

NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

GOLF MANUAL



2024-2025

WWW.NSAAHOME.ORG



NSAA Mission and Purpose

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 and regulate an interscholastic activity program which is equitable and will protect and promote the health and physical welfare of all participants.**

Who is the NSAA?

The Other Half of Education

- The NSAA is a non-profit organization, comprised of 309 public and non-public member high schools in the State of Nebraska. Member schools voluntarily agree to conduct NSAA-sanctioned activities consistent with the rules established locally and the rules established collectively as members of the NSAA.
- The NSAA sanctions 24 sports and 5 performing arts activities and directs 28 State Championships for nearly 100,000 student-activity participants annually.
- The NSAA Constitution and Bylaws, Activity Manuals and policies form the governance structure of the organization. These regulations are approved and changed only by member schools and a member-elected Board of Directors through the legislative process initiated and driven by member schools. Unless otherwise noted, NSAA rules and regulations apply to current 9th thru 12th grade students.
- NSAA rules set baselines for participation such as: academic requirements; attendance requirements; transfer eligibility; sportsmanship.
- The primary functions of the NSAA Staff are to: assist member schools with compliance questions related to eligibility, transfers and playing rules; enforce the rules established by the member schools; and administer NSAA State Championship events.
- The NSAA honors and recognizes students, coaches and volunteers for their excellence and achievements through multiple awards programs.
- The NSAA annually registers officials and judges. Member schools are responsible for hiring officials and judges during the regular season.
- When parents, families, students, or community members have questions or concerns related to NSAA-sanctioned activities, those must be directed first to the administration of the member school.
- Staffing, playing time, and team rules are decisions made by the member school, not the NSAA. The NSAA has no authority to interfere with these member school decisions.

2024-25 NSAA Changes

The top 4 seeds in Class A will not be switched to move district host schools/sites

Class B will assign districts using a serpentine method, based on average differentials.

Class B will be required to submit schedules/scores on the NSAA website.

All head and assistant coaches are required to be CPR/AED certified once every two years.

This **GOLF MANUAL** has been prepared and designed to provide general information for use in the administration of NSAA Boys/Girls Golf competition. It will serve as a guide to the participating schools and will provide for greater consistency between matches. The regulations in this manual shall be considered official unless the schools are notified of a change. All coaches and athletic directors are urged to read the instructions in this manual thoroughly and save it for future reference.

Assistant Director, Jon Dolliver, is the NSAA staff member responsible for administering Boys and Girls Golf and is the contact person for schools with questions regarding this activity. He can be reached at jdolliver@nsaahome.org.

Internet Information

The Nebraska School Activities Association's home page on the Internet is: <http://www.nsaahome.org>.

The NSAA website includes a sub-page for each of the NSAA's sponsored activities. Administrators, coaches and others involved in this activity should familiarize themselves with this website and the school login page, as the NSAA uses it extensively to distribute information.

Current year classifications, rule changes and interpretations, district assignments, district entry form, state meet schedule, state meet qualifiers and assignments, state meet results and lists of past champions are some of the available information on the NSAA website.

The NSAA office and its staff members can be reached via the following email addresses:
jdolliver@nsaahome.org - Jon Dolliver.

It is imperative that you to check the NSAA home pages where your activity is involved.

GIRLS' KEY DATES

<u>Year</u>	<u>First Practice Monday, Week 6</u>	<u>First Contests Thursday, Week 7</u>	<u>District Dates</u>	<u>NSAA Championships</u>
2024-25	August 12	August 22	October 7-8	October 14-15
2025-26	August 11	August 21	October 6-7	October 13-14
2026-27	August 10	August 20	October 5-6	October 12-13
2027-28	August 9	August 19	October 4-5	October 11-12

1. The Girls Golf season starts the first day of practice, August 12, 2024. On-line eligibility lists are due by August 22, 2024.
2. The season ends with the NSAA Girls Golf Championships, October 14-15, 2024, or when a school's entire golf team is eliminated from further participation in the sport.

