

2017 Spring Golf Postseason Manual

POSTSEASON DATES

Sectional tournaments: Class 1A, 2A & 3A will be held May 12, 2017, District tournaments will be held May 19, 2017. Sectional and District assignments will be posted on-line under golf at www.iahsaa.org.

State Tournament will be held May 26 & 27 @ the following sites: **Class 1A**, American Legion Golf Course, Marshalltown; **Class 2A** Lakeside Golf Course, Fort Dodge; **Class 3A** Spring Valley Course, Livermore.

USGA RULES DURING THE POSTSEASON

All IHSAA sanctioned tournaments will follow USGA playing rules unless otherwise specified in the IHSAA Spring Golf Manual. All rules and regulations in the Spring Golf Manual (Rules for Players/Coaches & Code of Conduct) are applicable to postseason play.

RULES JURY AND POSTSEASON

A jury consisting of three coaches should be selected prior to the start of competition. The coaches' jury is to handle code of conduct and other IHSAA rules and regulations—they would make those determinations in concert with a PGA pro if available. When there is an identified PGA pro or rules interpreter on site—we prefer the PGA rules interpreter make USGA rulings because of his/her knowledge. We still want the coaches' jury to help assist with communication and those areas that involve "local committee" rules such as IHSAA code of conduct, Coaching Rule, etc. We do not want individual coaches whether on the coaches' jury or not making rulings in isolation by him/herself on the course.

Any rules of golf interpretations/consultations may be directed to the following individuals at the Iowa Section of the PGA-- Zach Hester at 319-648-0026 (first) or 319-230-9395 (second); Brett Shaeffer, Junior Golf Manager at 515-441-6730 (third); Tess Goudy, Junior Golf Director at 319-310-8728 (fourth).

In addition, the Iowa Golf Association (IGA) has USGA Rules interpreters on staff and is willing to assist with high school events and may be contacted at 515-207-1062.

COACHES PLAYING AT AN IHSAA TOURNAMENT SITE

It is against the rules for coaches to play golf on the course the day of the sectional, district or state meet. If this takes place, the team will be **disqualified** due to the coaches' actions, even if the tournament manager has given permission for the coach to play. Coaches are not to leave the premises while his/her player(s) are competing. Coaches may be asked to assist the host school with regular season, sectional or district competition, please do your best to honor that request.

IHSAA TOURNAMENT GOLF ENTRY FORM

Make sure you fill out the new on-line sectional, district & state team golf entry form (www.iahsaa.org under sport/golf, top of home page) and fax/email the form to the designated host school at least four days before the scheduled sectional, district or state meet. This will permit the meet manager to set up tee times according to your player ranking, via your entry form. A coach may substitute a **team** player(s) before teeing off in the sectional, district or state meet. In the sectional, district or state meet, no substitution will be allowed once a player has teed off on his first hole, regardless of injury, illness or DQ. You will eliminate that individual and count only the four best scores of the remaining four or five players. Sectional & District green fees, must be paid the day of the tournament. **Golf Courses are providing very inexpensive green fees and we need to make sure we uphold our end and make payment to the course the day of the sectional/district meet.**

State Tournament Substitution: This option permits substitution of a team player either day of the State Tournament. This would involve bringing a seventh player and substituting at the coach's discretion for one of the six players who participate each day. If a player is disqualified for an Unsporting Like Act, he may not be substituted and the team will only play five golfers. The substitution must be reported no later than the coaches' meeting each day of the State Tournament. The golfer who is a potential team substitute must be on the original state tournament golf entry form. **Rationale:** This offers the option to get more golfers involved and provides the coach with a tool for team discipline. It also provides for substitution at the state tournament on day two if there is an illness or injury following day one of the state tournament.

