

## **2018-2019 MSHSL Rules and Policies**

### **Official Bylaws for Boys' and Girls' Golf**

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See the MSHSL Official Handbook [Bylaw 501](#) for information regarding:  
Maximum Number of Contests

See the MSHSL Official Handbook [Bylaw 502](#) for information regarding:  
Daily and Season Player Participation Limitations

See the MSHSL Official Handbook [Bylaw 509](#) for information regarding:  
Contests  
Equipment Issued  
Last Date to Join a Team  
Practice Sessions before First Contest  
Season Begins

**ELIGIBILITY DURING MSHSL TOURNAMENTS (sub-section, section & state) (Refer to [Bylaw 206](#)):** A student must be fully eligible under all local school district policies, MSHSL Bylaws and Rules & Policies to be in uniform, occupy the bench or playing area, participate and receive individual and/or team awards, including all-tournament honors, in the awards ceremony.

**CONTEST RULES (Refer to [Bylaw 402](#)):** Except as modified by the League, the United States Golf Association Rules for Medal Play for the current year shall be the official rules for all interscholastic contests in which League members participate.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN LEAGUE-SPONSORED TOURNAMENTS (Refer to [Bylaw 405](#)):** A member school must schedule and play a minimum of three interscholastic varsity games, meets or matches to qualify for League-sponsored tournament participation in that sport.

#### **END OF SEASON (Refer to [Bylaw 411](#))**

- A. Student Participation on a Non-School Team While the Season is Still in Progress:
- 1) The season shall end when the student or the student's team has been eliminated from further participation in a League tournament series.
  - 2) Students who have been eliminated from further participation in a League tournament series may participate as an individual or as a member of a non-school team in that sport.
- B. School Team Practice and Competition:  
The "end of season" shall be defined to be the last date of the state tournament in that sport.
- 1) Schools may continue to conduct practice and training for all squad members, including the students who have been eliminated from further individual competition in a League-sponsored series, until completion of the state tournament conducted by the League in that activity.
  - 2) Dual contests may be scheduled after the start of the official League tournament series providing the school does not exceed the maximum number of games/matches/meets permitted in that activity.
- C. No school may engage in any meet or meets, practice, training or other activities between the end of the season and the opening of the next season.
- D. During the Summer Vacation Period (Bylaw 208.3 Non-School Competition and Training—Team and Individual Sports) members of a high school team may participate on a non-school team and they may receive coaching or training from a salaried or non-salaried member of the student's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff in that sport provided the school has approved a summer coaching waiver for the coach or coaches of that sport.

**SUMMER:** For the purpose of MSHSL interpretation, summer shall be the period from the Saturday following the fourth Friday in May through Labor Day.

**Note:** Students may participate in activities during the summer, even though their high school sport season in the same sport has begun, i.e. students may play tennis tournaments or participate in road races through Labor Day.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

See [General Section](#) of the Athletic Rules and Policies Manual for information regarding the following:

Athletic Director's Checklist

Coaches Responsibility: Student Eligibility Checklist

Multiple Level Teams at Sub-Varsity Level

Official Squad Size

Revenue Sharing Plan for School Reimbursement

Substitution in MSHSL Tournaments

Weather Conditions (heat, cold & lightning)

## OFFICIAL MSHSL POLICIES FOR THE CONDUCT OF BOYS AND GIRLS GOLF

### MSHSL RULES MODIFICATIONS

**Electronic Policy:** Other than MSHSL-approved tournament personnel, the use of cell phones, pagers, and all other electronic communication devices by players during MSHSL regular-season and post-season competition is prohibited, and any player who receives information using electronic communication devices will be assessed a two-stroke penalty for each occurrence and the second occurrence will result in disqualification of the player. Continued violation of this policy will affect future competitions.

**CELL PHONES, SMART PHONES, OR OTHER SIMILAR COMMUNICATION TOOLS MAY NOT BE UTILIZED AS A DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICE IN ANY STIPULATED ROUND DURING THE HIGH SCHOOL GOLF SEASON** The use of a Distance-Measuring Device has been approved for use by high school players during the MSHSL high school golf season. However, said Distance-Measuring Device DOES NOT INCLUDE a cell phone/smart phone or any other device that is also used for communication purposes. Use of such device in any stipulated round will result in a two-stroke penalty for the first occurrence and the second occurrence will result in disqualification of the player.

Spectators who use cell phones or any other communication device on the course to communicate with players or coaches or to relay information to any other person on the course will be immediately removed from the facility. The future attendance at other MSHSL golf events may also be affected.