BOYS' KEY DATES

<u>Year</u>	<u>First Practice Monday, Week 35</u>	<u>First Contests Thursday, Week 37</u>	<u>District Dates</u>	<u>NSAA Championships</u>
2024-25	March 3	March 20	May 19-20	May 28-29
2025-26	March 2	March 19	May 18-19	May 27-28
2026-27	March 1	March 18	May 17-18	May 26-27
2027-28	February 28	March 16	May 15-16	May 23-24

1. The Boys Golf season starts the first day of practice, March 3, 2025. On-line eligibility lists are due by March 20, 2025.
2. The season ends with the NSAA Boys Golf Championships, May 28-29, 2025, or when a school's entire golf team is eliminated from further participation in the sport.

NSAA and NFHS Statement on Steroids

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 of anabolic steroids and other controlled substances, except as specifically prescribed by physicians for therapeutic purposes.

Music Licenses

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

For a complete listing of the NSAA Bylaws and Approved Rulings refer to the NSAA Constitution and Bylaws: <https://nsaa-static.s3.amazonaws.com/textfile/yb/c&b.pdf>

APPROVED RULING 2.1.2 - Medical Personnel at Regular Season Games

It is important for every school to have an emergency action plan (EAP) for administrators, faculty, coaches and staff members to follow should emergencies occur. Due to lack of universal availability of medical coverage and other logistical reasons, NSAA does not require that schools have a physician, trainer or ambulance on-site at regular season activities.

APPROVED RULING 2.12 – Required NFHS Courses for Coaches & CPR/AED Certification

*All coaches, activity sponsors, and volunteers are required to complete the NFHS [Concussion in Sports](#), [Heat Illness Prevention](#), and [Sudden Cardiac Arrest](#) Training courses at least once every three years. These courses should be taken prior to any preseason or regular season physical workouts that the respective coach would be present for or involved in administering. Any course taken after May 1 would be considered valid for the following school year. **All first-year coaches are required to complete all three courses prior to the start of the activity season which they are to coach.***

Note: A heat acclimatization period is required for football, golf, softball, tennis, and cross country. However, consideration should also be taken for any volleyball practices conducted in hot and humid weather in non-air cooled facilities.

CPR/AED Certification

All head coaches/sponsors and assistant coaches/sponsors are required to be CPR/AED certified once every two years. Certification should be completed prior to any pre-season or regular season physical workouts that the respective coach/sponsor would be present for or involved in administering. All first-year head coaches/sponsors and assistant coaches/sponsors are required to complete certification prior to the start of the activity season which they are to coach. Coaches aides and volunteer coaches are not required to be CPR/AED certified.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

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

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 minimize 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

- 3.1.1.2 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

- A) 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 required to sit-out from competition at all levels for seven days. During this seven day sit-out period, students are permitted to practice. 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.
- B) 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.

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 competing for seven school days and will also be required follow heat acclimatization requirements.

3.2.4 - 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:

- C) 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.

3.2.5 - Conditioning Program

A member school may organize and supervise a “school year, out-of-season” conditioning program to include weightlifting, 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 RULING 3.2.8

From 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*

3.2.8.1 - NSAA Catastrophic Insurance does not cover coaches/students/schools during the summertime period.

3.2.8.3 - Summertime Conditioning Program.

A member school may organize and supervise a summer conditioning program to include weightlifting, running, and exercising. Conditioning sessions shall be no longer than 75 minutes in length per day or no more than 5 hours per week, and no student shall participate in more than one such session per day.

APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2.8.3

Conditioning sessions organized and run by members of the school's coaching staff are subject the 75-minute limitation. Students, for example, who work out on their own at the school facility in weightlifting, general calisthenics, running, or agility-type exercises shall not be considered to be involved in an organized conditioning program.

