

**2020 REGULATIONS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS  
GOLF TOURNAMENTS  
BOYS and GIRLS – SECTIONAL and DISTRICT**

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NOTE: The following regulations apply to all levels of tournament competition unless otherwise specified. They have been adopted by the Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors on **September 14, 2020**. The Executive Director is authorized to modify these regulations when it is deemed necessary, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors. Changes from 2019 to 2020 Tournament Regulations are shaded in gray. **Due to Covid-19, these regulations are subject to change.**

**Sectional, District, and State tournaments are required to follow:**

1. **August 19 Ohio Department of Health Order:**  
[https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/OHOOD/2020/08/19/file\\_attachments/1521949/Sports%20Order%2008.19.20.pdf](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/OHOOD/2020/08/19/file_attachments/1521949/Sports%20Order%2008.19.20.pdf)
2. **State Covid-19 Guidance:** <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Youth-Collegiate-Amateur-Club-Pro-Sports.pdf>
3. **Golf Requirements and Recommendations:**  
<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/Golf/2020/GolfRecommendations.pdf>

**I. ORGANIZATION OF TOURNAMENTS**

- A. The District Athletic Boards organize and conduct Sectional and District Tournaments in their respective districts, subject to the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors.

**II. ELIGIBILITY**

- A. All participants must be eligible in accordance with the OHSAA Bylaws and Sports Regulations.
- B. A student who uses anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs is ineligible for interscholastic competition until such time as medical evidence can be presented that the student's system is free of anabolic steroids.

**III. DIVISIONS**

- A. There will be three divisions (I, II, III) of competition in the Boys Tournaments and two divisions (I, II) in the Girls Tournament.

**IV. TOURNAMENT ENTRY AND PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS**

**A. Tournament Entry Fee**

Any school that enters the sectional tournament, whether entering a team or individual(s), shall pay a \$25.00 tournament entry fee.

**B. Tournament Entry/Withdraw**

Member schools wanting to participate in the 2020 OHSAA Golf Tournaments must indicate their intent to participate on their 2020-21 OHSAA Sports Participation Card in myOHSAA. Schools that change their tournament participation after September 14, 2020 will be subject to a \$50 penalty per sport.

A school may enter a maximum of one team only in the tournament. Individual entries (3 or less) may be entered when there is no team entry.

An individual who starts on a team in a Sectional or District, or State Tournament must continue until that tournament is completed.

**C. Electronic Entry of Participants**

1. Submit entries online at [www.baumspage.com](http://www.baumspage.com).
2. A properly completed electronic entry must list athletes in intended playing order and include the name and grade of each athlete.
3. Electronic entries must be completed no later than 5:00 P.M. E.D.T. one week prior to the start of the tournament or at a later date and time if established by the district athletic board. If the completed entry is not submitted by the designated time and date, the school's participant(s) will not be accepted without payment of a \$150 late fee and approval by the OHSAA.
4. Changes to a team's line-up/roster can be made until the scheduled tee time for competition.

**V. SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE**

- A. No team or individual entry will be permitted to compete in a tournament unless accompanied by the coach or a person authorized by the board of education. Teams or individuals unaccompanied by such school representatives will be disqualified. The school representative shall be present throughout the tournament.

**VI. ADMISSIONS**

- A. Prices of admission at the sectional and district tournaments are \$8.00 and sold online only. All spectators, regardless of age, will be charged admission. Spectators may be limited.

**VII. RULES**

- A. The United States Golf Association Rules for Stroke Play shall prevail for all tournaments sponsored by the OHSAA.
- B. A golfer may pick up their ball at any point during the round. However, he/she should continue to play with his/her group to finish the round. From the point of pick up, each hole thereafter should be marked on the scorecard as "N/A". Golfers must hit at least one shot on all 18 holes in order to count towards the 4 players needed for representation purposes and should be designated as a DQ in Baumspage. Should a player pick up their ball and walk off the course prior to playing a shot on all 18 holes, they should be designated as a DNF in Baumspage and will not count for representation purposes.

**VIII. STROKE PLAY**

- A. Stroke play for 18 holes will prevail. There will be no handicap.

**IX. SCORING**

- A. The team score shall be determined by totaling the scores of the 4 players with the fewest strokes for the match. The team with the fewest number of strokes is the winner.

**X. TIES**

**A. Team**

1. Ties in team scoring for awards or at qualifying positions that affect the number of qualifiers shall be resolved by comparing the scores of the 5<sup>th</sup> team member and the team with the lowest 5<sup>th</sup> score shall be declared the winner. If one team does not have a 5<sup>th</sup> score, the team with the 5<sup>th</sup> score shall be declared the winner.
2. If teams remain tied after comparing the 5<sup>th</sup> scores, a playoff to determine the winner shall be held using four players selected by the coaches of the tied teams.

