

To: OHSAA Golf School Athletic Directors and Head Coaches

From: Tyler Brooks, Senior Manager of Officiating & Sport Administration

Re: August Update - Part 2

Date: August 31, 2021

This is going to be a lengthy update, but it is important that you review and understand everything in this communication with your coaching staff.

1 - Welcome to New State Rule Interpreters

I would like to introduce you to our two new State Rule Interpreters for OHSAA golf. They are:

David Griffith - dgriffith@pgahq.com

Matt Rutland - mrutland@pgahq.com

David and Matt are both staff members of The Northern Ohio PGA and we are grateful for their time and dedication to making OHSAA golf the best that it can be!

David and Matt will be able to answer any questions related to the USGA rules of our sport. They are not authorized to provide any information or interpretations on OHSAA regulations. If you are unsure if your question is a USGA rule or an OHSAA regulation, please email me your question and I will sort it out. Please copy me on any emails to them for USGA rule interpretations so that I can be aware of any ongoing issues / disputes in our sport.

2 - Reminder on Non-Interscholastic Scrambles

This is a reminder, as discussed in the online state rules meeting, non-interscholastic events that use a scramble format do not require the use of the OHSAA non-interscholastic event waiver request form. Only non-interscholastic events that use stroke or match play require the use of the non-interscholastic event waiver request form. OHSAA golfers are permitted to participate in scrambles during the golf season and do not count towards their three permitted non-interscholastic events.

3 - "Rules of Golf" Presentation from the Online State Rules Meeting

I received a lot of positive feedback on the "Rules of Golf" portion of the online state rules presentation. This presentation was done by our state rule interpreter Matt Rutland.

Below is a link to just that portion of the presentation in case you would like to save and review it with your coaching staff, players, and / or parents:

 [2021 Golf Coaches SRI - Part 3 - PGA Griffith and Rutland - Rules of Golf.mp4](#)

Thank you to Matt for this excellent presentation!

4 - Knowing the Golf Regulations

Did you know that your golfer can be disqualified from a contest if a coach carries their clubs? (Golf regulation 1.5)

Did you know if stroke play is used in a regular season contest that a sixth golfer can be used towards totaling the four players with the fewest strokes? (Golf regulation 1.7.1)

Did you know that a golfer can be assessed penalty strokes if they receive coaching from anyone on the course other than the one assigned coach for the event? This includes assistant coaches, parents, and teammates. (Golf regulation 1.10)

These aspects of OHSAA golf are codified in our golf regulations. It is critical for all coaches to know this foundational information. Golf regulation 1.9 states:

The home school coach shall serve as referee, enforcing all OHSAA regulations and U.S.G.A. rules. Any coach and/or designee serving in that capacity who is giving advice pertaining to these regulations and/or rules must have the regulations and rules book with him/her to ensure the rule/regulation is administered correctly.

This is an enormous responsibility of every home school coach to ensure our game is played in an equitable, consistent manner. Coaches need to review all pertinent OHSAA golf regulations in advance of each OHSAA contest.

A link to the OHSAA Golf regulations is below. Please take time to review these regulations and know them as well as you know the rules of golf (it is only three pages long):

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/Golf/GolfRegs.pdf>

5 - Link to Past Updates

Past updates can be found on the OHSAA Golf webpage under the “Golf Notes” section titled “2021 Coaches Memos”:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/sports/golf>



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