

To: OHSAA Golf School Athletic Directors and Head Coaches

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

Re: August Update

Date: Friday, August 5, 2022

Our 2022 season is under way! Best wishes for a healthy and successful season!

1 – Link to Recorded Training Presentation of OHSAA Golf App

If you were not able to attend one of our three live trainings for the OHSAA Golf app, there is a recording of the first training available on YouTube here:

Link: [OHSAA Golf App Coaches Live Training - YouTube](#)

If you have not done so already, I highly encourage you to download the OHSAA Golf app and start playing around with it! We've got over 300 coaches registered and using the app since Tuesday! This app makes live scoring accessible for every OHSAA golfer and event at no cost!

For more information please review the information from the email on Tuesday below;

Link: [OHSAA Golf App Announcement](#)

If your school has an incorrect logo or conference affiliation, please contact iWanamaker's support at:

support@iwanamaker.com

2 – Cell Phone Policy, Smart Watches, and Distance-Measuring Device Apps

Regarding the new "cell phone policy" (OHSAA Golf regulation 1.12), I have received a couple of questions:

How should we treat smart watches (like an Apple Watch)?

Smart watches should be treated like cell phones. Smart watches can do most of the same functions that a smart phone can do, including make phone calls and measure distances on the course. As such, they are bound by the same permissible / impermissible functions outlined for cell phones.

Does the OHSAA recommend or require any specific distance-measuring device apps?

No, there is no recommended or required phone app for distance-measuring at this time. If your team has found a DMD app that you would recommend to the community, please reply to this email with your recommendation and I will share the recommendations in an ensuing email update.

3 – Submitting Non-Interscholastic Event Waiver Through the Online Registry

As you know, we have transitioned from an emailed document to an online registry for non-interscholastic events submitted for a waiver. This online registry will not send any type of "approval" or "confirmation" emails. I wish it would send the person submitting the event a copy of the submitted information but it is not currently a feature on the platform.

Just know that if the submitted event meets all of the criteria below then the event is “approved”, there is no further judgement or approval that needs to be made on the permissibility of the event other than what is outlined below:

- a) Has the golfer joined your school team? (Joining the school team is defined as participating in either a scrimmage or regular season contest for your school team).
 - a. If yes, advance to next question.
 - b. If no, then no event waiver is required.
- b) Has this golfer participated in no more than 3 non-interscholastic events submitted for waivers this season?
 - a. If yes, advance to next question
 - b. If no, each golfer is limited to a maximum of 3 non-interscholastic event waivers per season.
- c) Does this event conclude by Sunday, September 25?
 - a. If yes, advance to next question
 - b. If no, then this event is not permitted to be submitted for a non-interscholastic event waiver
- d) Is all play in the event held on consecutive days?
 - a. If yes, the event is permitted to be submitted for a non-interscholastic event waiver.
 - b. If no, the event is NOT permitted to be submitted for a non-interscholastic event waiver.

I know it can make coaches and ADs feel uneasy to not receive an “approval email” of some sort, but if the event follows the criteria above and was submitted prior to the event, then there is no additional approval needed.

4 – Regulation Questions So Far

Is it OK if we do a match play event for some area non-conference teams?

Yes! Since the 2021 season, there are very few restrictions on the types of regular season contest formats. Prior to 2021, only two match play contests were permitted during your non-league schedule in a format mutually agreed upon by all coaches. But you aren’t limited to stroke and match play formats, you can really use any format you would like (scrambles, “Ryder Cup” format, etc.) provided the event doesn’t exceed 36 holes in one day.

Review OHSAA golf regulations 1.8.

We have a girl participating on our boys teams, can she play from the forward tees?

No, if girls are participating on a boys team, the girl golfers are required to play from the same tees as the boys.

Review Golf Coaches Manual review of golf regulations beginning on page 6.

Does my golfer have to step off of the green in order for him / her to receive coaching from me?

No, players may now receive coaching while they are standing on the green. During a player’s round, coaches are not permitted to physically stand on any green or in any sand bunker. Prior to 2022, a player was required to walk off the green to converse with his/her coach. Now, a player may converse with their coach while standing on the green. The regulation continues to require the player to stand outside the bunker should he/she wish to converse with his/her coach at that time.

Review OHSAA golf regulation 1.11.

5 – Link to Resources

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

Past Updates: <https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Golf/Athletic-Director-Coach-Updates>

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

Coaches Manual: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/Golf/2022Manual.pdf>

USGA Rules of Golf: <https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/rules/rules-2019/rules-of-golf/rules-and-interpretations.html>



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