APPROVED RULING 3.3.7 - Eligibility for Sub-District/District/State Competition

- A) *In all athletic activities, teams wishing to enter a sub-district, district, or state contest shall have participated in a minimum of five interschool varsity contests prior to the sub-district, district, or state contest.*
- B) *In order to participate in a sub-district, district or state tournament, a student is required to have been a member of the school's team for at least twenty school days prior to the first day of the sub-district, district, or state tournament.*
- C) *To be eligible to participate in a sub-district, district and/or state contest, a student shall have been a member of a school's team and shall have been "available to participate" in at least thirty percent (30%) of the school's scheduled interschool contests.*
 - 1) *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.*
 - 2) *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.*
 - 3) *The term "available to participate" means that the student was a bona fide member of the team eligible to participate for the school at some level of competition in the sport and is not suspended from participation in activities by virtue of NSAA rules.*
- D) *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.*
- E) *If a school takes its team off the playing field prior to the completion of a contest or prior to the suspension or termination of a game by the game officials, and the contest is forfeited because of the refusal of the school's team to continue play, the school shall be subject to a penalty set by the Board of Directors. The penalty may be the exclusion from participation in sub-district, district, playoffs, or state contests.*

3.5.1 - Outside Participation

Any student who participates in an athletic contest other than as a representative of their high school during the golf season shall become ineligible to represent their school in golf for one or more contests or the remainder of the season.

3.5.2 – Individual Instruction

During the golf season, a student is permitted to take individualized instruction from a person other than the high school coach. Individualized instruction shall not take the place of the high school practice. Group instruction, practices with outside teams, and tryouts for outside teams other than as a part of a college or university-recruiting visit, however, are not permitted.

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.

3.7.1 – Amateur Rule

A student shall be an amateur in all sports sponsored by the Nebraska School Activities Association. A student may be declared ineligible if he/she:

1. Accepts merchandise, compensation of any nature, or illegal awards for competing in Association-sponsored activities.
2. Enters into any agreement or contract to compete in professional sports.
3. Permits, with or without actual endorsement, the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance as an athlete in the promotion of a commercial or profit-making event, item, plan, or service (this does not prevent a student's picture or name from being included in programs); or,
4. Receives merchandise or compensation of any nature for coaching any NSAA approved sport during the season of the sport in his/her school.

APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.7.1, C – Name, Image & Likeness (NIL)

Under Bylaw 3.7.1.c, the term “with or without actual endorsement” requires that the student or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) have knowledge that the student's name, picture, and/or personal appearance are being used by another person or entity.

Note: For commonly asked NIL Questions, [view these NIL Q&A's](#).

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

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR NSAA GOLF PARTICIPATION

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

MUSIC LICENSES

Generally, music used for contests (warm-up, half-time, “walk-up” music, etc.) needs to be licensed. Some music may be in public domain; however, most music is not and will require a license. This season, take the necessary time to verify your music is licensed through the proper entities. Visit www.nfhslearn.com to view the free video understanding copyright and compliance: <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/understanding-copyright-and-compliance>

NSAA POLICY ON COMMENTS AND NEGATIVE ACTIONS AGAINST OFFICIALS AND JUDGES

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

The Nebraska School Activities Association has embraced that Coaches Code of Ethics and has established policies and standards that will cultivate the ideals of good sportsmanship, professionalism and conduct. It shall be the responsibility of each member school to ensure that all individuals directly associated with the interscholastic program conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike and professional manner.

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

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

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

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

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

CODE OF CONDUCT

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

NSAA GOLF GUIDELINES:

RULES OF PLAY

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and the R&A govern play and where applicable, by any Local Rules and Terms of the Competition including the current NSAA Golf Manual. Players are responsible for knowing the Rules of Golf and complying with all "Terms of the Competition". It is the

school's responsibility to instruct its players on these matters and to see that these rules are followed during competition.

SCORING

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

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 a current version of both the NSAA Golf Manual and NSAA Local Rules and Terms of the Competition.