SUBSTITUTION FOR INDIVIDUAL DISTRICT OR STATE QUALIFIERS

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

TEAM QUALIFICATIONS FOR DISTRICT OR STATE COMPETITION

District and State Tournament Team Qualifiers: The sectional/district team champion and runner-up will advance to the district/state competition. If a host school (sectional/district **HOST TEAM ONLY**, play the majority of their regular season matches or regularly practice on this course) finish first or second, the third-place team will also advance to the district or state tournament. There are times when multiple schools use the same golf course and we have a sectional or district tournament at this particular golf course, **the designated HOST SCHOOL by the Iowa High School Athletic Association must finish first or second in order for a third-place team to advance.** The maximum number of teams that could possibly advance from sectional to district competition would be three. At no time would a fourth team advance to district competition. If your school has qualified a team four or more members for the state meet, they need **not** be the same contestants who comprised your team in the sectional/district meet. If your school has qualified a team, up to six contestants in your school who are eligible to represent your school in interscholastic athletics may compete in the district/state meet as a member of your team. **In the event your school has qualified individual(s) and not a team, then only that individual(s) would be eligible to compete in the state meet. You can't substitute for individual qualifier(s).**

SPECIAL NOTE: INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIERS FOR DISTRICT AND STATE COMPETITION

The process for individual qualifiers from Sectional to District to State has changed for 2017. The top two overall individual players (plus ties) at each site from among the non-qualifying teams will advance from each Sectional to District tournament. Similarly, the top two overall individual players (plus ties) at each site from among the non-qualifying teams will advance from each District to the State Tournament. This will create opportunities for at least two individuals from among the non-qualifying teams to advance from each site in the postseason. This also creates a uniform qualifying process in the postseason. **The process for team qualifiers from Sectional to District to State remains the same as in the past.**

The state meet will start at 10:30AM on Friday and 8:00 AM on Saturday, weather permitting.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS FOR DISTRICT COMPETITION

Each member school is entitled to enter six players in the district meet. The four best scores will count to determine the total score for the school. If a **team tie** exists, we will use the 5th players score and if the **team tie** remains we will use the 6th player scores. **NOTE:** See team tiebreaker for all team and individual tiebreaker information. **A school entering less than four players in the district meet may compete for individual honors, but they may not compete for team honors.**

BREAKING OF TIES

SELECTION OF PLAYOFF HOLES: The pro and/or rules jury, if no golf pro is available, will determine before the tournament starts, what playoff hole(s) will be used for any team or individual playoffs. This information should be communicated at the coaches' meeting.

TEAM TIEBREAKER, SECTIONAL, DISTRICT AND STATE COMPETITION: Breaking of all **team ties** will be decided by using the **fifth player's score of that day**, and if the tie is not broken with the fifth player's score, use the **sixth player's score**. In the event a given team has only four players and the team they are tied with has five players, the team with five players would break the tie and be declared the winner. If a team has only five players and a team tie still exists after using each team's fifth players' score, the team with six players would break the tie and be declared the winner. This makes the fifth and sixth player's score more meaningful in the team concept. If the team tie remains after using the fifth and sixth players score, a three-hole play-off will take place, using only the players' scores who counted that day. If the three-hole play-off does not break the team tie, we will go to sudden death.

INDIVIDUAL SECTIONAL & DISTRICT TIEBREAKER SYSTEM: Individual ties in sectional & district competition for **first place only (medalist)**, will be broken using a sudden-death playoff. If the tie is not broken after the first sudden death playoff hole, play will continue on a sudden-death schedule until the tie is resolved. **All individual ties pertaining to second place through fourth place will result in duplicate medals being awarded.**

For example, if multiple players (3 players) are tied for medalist, the playoff will determine the overall medalist with all others finishing tied for second and receiving duplicate medals. The next medal awarded would be for fourth place. If fourth place has a tie, then there would be duplicate medals awarded.

STATE COMPETITION INDIVIDUAL TIES: Individual ties in state competition for **first place only (medalist)**, will be broken using the Sudden-death play-off. If the tie is not broken after the first sudden death play-off hole, play will continue on a sudden death schedule until the tie is resolved. **In state tournament competition only, all individual ties pertaining to second place through seventh place will result in duplicate medals being awarded.**

RULES PERSONNEL AT STATE COMPETITION

The Iowa High School Athletic Association will be making every effort to utilize certified Iowa Golf Association personnel as rules personnel at our state tournaments. Proper golf etiquette and professionalism will be a priority. In the event a rules interpreter is not available at the course, the three person coaches jury will be utilized to make USGA rulings just as in the regular season.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS FOR SECTIONAL COMPETITION

