers on the golf course must turn off the ringer. Those who do not will be asked to turn off the phone or pager and risk being removed from the golf course by tournament or meet officials.
3. The penalty for Breach of USGA Rule 8 – Advice:
   a. Match Play – Loss of Hole
   b. Stroke Play – Two Strokes

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

1. The NSAA membership voted to approve the use of DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES (DMDs) effective as of August 2015 golf season. Range finders that are stand-alone devices (laser & GPS devices) are permitted for use during regular season and NSAA post season 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. Cell phones, and therefore cell phone apps are NOT permitted during competition.
2. Players and designated head coaches are encouraged to share distance information upon request with all competitors. 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.

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, 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 or pagers on the golf course must turn off the ringer. Those who do not will be asked to turn off the phone or pager 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

1. Only the Head Coach will be allowed to coach and to give advice under the following provisions:
   a. Coaching/advice may be given by one designated coach, who has met all NSAA coaching requirements and who is appointed by the school, to members of their respective team only, at any time during the course of the competitive round.
   b. USGA Rule 8 entitled "Definition of Advice" must be used.
   c. Coaching/advice must be provided in a private manner, must not unduly delay play and must not distract or impede the play of other competitors.
   d. Coaches are prohibited from the putting green surface and entering all hazards (other than to search for golf balls).
   e. Coaches may use electronic measuring devices the per the NSAA golf "distance measuring device" policy during all competitions sanctioned by the NSAA.
   f. A player may have a target line indicated to him/her by a coach, but he/she may not be positioned on or close to the line or an extension of the line beyond the hole while the stroke is being made.
   g. Coaches are considered an outside agency and would not be penalized if their ball struck them (or their cart if applicable).
2. Head Coaches who elect to coach and advise their players during matches must not make rulings on matters of play that are the responsibility of the meet director, tournament committee, or rules officials.
3. Head Coaches should assist in promoting the proper 'Pace of Play'. A player in violation of USGA Rule 6-7, "Undue Delay," will be assessed a two-stroke penalty for the first offense and disqualified from competition for the second offense.
4. All other individuals (assistant coaches, parents, spectators, etc.) Are not permitted to coach or offer advice during the course of the competitive golf round and must comply with the "spectator guidelines" as defined in the NSAA Golf Manual.
5. A breach of the any of the above coaching provisions will result in a 2-stroke penalty for the player. For each additional infraction by a coach, a 2-stroke penalty may be assessed to the player.

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.

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, Sub-State, 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. Based on the total enrollment figures used for the classification of schools in all NSAA activities, **Class A** consists of the 32 largest schools playing girls' golf during the current classification period. The next 32 schools will be placed in **Class B**. The remaining schools registered for girls' golf are placed in **Class C.**

BOYS' GOLF schools are divided into four classes for district and state competition. Based on the total enrollment figures used for the classification of schools in all NSAA activities, **Class A** consists of the 32 largest schools playing boys' golf during the current classification period. The next 48 schools will be placed in **Class B**. The remaining schools registered for boys' golf will be divided equally into **Class C** and **Class D.**

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 2016-2017 District/Sub-District Event** form is found on the NSAA website through the school A. 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 on **October 3 and 4, 2016.** 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 20, 2016.

Class A:

1. Class A schools are the 32 schools with the largest enrollment 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**.
   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.***
   All season meets hosted on or prior to the third Friday before the district golf tournament, (September 16, 2016) 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.

4. 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.

5. 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 the next 32 schools with the largest enrollment 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 on **May 15 and 16, 2017**. 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, 2016.

Class A:

1. Class A schools are the 32 largest schools 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**.

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.***

All season meets hosted on or prior to the third Friday before the district golf tournament, (April 28, 2017) 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.

4. 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.
5. 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 the next 48 schools with the largest enrollment playing boys 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) 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 26, 2016**.
3. Boys District Golf entries are due **May 8, 2017.**
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

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 will be allowed to rent a cart during the District Tournament. Permission must be verified and approved by the Tournament Director.

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. There will be no second-round substituting.
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

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. 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:

      1) The starting time of any delayed round may be altered.

      2) 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.

SCORING MONITORS- DISTRICTS AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

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.

AWARDS

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.

TEAM TIES

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.**

NSAA CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM PLAYOFF FORMAT

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

Tie-Breaking Procedures

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.

Sudden Death Playoff Procedures

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.

Two teams (A & B; tee off alternately)
#5A, #5B, #4A, #4B, #3A playoff hole 1
#3B, #2A, #2B, #1A, #1B playoff hole 1

SHOTGUN FORMAT

Three Teams	**Four Teams**	**Five Teams**
A #5 B #5 C #5 playoff hole 5	**A #5 B #5 C #5 D #5 playoff hole 5**	**A #5 B #5 C #5 D #5 E #5 playoff hole 5**
A #4 B #4 C #4 playoff hole 4	**A #4 B #4 C #4 D #4 playoff hole 4**	**A #4 B #4 C #4 D #4 E #4 playoff hole 4**
A #3 B #3 C #3 playoff hole 3	**A #3 B #3 C #3 D #3 playoff hole 3**	**A #3 B #3 C #3 D #3 E #3 playoff hole 3**
A #2 B #2 C #2 playoff hole 2	**A #2 B #2 C #2 D #2 playoff hole 2**	**A #2 B #2 C #2 D #2 E #2 playoff hole 2**
A #1 B #1 C #1 playoff hole 1	**A #1 B #1 C #1 D #1 playoff hole 1**	**A #1 B #1 C #1 D #1 E #1 playoff hole 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. 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 will be allowed to rent a cart during the District Tournament. Permission must be verified and approved by the NSAA staff member at each course.

COACHES – STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Each Head Coach will be supplied a COACHING LANYARD which will designate them as the only individual permitted to communicate with their players during the course of the official round.
2. All other individuals including Assistant coaches, 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.**