AMATEUR GUIDELINES

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

1. To play high school golf, a student must be considered an amateur golfer. Violations to the Amateur Status code include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Playing for prize money (cash) or its equivalent in a handicap competition.
 - b. Accepting a prize or prize voucher in excess of \$1,000 or the equivalent.
 - c. Play in a golf competition as a professional.
 - d. Accepting payment or compensation for giving golf instruction (with some exceptions).
 - e. Are employed as a golf club or driving range professional.
 - f. Hold a membership of an association for professional golfers.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

1. Model Local Rule G-8 - Rule 4.3a(4) is modified in this way: During a round, a player must not use an electronic device (i.e. cell phone, personal audio or video devices) for the purpose of talking, texting, listening to or watching content of any nature.
2. With the exception of restrictions noted in Model Local Rule G-8 above, players may use a cell phone or any other type of electronic device (i.e. Apple watch, GPS handheld device, GPS watch) in accordance with Rule 4.3a, including getting information on distance or direction and the entry of hole-by-hole scores into a tournament application.
3. The penalty for Breach of this Local Rule (see Rule 4.3): First breach for single act or related acts – General Penalty; second breach unrelated to first breach: Disqualification.
4. Non-competitors carrying cell phones on the golf course must turn off the ringer. Those who do not will be asked to turn off the phone and risk being removed from the golf course by tournament or meet officials.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

1. Rule 4.3a(1) permits the use of equipment that provides information on distance or direction (such as from a distance-measuring device or compass). These devices are not allowed if they measure elevation changes or interpret distance or directional information (such as using a device to get a recommended line of play or club selection based on the location of the player's ball).
2. Cell phone distance measuring applications, GPS handheld devices, GPS watches and other similar types of devices are permitted.
3. It is acceptable for advice givers (coaches) and players to share distance information upon request as long as the process does not unreasonably delay play.

****Spectators are not permitted to share or assist players with information obtained from a distance measuring device or compass.**

SPECTATOR GUIDELINES

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

COACHING AND ADVICE DURING COMPETITION

Rule 24.4a is modified under the following Local Rule:

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

SUPERVISION

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

CADDIES AND CARTS

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

MANDATORY INPUT FOR VARSITY SCHEDULES (CLASSES A & B ONLY)

1. All Class A and B Varsity golf teams will be required to enter their complete regular season schedule by the respective deadline:
 - a. Girls Classes A & B Varsity Golf Schedules – Due: Thursday of Week 6 (August 15, 2024)
 - b. Boys Classes A & B Varsity Golf Schedules – Due: Tuesday of Week 36 (March 11, 2025)
2. Once the golf season has begun, schools CANNOT add contests to their regular season schedules.
3. All Varsity scheduled contests shall be played with a Varsity team. Postponed contests shall be rescheduled by all participating schools if possible.
4. If your varsity team does not compete in an event on your schedule due to reasons other than weather postponements or cancelation, the respective school will be required to provide reasoning for non-participation.
5. Contest results for ALL contests on your varsity schedule are to be entered through the NSAA website in a timely fashion. Only events played on courses with official Nebraska Golf Association course ratings will be considered in the differential program.

MEDIA – STUDENT MEDIA, MEDIA CREDENTIALS & BROADCASTING

All media operations (admission, access and accommodations) for **Regular Season** contests are at the Host School discretion.

The NSAA Media Manual outlines policies for Media Credentials, Student Media, Broadcasting Policies and other specifics surrounding NSAA post-season contests.

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

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

NSAA GOLF CLASSIFICATIONS

1. GIRLS' GOLF schools are divided into three classes for district and state competition. This classification is based on grades 9-11 enrollment from September of the year which immediately precedes the classification period. **Class A** will be classified based on a total enrollment of 850 and above and will be classified on a 2-year basis, 2024 is the first year of the two-year classification. No schools will be added or removed from Class A during this two year period regardless of enrollment. **Class B** and **Class C** will be classified using girl only enrollment. The top 64 largest schools registered for girls' golf shall be in **Class A and Class B**. Schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above will be placed in **Class A**. The remaining schools will be placed in **Class B**. The remaining schools registered for girls' golf will be placed in **Class C**. Opting Up – a school may opt up one classification. The deadline for submitting a request to the NSAA is one week from when classifications are released. No team will move up to fill the void made by a school opting up.