During the regular-season and at MSHSL-sponsored events, tournament personnel may determine that the possession of a cell phone or any other electronic communication device by a player during the course of a stipulated round will be assessed a two-stroke penalty for the first occurrence and the second occurrence will result in disqualification of the player unless the Committee deems the use of the cell phone or other communication device to be an emergency.

### DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES

Please note the following as found on pages 42 & 43 of the Rules of Golf.

Throughout the Boys' and Girls' High School Golf Season, as determined by the Rules of Golf, ***"A player may use equipment to help his or her play during a round, ... Common examples of uses of equipment that (is) allowed during a player's round under this Rule is: (1) Distance and Directional Information (such as from 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 play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 4-3a. PENALTY: first offense – two strokes; second offense – disqualification.***

Players are cautioned when purchasing or using a Distance-Measuring Device to ensure that the device meets the requirements as identified above. If a question arises in a match during the MSHSL High School Golf Season about the use of or type of Distance-Measuring Device, the penalty for the breach of Rule 4.3a will be applied as identified above.

### DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICE CLARIFICATION

Under the Rules of Golf, "Distance Measuring Devices" include range finders such as the Bushnell units, laser devices such as Laser Link, and GPS-based systems such as SkyCaddie, Callaway or Garmin. Any stand-alone device of any of these types is permitted under the Rules of Golf as long as it meets the other criteria.

### CODE OF CONDUCT

A player who uses **vulgar language**, throws a golf club, defaces the golf course in any way, or displays any other **unsportsmanlike conduct** will be assessed a **two-stroke penalty** for the first infraction. The second offense will result in **disqualification**. It is the obligation of the player to make the call on himself/herself. If she/he does not, it is the obligation of the other players in the group to call the penalty. If they do not call the penalty, all players in the group will be subject to **disqualification** under USGA Rule 1.2a (per Rule 20.1c(2)). All questions concerning the use of these penalties will be handled by the Rules Committee at the conclusion of the tournament.

A player may not ask for advice from **spectators** nor may the player give advice to another player. Once a player begins play, **spectators** must maintain a reasonable gallery distance from all players (approximately 25 yards is considered the minimum). Non-adherence may subject a player to the appropriate USGA rule penalty (i.e., advice) and non-players to be removed from the course by the Rules Committee.

**During the regular-season and post-season competition, coaches are expected to monitor play and SHALL NOT PRACTICE OR PLAY GOLF during the time competitors from their school are competing.**

During competition, a **golfer may not carry a ball on his/her person**, other than the ball in play. If another ball is to be used, the player must take the ball from his/her bag and announce to his/her group that a ball has been lost or that a second ball will be played. A golfer may not carry a ball in his/her pocket or have such ball on his/her person. The penalty for carrying a second ball will be two strokes per incident.

**CADDIES:** Caddies are not permitted.

Golfers **may not use a motorized cart** during the regular-season or during tournament competition. The only exception will be in the event that a student meets the criteria identified in federal law, the Americans with Disabilities Act. That diagnosis must be presented, in writing, to the Executive Director of the League, and the written response from the Executive Director must be presented at each competition when the exception to use a motorized cart is to be exercised.

Golfers **may use a non-motorized pull cart** during the regular-season or during tournament competition unless such use is prohibited by the golf course where the competition is played.

**PACE OF PLAY:** The following conditions and policies shall govern the MSHSL pace of play at all Subsection, Section and State Tournament play. The effective date of this regulation is June 1, 2007. The penalty for Breach of this Rule, in accordance with Rule 5.6a, is as follows: "Stroke Play: First offense - One stroke; Second offense - Two strokes, Subsequent offense - Disqualification."

**PLAYER'S RESPONSIBILITY:** A player must not unreasonably delay of play (Rule 5.6a), either when playing a hole or between two holes. Each player is responsible for his/her group's maintaining proper position on the course in relation to the rest of the field, and this is the standard expected by the MSHSL. Each group should be approximately one (1) starting interval behind the preceding group throughout the entire round. The position of the following group has no bearing in determining whether or not a player's pace of play is satisfactory. It is the responsibility of each player to be aware of his/her position on the golf course.

**DEFINITION OF "OUT OF POSITION":** A group will be considered to be out of position if it (a) has taken more time than has been allotted to reach that point on the course and (b) has a clear par 3 or par 4 in front of them, or the preceding group is on the putting green of a par 5 when the group in question arrives on the teeing ground. Both (a) and (b) must apply for a group to be out of position. A group is expected to keep up with the group in front of it.