**B. Individual (Medalist and Qualifiers)**

- Individual ties for qualifying positions, that affect the number of qualifiers, shall be resolved by playing an additional hole or holes until the tie is broken by the tied individuals.

## XI. DISTRICT QUALIFIERS

- Each District Board shall determine the number of qualifiers from the sectional tournaments to the district tournaments.

## XII. STATE TOURNAMENT QUALIFIERS

### Boys Teams

<u>District</u>	<u>Division I</u>	<u>Division II</u>	<u>Division III</u>
Central	2	1	1
East		2	1
Southeast	SE,E	1	1
Northeast	4	3	3
Northwest	2	2	4
Southwest	3	3	2
	12	12	12

### Individual Qualifiers

- Individual qualifiers to the State Tournaments will be the individual low scorers not on a qualifying team equal to the number of teams qualifying.

### Girls Teams

<u>District</u>	<u>Division I</u>	<u>Division II</u>
Central	2	1
East	E, SE	1
Southeast		1
Northeast	4	3
Northwest	2	4
Southwest	3	2
	12	12

### Individual Qualifiers

- Individual qualifiers to the State Tournament will be the individual low scorers not on qualifying team equal to the number of teams qualifying.

## XIII. AWARDS

- Team – There shall be District Championship and Runner-up trophies presented.
- Individual – Individual awards shall be presented to the members and coach of the winning and runner-up teams and to the medalist and runner-up in each class.

Note: Due to Covid-19, no awards ceremony should take place and no congregating is permitted.

## XIV. SUMMER GOLF RULES

- A. Summer golf rules will be played in the OHSAA Tournaments. In case of inclement weather; the Tournament Rules Committee may authorize winter rules.

## XV. GREENS FEE

- A. Each school or participant will be responsible for the greens fee.

## XVI. WEATHER

### Recognition:

Coaches, athletic trainers, athletes, administrators and contest officials should be educated regarding the signs indicating thunderstorm development. Since the average distance between successive lightening flashes is approximately two to three miles ANYTIME that lightening can be seen or heard, the risk is already present. Weather can be monitored using the following methods:

- **Monitor Weather Patterns** – Be aware of potential thunderstorms by monitoring local weather forecasts the day before and morning of the competition, and by scanning the sky for signs of potential thunderstorm activity.
- **National Weather Service** – Weather can also be monitored using small, portable weather radios from the NWS. The NWS uses a system of severe storm watches and warnings watch indicates conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop in an area; a warning indicates severe weather has been reported in an area, and everyone should take proper precautions. Any thunderstorm poses a risk of injury or death even if it does not meet the criteria for severe weather. Therefore, anytime thunderstorms are in the forecast (even if it is only a 20 percent chance), event organizers should be at a heightened level of awareness to the potential danger of lightening.

### Management:

- **Evacuation-** If lightening is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators shall evacuate to available safe structures or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced and displayed on placards at all athletic venues.
    - **Thirty-minute rule-** Competition or practice shall be suspended once lightning has been recognized or thunder is heard. It is **mandatory** to wait at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard prior to resuming practice or competition. Given the average rates of thunderstorm travel, the storm should move 10-12 miles away from the area. This significantly reduces the risk of local lightning flashes.
- Any subsequent lightning or thunder after the beginning of the 30-minute count shall reset the clock, and another count shall begin.**

## XVII. INTERRUPTED TOURNAMENT

- A. Any OHSAA tournament interrupted due to events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be resumed from the point of interruption.

## XVIII. CADDIES

- A. Caddies are not permitted during the tournament. Participants will be disqualified if any person assists by caddying or if the participant rides in any type of vehicle. Participants may use pull carts to carry golf clubs.

EXCEPTION: A medically authorized waiver is required for the use of a vehicle. A copy of the doctor's statement must be filed with the OHSAA and the OHSAA authorization shown to the referee.

## XIX. COACHING

- A. Coaches are permitted the use of golf carts for coaching purposes at the **discretion of each District Athletic Board**. Should a Board give the approval to use carts, each school would be permitted one cart for the school approved coach. The OHSAA is not responsible for the cart fee. Each school or coach will be responsible for the cart fee.

- B. The coaching regulation permits one school board approved coach/designee assigned to that event to speak with his/her players without delay of play at any time. Participants will be disqualified if any other individual assists the participant by coaching and giving advice which could influence a player in determining play, the choice of a club or method of making a stroke (Rule 8).