Beginning in 2020-21, Class A began classifications on a two-year basis. All other classes are classified yearly.

2. BOYS' GOLF schools are divided into four classes for district and state competition. This classification is based on grades 9-11 enrollment from September of the year which immediately precedes the classification period. **Class A** will be classified based on a total enrollment of 850 and above will be classified on a 2-year basis, 2025 is the first year of the two-year classification. No schools will be added or removed from Class A during this two year period regardless of enrollment. **Class B, Class C** and **Class D** will be classified using boy only enrollment. The top 80 largest schools registered for boys' golf shall be in **Class A and Class B**. Schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above will be placed in **Class A**. The remaining schools will be placed in **Class B**. The remaining schools registered for boys' golf will be split evenly into **Class C** and **Class D**, with the additional school being placed in the lower class. Opting Up – a school may opt up one classification. The deadline for submitting a request to the NSAA is one week from when classifications are released. No team will move up to fill the void made by a school opting up.

Beginning in 2020-21, Class A began classifications on a two-year basis. All other classes are classified yearly.

DISTRICT COMPETITION

DISTRICT SITES

District host sites are determined by the NSAA office based on interest shown from member schools indicating a desire to host. The **Application to Host 2024-2025 District/Sub-District Event** form is found on the NSAA website through the school Athletic Director's page.

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

GIRLS GOLF DISTRICTS

The Girls' District Golf Tournaments will be held **October 7-8, 2024**. The District hosts, sites and Class C school assignments will be posted to the NSAA website once all have accepted the hosting contract. Classes A and B District Tournament assignments will be released on September 24, 2024.

Class A:

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

*Reports are submitted on-line from the AD's or golf coaches' personal page at www.nsaahome.org.

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

4. All season meets hosted on or prior to the Friday of Week 11 (September 20, 2024), are to be reported to the NSAA office by the meet's host director, or by the participating team's coach or AD if the varsity meet is out of state or not hosted by a Class A school.
5. Any schools not competing in at least **three** VARSITY 18-hole stroke-play competitions will be placed at the bottom of the seeding list in the order of their AVERAGE DIFFERENTIALS, lowest above highest on the list and placed in the sequential district.
6. District tournament host schools and specific golf courses will be selected before the season begins in order to secure hosts and golf courses for the events. After post-season seeding, the host schools will be assigned to one of the four districts so there is one host-school per district. The NSAA Director of Golf will make the simplest one-team trades between districts so that host teams with the closest average differentials to a team in another district are switched.
 - a. The top 4 seeds in Class A will not be switched to move district host schools/sites.
 - b. Schools are not allowed to host consecutive years unless necessary.

Class B:

1. Class B schools are those remaining schools that are in the top 64 but have an enrollment of less than 850 playing girls' golf and are assigned to four districts.
2. The listed enrollments for Class B were used except for schools in a cooperative, which resulted in their enrollments being combined.
3. All Class B 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.*
4. Class B 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.***

6. All season meets hosted on or prior to the Friday of Week 11 (September 20, 2024), 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 or Class B school.
7. 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.
8. 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.
 - a. Schools are not allowed to host consecutive years unless necessary.

Class C:

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

BOYS GOLF DISTRICTS

The Boys' District Golf Tournaments will be held **May 19-20, 2025**. The District hosts, sites and Classes C and D school assignments will be posted to the NSAA website once all have accepted the hosting contract. Classes A and B District Tournament assignments will be released on May 6, 2025.

Class A:

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

*Reports are submitted on-line from the AD's or golf coaches' personal page at www.nsaahome.org.