**GROUP OUT OF POSITION:** A group that is out of position will automatically be under official warning. A verbal warning is not required for a group to be under official warning. If a group is out of position, it is subject to timing under the MSHSL Pace of Play Policy.

**TIMING:** A player is permitted 40 seconds to play a stroke. Any player taking an excess of 40 seconds to play a given shot, except in extraordinary circumstances, shall incur a penalty for undue delay as prescribed above. Timing starts when the player has a reasonable time to reach his/her ball, it is clearly the player's turn to play, and nothing interferes with the player's ability to play the stroke. Time taken for determining yardage, club selection, wind conditions, etc. will count against the player's overall time. On the putting green, timing begins after a player has had a reasonable amount of time to repair ball marks and remove loose impediments on the line of putt. Timing may start before a player has replaced the ball on the putting green.

## **DURING THE REGULAR-SEASON**

### **Four-Person Scorecards**

Participants will trade the official MSHSL scorecards at the beginning of each round so that each member of the foursome will be keeping another player's scorecard. Each participant would also keep the score of each member of the group during the round. This would be done by having each player announce his/her score to the group upon completion of the hole. At the completion of the round, each group of players will meet with a designated adult to verify all four players' scores.

The player and his/her marker **MUST** sign the scorecard at the completion of each 18-hole round. **ONLY** the player is responsible for his/her score, and no penalty shall be assessed at any time to a marker or to anyone else in the foursome unless the marker or other members of the foursome intentionally recorded a wrong score.

The League office has ordered an ample supply of four-player perforated scorecards similar to the ones used at the state tournament. Each hole is numbered, but no par or distance has been recorded. You can order these scorecards for \$10 per 100. Official MSHSL scorecards **MUST** be used at the sub-section and section golf tournaments. Both the player and the marker **MUST** sign the card at the completion of the round.

### **Coaching on the Course (TEAM)**

Coaching on the course is permitted, and each participating school may have one (1) head coach and one (1) assistant coach duly hired by the school board of that school, provide advice to the players from that school on the golf course **UNTIL THE PLAYER STEPS ON THE PUTTING SURFACE OF EACH HOLE. WHEN PROVIDING ADVICE, A COACH MUST NOT ENTER A BUNKER.**

### **Elite Athlete Eligibility for an Individual Event Not Sponsored by the National Governing Body for that Sport (updated 5/20/2010)**

Bylaw 207.1 indicates athletes who wish to participate in an Elite or National event sponsored by the USGA, golf's National Governing Body, must make application 30 days in advance of the event to the League for approval.

Bylaw 207.2 indicates that, "Athletes who are invited to participate in Elite National camps or Elite National tournaments which are not sponsored by that sport's National Governing Body may make application 30 days in advance of the event to the League for approval."

In order to participate, the following information must be submitted to the League office a minimum of 30 days in advance of the event by the Designated School Representative of the member school:

1. The completed Elite Athlete Form
2. A letter of invitation specifically inviting the athlete to participate in the identified event.
3. If, however, the event is a qualifier for the US Open or the MGA Players Championship, the required handicap for entry must be observed, and copy of the student's handicap must be submitted to the League with the participation application.
4. A complete description of the organization submitting the invitation including:
  - a. the event's connection to the USGA
  - b. the event's criteria for extending the invitation to the athlete
  - c. The website where information about the organization can be found.

If the above information has been submitted in a timely manner, the athlete may be permitted to participate in the event during the high school season provided, however, that

- No athlete may compete in more than sixteen (16) events (either 9 hole or 18 hole matches) during the high school season. If the athlete's school has scheduled a 36-hole tournament, the athlete may participate in an outside 36-hole event if he/she has not/will not participate in the 36-hole event scheduled by the athlete's school.
- Each 18-hole event, whether played with the athlete's high school team or in an MSHSL approved outside event, will count as one of the athlete's maximum sixteen (16) team events during the high school season. (i.e., A 36-hole event will count as two (2) 18-hole events; a 54-hole event will count as three (3) 18-hole events.) The US Open and MGA Open qualifying events **do not** count as one (1) of the sixteen (16) golf matches during the season.
- A 9-hole golf match scheduled by the school will count as one (1) of the school's sixteen (16) regular-season events, and a combination of 9-hole events may not be used to gain additional golf matches.
- Athletes are limited to a maximum of two (2) outside events during the high school season that have met with MSHSL approval.