**Note:** A team member is not a partner and may not give advice to or receive advice from another member of the team.

The following procedures govern on-course coaching:

1. During the player’s stipulated round, coaches are not permitted to physically stand on any green or in any sand bunker. The player must walk off the green or stand outside the bunker should he/she wish to converse with the coach.
2. If a group should “lose their position” the group must be playing at a pace slower than 15 minutes per hole. To fall behind the group in front does not always mean a group is playing slow.
3. If the group fails to regain their position on the course within a reasonable time established by officials then the group should be notified that they are “going on the clock”. At that point, any player who does not complete his/her turn to play in the allowed forty-five seconds is assessed a two-stroke penalty. A second violation is another two-stroke penalty, and a third violation results in a disqualification.

ie. “45 second rule” – once a player reaches their ball, and their turn has arrived to play, they must complete their shot within the 45 seconds allowed.

**B. Penalties for violation of the coaching regulation:**

1. A warning is issued.
2. Player is assessed a two-stroke penalty and the coach loses his/her coaching privilege.
3. Coach is disqualified/ejected.

Note: Following a coach ejection, if there is not a person authorized by the Board of Education present at the contest, forfeiture would result (Bylaw 3-2-1- school representative must accompany team). \*In addition to the penalties listed above, a coach who violates the coaching rule may face additional disciplinary action.

**XX. VIOLATIONS**

- A. **Tobacco.** Participants (coach, players, managers, etc.) are prohibited from using any form of tobacco on the golf course, in the clubhouse, or caddy house during any tournament. Penalty for violation of this rule will be disqualification. Managers are instructed to inform all coaches beforehand that this rule will be strictly enforced.
- B. **Conduct.** A two-stroke penalty shall be assessed for unsporting conduct. Unsporting conduct shall include but not be limited to club throwing, willful acts which damage property or equipment on the course, use of abusive language, profanity, obscenities, and other unsporting conduct as determined by the Golf Rules Committee. Penalties imposed may result in disqualification.
- C. **Electronic Devices -** The use of any electronic communication devices shall be prohibited on the course during any competition by all players and ~~coaches~~ except in cases of emergency. All phones including those used by spectators shall remain on silent. Penalty:

Player -	1st offense	two (2) strokes
	2nd offense	disqualification
Coach—	1st offense	lose coaching privilege
	2nd offense	disqualification
Spectator—	1st offense	warning
	2nd offense	removed from course of play

**Exception: Players may use electronic communication devices if they are necessary to conduct electronic scoring.**

- D. **Distance-Measuring Devices** - A player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his or her play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.
- E. This rule will allow the coach/designee authorized by the Board of Education present at the contest and his/her players to use a range finder during the event. This device should not violate any OHSAA or USGA rules since yardage information is not considered advice and is permitted during an event.

## **XXI. UNSPORTING CONDUCT PENALTY**

- A. During participation in OHSAA Tournaments, any student or coach ejected for unsporting conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for contests for the remainder of that day as well as for all contests in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection.
- B. Individuals ejected for unsporting conduct shall be reported to the OHSAA Executive Director by the tournament manager. The Executive Director will investigate the situation and may impose additional penalties in accordance with Bylaw 11 if the situation warrants it.
- C. Participation in an athletic contest is a privilege. Each individual is expected to conduct himself or herself in an exemplary manner while participating.

## **XXII. PROPERTY DAMAGE**

- A. There is no insurance covering property damage. If property is damaged at a tournament site by competing school teams, student body or spectators to physical facilities and equipment, etc. the school from which the students and/or spectators come shall be liable and pay the cost of repair or replacement. The tournament manager is authorized to deduct from the school's share the cost of any damages caused by competing schools. Other damages to facilities not attributed to a competing school could be a legitimate tournament expense and may be deducted from tournament receipts. If damage is extensive, the District Board or Board of Directors will become involved. Student crowd control at state-sponsored tournaments is the responsibility of the administrative heads of the competing schools.

## **XXIII. SPONSORSHIP AND RIGHTS**

- A. The Ohio High School Athletic Association is the sponsoring association for the Golf Tournaments. The OHSAA reserves all rights in regard to the management of these tournaments and the sale of any items or any audio-visual reproductions. Any sale of food, clothing, souvenirs or any other items is strictly prohibited without permission of the respective District Athletic Boards for Sectional or District Tournaments and the OHSAA Executive Director for the State Tournaments.

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**STATE TOURNAMENT MANAGERS**

The State Golf Tournaments are under the supervision and sponsorship of the Ohio High School Athletic Association with the Ohio State University Golf Course, 3605 Tremont Road, Columbus, Ohio 43221, (614) 514-4653, Tournament Manager Brian Kelly, (614) 292-9148 and North Star Golf Club, 1150 Wilson Road, Sunbury 43074, (740) 524-4653, Tournament Manager Tim Heffelfinger; (614) 634-1522.