*Note: Some teams that play junior varsity (JV) teams in varsity events will lower their placement as far as district ranking if those teams are listed as varsity teams. To avoid this, coaches should list these teams as JV teams when entering a varsity tournament. **Only varsity team scores should be reported to the NSAA office for seasonal differential team tracking.***
4. All season meets hosted on or prior to the Friday of Week 43 (May 2, 2025), are to be reported to the NSAA office by the meet's host director, or by the participating team's coach or AD if the varsity meet is out of state or not hosted by a Class A school.
5. Any schools not competing in at least four VARSITY 18-hole stroke-play competitions will be placed at the bottom of the seeding list in the order of their AVERAGE DIFFERENTIALS, lowest above highest on the list and placed in the sequential district.
6. District tournament host schools and specific golf courses will be selected before the season begins in order to secure hosts and golf courses for the events. After post-season seeding the host schools will be assigned to one of the four districts so there is one host-school per district. The NSAA Director of Golf will make the simplest one-team trades between districts so that host teams with the closest average differentials to a team in another district are switched. Schools are not allowed to host consecutive years unless necessary.

Class B:

1. Class B schools are those remaining schools that are in the top 80 but have an enrollment of less than 850 playing boys' golf and are assigned to four districts.
2. The listed enrollments for Class B were used except for schools in a cooperative, which resulted in their enrollments being combined.
3. All Class B 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 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.*
4. Class B 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.***

6. All season meets hosted on or prior to the Friday of Week 43 (May 2, 2025), 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 or Class B school.
7. 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.
8. 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.
 - a. Schools are not allowed to host consecutive years unless necessary.

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 30, 2024**.
3. Boys District Golf entries are due **May 12, 2025**.
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.

Class A and B Pairings

1. In the District Tournament, team rankings will be established according to the average differentials that are currently used to assign districts. The differential will simply continue for the entire regular season and through the District Tournament. The Wave Format, with all players on a team competing in consecutive groups, will be used. In the District Tournaments, the average differential will be used to place the teams in waves.
2. In the District Tournament, the Tournament Directors from the host schools will be allowed the discretion to set up the tournament with the host courses, including whether the tournament is to be played in foursomes,

threesomes, twosomes, or some combination. If golfers are going to be placed in foursomes and all start on number 1 (the most common arrangement), teams ranked 8-5 would tee off in one wave, as will teams ranked 4-1. It is the discretion of the tournament director and the course which group would go first, or it both nines would be used. If the district host chooses to use threesomes or twosomes and/or both tees, adjustments to the above format would have to be made with fair competitive balance and pace of play in mind.

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, runners-up, and state qualifiers.
2. In case of a tie in the district team championship for first, second or third places, 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.
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,
 - a. Determine in advance at which hole playoffs will begin and inform everyone. You will have sudden-death playoffs for any of the top-three team spots and for individual ties for first place after 18 holes.
 - b. **TEAM PLAYOFF:** 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.
 - c. **INDIVIDUAL FIRST PLACE TIE:** 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.
 - d. **ALL OTHER INDIVIDUAL TIES:** 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 (CLASSES A & B)

1. The first three teams and the first ten individual places plus ties in each district will qualify for the NSAA Championship, using medal play. **After districts are completed the NSAA will take as many individuals as needed so that there is a total of 15 individuals competing at the state golf tournament. Individuals will be selected according to individual differential for the season including districts. To be eligible a player must compete in at least five 18-hole competitions for the year and districts. (NSAA will keep track of all Class A and B player's individual differential for the season.) If an individual additional qualifier declines their spot or is unable to participate that spot will not be filled.**
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.

QUALIFYING FOR NSAA CHAMPIONSHIP (CLASSES C & D)

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

SCORING MONITORS AND SCORING

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

SCORECARD SIGNING

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

NSAA CART RENTAL POLICY

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

INCLEMENT WEATHER - DISTRICTS

1. Snowstorms or other inclement weather conditions may force the postponement or shortening of a district contest.
2. If the full 18 holes of the district tournament cannot be completed, nine holes will constitute a complete tournament (all competitors must have played the same nine holes).
3. In determining whether to postpone or to hold the contest(s) as scheduled, the director should consider the following factors:
 - a. The weather and road conditions at the site of the contest.
 - b. Existing weather and road conditions at the location of the schools which are to compete that day.
 - c. Road conditions between tournament site and the competing schools.
 - d. The weather conditions immediately prior to, during, and following the contest, as reported by the weather bureau.
 - e. The conditions of the golf course.