Each member school is entitled to enter six players in the sectional meet. The four best scores will count to determine the total score for the school. If a **team tie** exists, we will use the 5th players score and if the **team tie** remains we will use the 6th player scores. **NOTE:** See team tiebreaker for all team and individual tiebreaker information. **A school entering less than four players in the sectional meet may compete for individual honors, but they may not compete for team honors.**

PRACTICE ROUNDS & GREEN FEES

Please keep in mind anyone who wants to play a practice round (player/coach) at a sectional, district or state site must pay green fees, and coaches, if the parents take a senior athlete to a practice site, explain to them they are guests at the golf course and will pay green fees, and not attempt to evaluate the golf course or complain about paying green fees.

Prior to the sectional or district tournaments, teams/individuals may play/practice at a sectional or district site. **The course on which the STATE TOURNAMENT is to be played is closed for any practice rounds to all teams and individual(s) once sectional tournament play starts for classes 1A, 2A and 3A.** Exception: If a team is hosting the state meet and this is their home course, practice is permitted throughout the sectional and district play on this course by the host school only.

WALKING THE COURSE

There is no rule against a team/individual arriving at the district and/or state site to walk the course provided they do not cause any confusion with regard to people who may be playing the course. **Players who walk the course are not to have any clubs with them while they are walking the course, nor are they permitted to role balls on the course playing greens.** Any violation of this rule will result in player disqualification from the entire one or two-day tournament.

Players may use the practice driving range, chipping green and putting green at the district or state site, if available. Teams traveling to the state site the night before the state meet, may use the practice driving range and chip or putt on the practice greens only, if available, with host/course permission. Coaches/players who walk the course the night before or the morning of the district or state tournament are permitted to use rangefinders/electronic devices.

GREEN FEES (SECTIONAL, DISTRICT & STATE TOURNAMENT)

A **\$10** per player green fee is assessed for participation in all sectional & district tournaments, paid directly to the course management by the participating schools up to a total of **\$60** green fees per school per tournament. Please have a **check made out directly to the course** where you will be participating in the sectional or district tournament in advance of your participation and present it to the host school management upon arrival. The host school management will present the green fees check for all participating teams to the course management. **State tournament green fees will be paid directly to the host golf course by the IHSAA.**

SECTIONAL, DISTRICT & STATE TOURNAMENT TEE TIMES

Sectional and District tournaments will be determined by the host school within reason with **10:00AM** preferred. The sectional and district host school should notify all the Athletic Directors of participating schools. The State Tournament will start at **10:30** on Friday and **8:00AM** on Saturday, weather permitting.

STARTING & PAIRING METHOD

A "Shotgun start" is the best method to start all IHSAA tournament play. When looking at teams, match up the number one golfers with other schools' number one golfers. Individual qualifying golfers should play with the other individual qualifiers in the competition. Pairing players using the team concept should allow for players from the same team to be in successive groups on the course, which will assist coaches and

spectators in following their team. In the state meet, second day pairings are to be based on first-round team scores. No players from the same school should be assigned to the same group whether threesomes or foursomes.

The sectional and district host school will determine the tee pairings for sectional and district play. In state competition, the host school in conjunction with the course management and IHSAA will determine pairings for each day of State Tournament play.

GOLFER WITHDRAWING FROM COMPETITION

Any player who fails to finish play in the district or state tournament competition is considered to have withdrawn from the tournament and his score(s) will not count. **If this should occur during the state tournament on day one, he will not be able to participate on day two.** NOTE: See additional information under substitutions at state tournament events earlier in the manual.

DISQUALIFIED PLAYER FOR UNSPORTING LIKE ACT

If a player is disqualified for any unsporting like act, he is ejected from the entire one or two-day tournament. If a player is deemed disqualified from any two-day tournament on day one, for a misapplication of a rule, illness/injury after he has put his ball in play/started competition (not unsportsmanlike conduct), the player is disqualified and his score will not count the day he is disqualified. This individual would be able to compete and his score would count on the second day only of a two-day event. The three coach rules jury at the tournament site would make the final ruling pertaining to any unusual circumstances dealing with a disqualification except for unsportsmanlike behavior.