Some conferences only permit their schools to play 9-hole matches, while others allow 18-hole matches. And, in some cases, schools will participate in a 36 hole event. So that there can be no mistake about how these matches count toward the total number of matches allowed, please note the following.

Each school may only have one (1) varsity team.

- If a varsity team plays a 9-hole or an 18-hole match on the same day and scores are kept and a winner is identified, that match counts as one (1) of the 16 allowable matches for the season.
- **EVERY TIME** a school's varsity team plays a golf match that match counts as one (1) of the 16 allowable matches for the year. **If a school JV or "B" squad team plays against any varsity team the match counts as a varsity match for both teams. (Bylaw 411-4-F)**

- Each school may have a JV and/or “B” squad team(s). Each team is limited to a maximum of 16 matches during the year.
- Each player is limited to a maximum of 16 matches, whether the matches are varsity, JV or “B” squad, during each golf season.
- If a school plays a 2 day/36-hole match/tournament the school could count the match as one (1) regular-season match
  - **PROVIDED THAT** the two days on which the match/tournament is played are consecutive; and
  - **ALL TEAMS** that played on Day 1 must also play on Day 2 of the 36-hole match/tournament; and
  - **ALL PLAYERS** on all the teams in the 36-hole match/tournament must be the same players listed as team members on both days of the scheduled match/tournament and a final score and a winner is identified; and
  - **ALL SCHOOLS** must have the 2-day/36 hole match/tournament listed on their season scheduled and posted on their school page on the MSHSL website.

If any of the items above are missing, the event will count as two (2) matches for all schools in the match/tournament.

### ***TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS REGULAR-SEASON GOLF MATCHES***

A regular-season match/tournament is not considered to be completed unless all players have played a minimum of nine (9) holes and if the nine (9) holes completed are the same holes for each player.

Golf matches consist of 9-18-27-or 36 holes provided that all players have played the same holes and scores for those same holes are recorded for all players.

In cases of interruptions or delays due to emergency circumstances or weather conditions, scores will become official and will count in the final standings when all entries have completed the same 9-holes and any subsequent holes-in-common whereas those same holes are recorded for all players.

### ***TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS GOLF TOURNAMENTS***

**DURING SUB-SECTION, SECTION AND STATE TOURNAMENT COMPETITIONS:** Participants will trade the official MSHSL scorecards at the beginning of each round so that each member of the foursome will be keeping another player's scorecard. At the completion of each hole, the player will announce his/her score for that hole to his/her marker. If there is a question regarding the number of strokes played on any hole, the marker (1) may use the other players in the foursome to recount the strokes for the player in question or (2) may announce to the group that he/she has a rules/stroke question that will need to be addressed to the rule interpreter before the scorecard is signed. The player may meet with a sub-section, section or state identified adult to verify each scorecard at the completion of the round. The player and his/her marker must sign the scorecard at the completion of each 18-hole round.

#### **CLASSES**

Tournaments in golf shall be conducted in three classes, A, AA and AAA.

#### **UNIFORM REQUIREMENT**

Coaches are responsible for proper team attire.

- A. Clothing must be appropriate to golf. No clothing or hats displaying products that are inappropriate to MSHSL principles will be acceptable.
- B. No running shorts, short shorts or cut-offs are acceptable.
- C. Shirts must be worn. Tank tops are not acceptable.
- D. Shoes shall be worn.
- E. Coaches should encourage uniformity in team dress.
- F. Collared shirts are preferred and, in some cases, are required by golf courses.

#### **LENGTH OF PLAY**

##### **SECTIONS**

Unless otherwise provided, a minimum of 36-holes must be played.

#### **SUB-SECTION AND SECTION TOURNAMENTS**

Thirty-six (36) holes will be scheduled for play. In the event of emergency circumstances or inclement weather, the Tournament Director, in consultation with the committee, may adjust the number of holes that will be played.

In cases of interruptions or delays due to emergency circumstances or weather conditions, scores will become official and will count in the final standings when all entries have completed the same 9-holes and any subsequent holes-in-common whereas those same holes are recorded for all players. Tie-breaker criteria will utilize these adjusted scores to determine a winner as applicable.

## **FIRST-LEVEL TOURNAMENTS**

Sub-section; or section, if no sub-section tournaments are conducted.

### *Entries*

Each member school may enter from one (1) to six (6) individuals in the tournament.

### *Individual Competition:*

All contestants are eligible to win a place in the individual portion of the tournament.