3. If after considering the various factors, the tournament director determines that competition is to go on as scheduled; all schools are to be notified early enough so as to allow each team sufficient time to travel to the contest site.
4. Once the decision has been made to hold the event as scheduled and any team has begun to travel, the contest(s) shall be played.
5. If the tournament director feels a postponement is necessary, he/she shall get permission from the NSAA Executive Director before postponing the day's activities.
6. Once the tournament has been postponed, the director shall be responsible for setting the new time, date, and site, if necessary, for the continuation of the tournament.
7. The previously agreed upon schedule may have to be changed to allow the contest(s) to be completed by the required dates.
8. Neither tournament receipts nor funds from the NSAA are to be used to reimburse any school for additional expenses incurred because of a postponed contest.

NSAA STATE GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

NO PRACTICE BAN

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

TWO-DAY EVENT

1. The NSAA Golf Championship is intended to be a two-day event covering 18 holes each day.
2. A team's five players who begin the championship are the players who will provide the team's scores.
3. Substitutions will be allowed prior to the school's first tee time based on a medical or family emergency that would force a team player to withdraw from the event.
 - a. Teams must clarify if injury or illness for substitution.
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.

Class A and B Pairings

In the State Tournament, team rankings will be established according to the average differentials that are currently used to assign districts. The differential will simply continue for the entire regular season and through the District Tournament. The Wave Format, with all players on a team competing in consecutive groups, will be used. In the District and State Tournaments, the average differential will be used to place the teams in waves.

Classes A & B Tie-Breaker after first round:

If teams are tied after the first round at the state tournament to determine which wave they are to be placed, a tie breaker will be used. That tie breaker will be each team's 5th golfer. The 5th golfer with the lowest score will win the tie breaker. If the teams are still tied, the season differential will be used. This will only be used if teams are to be placed in different waves.

INCLEMENT WEATHER - STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS (CLASSES C & D)

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

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

INCLEMENT WEATHER - STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS (CLASSES A & B)

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

SCORING MONITORS - 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.

EXPECTED BEHAVIORS AT AWARDS CEREMONIES

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

Only one team can win a district or state championship, yet the NSAA provides trophies, plaques and medals to the losing teams in many of the postseason activities. It shall be the expectation that both teams shall accept their medals and trophies in a sporting and willing manner. Some losing teams have been reluctant to step

forward and accept their awards, and coaches and administrators need to assure sporting behaviors for their students. It is natural to be disappointed in losing the contest, but stepping forward at this time of disappointment is a life lesson that helps mold proper and sporting behaviors. It is the expectation! The executive director or the NSAA Board of Directors shall determine the type and severity of sanctions to schools that do not comply with these expectations.

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

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

Four Teams

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

Five Teams

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

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

INDIVIDUAL PLACES

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

Example:

Score—Place

156—First Place
 158—Tie for Second, Third. Both get second-place medals.
 158—

160—Fourth place, gets fourth-place medal

161—Three-way tie for fifth, sixth and seventh. All get fifth-place medals.

161—

161—

162—Eighth place, gets eighth-place medal.

165—Three way tie for ninth, tenth and eleventh. All get ninth-place medals.

165—

165—

166—Five way tie for twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth. All get twelfth-place medals.

166—

166—

166—

166—

167—Seventeenth place. Not among the top 15 places. No medal awarded.

NO NSAA CHAMPIONSHIP SNACK/LUNCH PROVIDED FOR TEAMS

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

NSAA CART RENTAL POLICY

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

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

1. Cart rental fee shall be \$50 per cart.

2. Cart is for a maximum of two riders only.

a. NOTE: Due to the limited number of carts those riders who have proper documentation may be assigned to ride with another person who has proper documentation that is following the same tee time.

3. Those who provide a current DMV authorized handicap card that has the card holder's name on it, along with a photo ID, will be rented a golf cart, as available. Those carts will be checked out between 8:00 and 8:50 am.