**A. DATES AND LOCATIONS**

October 16-17, 2020 - Division III Boys - North Star Golf Club  
Division II Boys - Division II Girls – Ohio State University Golf Course.

October 23-24, 2020 – Division I Boys – Division I Girls – Ohio State University Golf Course

**B. REGULATIONS**

The regulations for boys and girls Sectional/District Tournaments shall apply to the State Tournaments.

**C. QUALIFIERS TO THE STATE TOURNAMENTS**

1. Teams and individuals who qualified at their respective District Golf Tournaments will automatically be entered in the State Tournaments.
2. Substitutions may be made in team personnel from the District to State Tournaments.
3. Substitutions may not be made from day one to day two of the State Tournament.
4. Substitutions may not be made for individual qualifiers.

**D. COACHES MEETING**

Information on the Thursday evening coach meeting will be provided directly to qualifying coaches.

**E. ADMISSIONS**

Admissions to the State Golf Tournaments are \$12.00 and sold online only. All spectators, regardless of age, will be charged admission. Spectators may be limited.

**F. PASSES**

Passes shall be provided to competitors and coaches according to the following schedule.

1. Individuals – Number of qualifiers plus one
2. Team – five plus one

**G. GREEN FEES** – Each school or participant will be responsible for the greens fee.

**H. COACHING** – The use of golf carts for coaching purposes is at the discretion of the Executive Director's Office.

**I. PRACTICE ROUNDS** – Team (5 individuals only) and individual qualifiers may play a practice round on Thursday prior to the start of the tournaments. Each individual shall play one ball only during their practice round. Practice rounds are optional and limited to the day before the championship. Tee times will be pre-assigned based on district qualifiers; telephone 614-514-4653 (Ohio State University) and 740-524-4653 (North Star).

Boys Division II and Boys Division I practice round on the Scarlet Course with tee times from approximately 11:00 A.M.

Girls Division II and Girls Division I practice round on the Gray Course with tee times available from approximately 11:00 A.M.

Boys Division III practice round on North Star Golf Club with tee times available from approximately 11:00 A.M.

**Note:** Once teams or individuals have qualified for the state tournament, play on the course where they will play (Scarlet, Gray or North Star) in the state tournament is not permitted. Ethics and integrity are of the utmost importance in regard to this regulation. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.

## **J. STATE TOURNAMENTS SCHEDULE**

Eighteen holes will be played Friday and Saturday.

Boys Division II Championships will be played on the Scarlet Course and Girls Division II will be played on the Gray Course on Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17 beginning at 9:00 A.M.

Boys Division III Championships will be played on the North Star Golf Club Course on Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17 beginning at 9:00 A.M.

Boys Division I Championships will be played on the Scarlet Course and the Girls Division I Championships will be played on the Gray Course on Friday, October 23 and Saturday, October 24 beginning at 9:00 A.M.

If the first round cannot be started or play is discontinued, 18 holes will be played on the second day to determine a winner.

If the first round is completed and play is discontinued during any part of the second round, winners will be determined by the results of the first round. (For the second-round results to count, ALL contestants must have completed the round).

If postponed both days, the tournament will be postponed until a future date arranged by the OHSAA.

## **K. SCORING**

Stroke play for 36 holes will prevail in the state tournaments. Team scores in the State Tournaments will be determined by using the best four of five scores counted each day. Thus, official team totals will be counted at the end of each 18 holes of play. There will be no handicap.

Electronic scoring may be utilized at the discretion of the Executive Director's Office.

## **L. TIES**

### **1. Teams**

Ties in team scoring shall be resolved by totaling the fifth lowest score for both days of the tournament and the team with the fifth lowest score shall be declared the winner.

If teams remain tied after totaling of the 5<sup>th</sup> lowest score, a playoff to determine the winner shall be held using four players selected by the coaches of the tied teams.

### **2. Individuals**

Ties for medalist and runner-up medalist will be awarded if two or more individuals are tied at the conclusion of tournament play.

## **M. AWARDS**

In the State Tournaments, trophies will be presented to the Championship and Runner-up teams. Individual members of both teams will be presented with gold or silver awards. Awards will be presented to the coach of the Championship and Runner-up teams and to the medalist and runner-up in each division. Due to Covid-19, no awards ceremony will take place and no congregating is permitted.

**N. RESPONSIBILITY** Transportation, meals and lodging shall be the responsibility of the school of the participants.