WEATHER ISSUES/POSTPONEMENTS DURING COMPETITION

If sectional or district tournaments are postponed once competition has started, play will continue from the last completed hole by every player in their group. If three of the four players have holed out and the players are called off the course, all players will be required to play the hole over. **In districts**, if you are required to return the second day because of postponement, and you are postponed the second time, if you have finished nine holes that will determine the district champion. Individual qualifiers will be determined from these 9 hole scores. Remember, this is only true on the second time you return.

Example 1: Districts were scheduled for Friday and you are postponed. You come back on Saturday and you are postponed, but everyone gets at least nine holes played. Those nine holes on the second day will determine the teams and individuals that advance to the next level of competition.

Example 2: District play has begun, groups finish at least nine holes and are postponed, everyone returns the next day and begins play from the last completed hole by everyone in your group. If postponement again forces competition to end for that day and everyone has not completed competition (nine holes), the first days nine holes will determine the teams and individuals that advance to the next level of competition.

In **state tournament competition**, if eighteen holes are played on Friday and it is impossible to play Saturday due to weather, **the first eighteen holes will determine the champion.** Likewise, if Friday competition is postponed and you are able to play 18 holes on Saturday, those eighteen holes on Saturday will determine a winner. Under no conditions will competition be held on Sunday. If both Friday and Saturday are postponed, then the tournament will be reset by the tournament manager and each school will be notified accordingly. When the tournament is rescheduled, competition will be eighteen holes.

If play is halted and players are called off the course, players should mark their ball and if play continues that day, players would resume play at their marked spot.

SPRING GOLF EXPENSES

The IHSAA will pay \$.48 per mile for every school in Sectional & District Golf.

The IHSAA will pay \$.48 per mile for schools who qualify individual(s) for **State Golf.**

The IHSAA will pay \$1.20 per mile for schools who qualify a team for **State Golf.**

AWARDS

Sectional Meet: There will be six medals for the team winning first place, six medals for the team winning second place. There will also be a medalist and runner-up; plus medals for the third- and fourth-place players. In all individual ties, other than for medalist, duplicate medals will be presented as the individual ties will remain ties. If a tie should occur for medalist honors, a sudden death play-off will take place.

District Meet: There will six medals for the team winning first; six medals for the team winning second place There will also be a medalist and runner-up; plus medals for the third- and fourth-place players. In all individual ties, other than for medalist, duplicate medals will be presented as the individual ties will remain ties. If a tie should occur for medalist honors, a sudden death play-off will take place. State team qualifiers will receive an IHSAA state golf tournament qualifier banner.

State Meet: Medals will be awarded to the first four teams, six medals per team. There will also be a medalist and runner-up; plus medals for the third-, fourth-, fifth-, sixth-, and seventh-place players. In all individual ties, other than for medalist, duplicate medals will be presented as the individual ties will remain ties. If a tie should occur for medalist honors, a sudden death play-off will take place. In the state meet, a championship, runner-up and third place trophy will be presented and an IHSAA banner will be presented to the state champion and runner-up. The coach of the championship team will receive a plaque.

STATE TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS PICTURE PLAQUE

Teams and individuals who qualify for the state meet will have their pictures taken with their coach when they arrive at the State Golf Meet site. Individuals in the picture will be identified after the meet by each school and then made into a picture plaque to be presented to each of the participating team member(s) and head coach, compliments of the IHSAA. An online picture identification and order form will be sent to each school/A.D. following the state meet. **Please make sure your Athletic Director verifies the player(s)/coach in a timely manner and purchases any additional plaques needed.**

STATE MEET PIN PLACEMENT

No practice is permitted by a host school on the state golf meet site, once pin placements have been made for the first day's competition. Meet management should, in coordination with the course superintendent, make the determination as to how late they might wait prior to making pin placements for the first day's competition.

SCORING FOR THE STATE MEET

In determining the winner at the state meet, the first-day scores will be the four best scores recorded for the **team**. The next day will be a new day and the four best scores on that day will be recorded. The total of the two days will determine team winners. If a team tie exists at the end of the second day, and **the team tiebreaker rule does not resolve the tie**, the four members whose scores counted the last 18 holes will be the four players involved in the play-off. Please review the team tiebreaker procedure elsewhere in this manual.