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

4. Those who provide doctor's notes indicating the need for the use of a cart will be put on a list to be given on a first come first serve basis. At 8:50 am those carts will be rented to those who provide an official doctor's note if carts still remain.

5. The number of carts is limited at all golf courses. Those who provide the proper documentation are not guaranteed a cart.

6. All persons who rent a cart must follow all course and tournament rules and be of the age 16 and over.

COACHES – STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Each team's Head Coach and one Assistant Coach will be supplied a COACHING WRISTBAND which will designate them as the only individuals permitted to communicate with their players during the course of the official round.

2. If a team only has 1 golfer, that golfer is only allowed one advice giver.

3. All other individuals and spectators must abide by the SPECTATOR GUIDELINES detailed previously.

NSAA CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES

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

SPECIAL NSAA SCORECARDS AND USGA RULES BOOKS

1. The NSAA has developed and printed some golf scorecards for use at contests, which are designed to reduce the chance for a scorekeeping error.

2. The cards have an area where the marker can keep their own score. The area is perforated. At the end of the round, the perforated area may be torn from the card and the marker can lay it on the official card to compare

the hole-by-hole recordings. These cards can be used at any golf competition. The hole length and par areas are blank.

3. When used at NSAA Championships, the NSAA prints par and distance on each hole.
4. Scorecards are available in packages of 50 cards for \$8.00 (including postage). United States Golf Association "The Rules of Golf" rules books are available for \$3.00 each (including postage). Both are listed on the "Order Form for Rules Books" under the "Administration Forms" section of the NSAA website: <http://www.nsaahome.org>.

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).

Fan/Spectator Support Items

In the Chart below, ONLY those items marked “Yes” will be allowed as fan/spectator support items at all NSAA Sub-District, District, State Playoffs and State Championships.

Sportsmanlike vocal cheering and support from the team bench area are encouraged. The items indicated on this page are for use by fans/spectators.

Prohibited items: Confetti/shredded paper, powder (baby, talc, etc.), laser light/pointers, flashing objects, miniature sports balls, objects or candy thrown into the crowd, artificial noise makers, (included but not limited to horns, cow bells, bells, buzzers, clickers, thunder sticks, rattles, instruments not part of a band), whistles, air horns, sirens, cannons/muskets/guns/fireworks or live animals.

Key: BA-Baseball, BB-Basketball, CC-Cross Country, FB-Football, GO-Golf, SO-Soccer, SB-Softball, SW- Swimming & Diving, TE-Tennis, TR-Track & Field, VB-Volleyball, WR-Wrestling, NA-Not Apply

Regulations listed are subject to facility restrictions.

SPORT	BA	BB	CC	FB	GO	SO	SB	SW	TE	TR	VB	WR
Balloons	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
One school banner per school	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hand held signs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Megaphones (school recognized cheerleaders only)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Shirts on student spectators (required) AR 3.3.11	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Shirts on general spectators	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Team Introduction Run-throughs or Break Away Banners	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pompoms, spirit towels	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Prerecorded music that has been approved by the host administration may be played during pre-contest warm ups provided that a high school band is not available to play during that time.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
School bands	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes
Carried school flags (Running/taunting prohibited)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (DRONE) POLICY

The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), also known as drones, is prohibited for any purpose by any person at any NSAA post-season tournament venue. For purposes of this policy, a UAV is any aircraft without a human pilot aboard this device. This prohibition applies to all fields of play, courts, arenas, mats, gym floors or pools, and includes a ban on the entire facility being used as part of the NSAA event, including the spectator areas and parking areas. Tournament management shall refuse admission or entry to anyone attempting to use a UAV; and if necessary, tournament management shall remove anyone attempting to use a UAV and/or confiscate the UAV. An exception to this policy, in writing, may be made in specific cases for NSAA broadcast partners, provided the management of the tournament facility permits the presence of UAVs for broadcast purposes under the control of the NSAA. (added 6/2015)