### *Team Competition:*

A team shall consist of a minimum of four (4) players and a maximum of six (6) players in the tournament.

### *Team Scoring:*

The score of a team shall be determined by combining the scores of the four (4) lowest finishers on the team during each day of the tournament. The team with the lowest aggregate four (4) scores is the winner.

## **SUBSTITUTION IN LEAGUE TOURNAMENTS**

### **A. ~~Disqualification/Withdrawals during Tournament Play Certification and Substitutions for Team Sports~~**

If a player is disqualified or withdraws (DQ/WD) from a round in a team competition in which not all scores count towards the team's total score, the DQ/WD applies only to that round of the competition. As such, the DQ/WD player may return to play in the State Tournament if their respective team qualifies and that player would be eligible to compete for individual tournament honors.

However, if a player is disqualified/ejected for failing to meet the Code of Conduct standards under USGA Rule 1.2b or MSHSL bylaws, that player will be ineligible for the duration of time/events as stipulated in bylaw 206.00.

#### **Clarification to Certification of Roster to the Committee**

Team Rosters for Section Tournaments may be altered up to 30 minutes prior to the first scheduled tee time unless otherwise stipulated by the Section Manager and/or Administrative Region. Once this time has passed, substitutions are not permitted except under the following conditions:

After an official squad for a tournament has been certified to the governing committee, substitutions are not permitted except under the following conditions:

1. That a physician indicates that a student listed on the certified roster must not participate.
  - a. This student may be returned to the tournament squad upon certification, in writing, by the physician to the governing committee.
  - b. When such a player is returned to the tournament squad, the player replaces the substitute.
2. That the governing committee determines that a justifiable emergency indicates a need for the withdrawal of a certified player.
  - a. This student may be returned to the tournament squad upon certification, in writing, by the physician to the governing committee.
  - b. When such a player is returned to the tournament squad, the player replaces the substitute.

The State Tournament Roster is certified to the Committee upon verification of the Section Tournament Results by the Section Committee. Only substitutions as identified above will be honored for State Tournament play once the Section Tournament Results have been certified.

### **B. Certification and Substitution for Team/Individual Sports With Combined Championships**

After an official squad for a section tournament in cross country running, Nordic ski racing, **and golf** has been certified to the governing committee of that tournament, substitutions for that tournament and for the state tournament are not permitted except as specified under A. 1-2 above. Team and individual members who participate in the section meet and advance to the state meet as an individual or team member are eligible for individual awards at the state meet.

### **C. Substitutions for Individual Sports**

Substitutions may occur prior to the start of the first round of competition at the first-level tournament -- subsection tournament; or section when no subsection tournament is conducted.

## **TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURE FOR ADVANCEMENT FROM SUB-SECTION TO SECTION OR FROM SECTION TO THE STATE TOURNAMENT**

Unless otherwise established, the following tie-breaking procedures will apply:

### **A. Individual Competition:**

If at the end of regulation play, a tie exists, the individuals involved will play sudden death until the tie is broken. The tie-breaking procedure will not be used if scores are tied and no advancement is required.

### **B. Team Competition:**

If at the end of regulation play a tie exists for first place, the following criteria shall be applied in the order listed to determine the winning team if the tied score is based on the same 36 holes at the same course.

1. Add the five (5) lowest scores of the players of each of the tied teams. The team with the lowest total will be determined the winner (i.e., add the score of Player 5 on Day 1 and the score of Player 5 on Day 2. Add that total to the total score of Players 1-4 on Day 1 and Players 1-4 on Day 2).
2. If the score is still tied, add the six (6) scores of each of the players of the tied teams, and the team with the lowest total will be determined the winner (i.e., same process as number 1 above).
3. If the score is still tied, add the three (3) lowest scores of each of the players of the tied teams, and the team with the lowest total will be determined the winner.
4. If the score is still tied, add the two (2) lowest scores of each of the players of the tied teams, and the team with the lowest total will be determined the winner.
5. If the score is still tied, compare the lowest score of each of the players of each of the tied teams, and team with the lowest single score will be determined the winner.
6. If the score still remains tied, a sudden death playoff shall be conducted. The playoff will include the six (6) team members of each of the tied teams. Scoring shall be four lowest scores and, if necessary, criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 in order.

**If the tied scored is based only on the second 18-holes because the section qualifiers have advanced from different sub-section tournament courses, only the score from the final 18-holes will be applied to the tie-breaking procedure above.**

## **ADVANCEMENT TO SECTION TOURNAMENTS**

Each Administrative Region Committee shall determine the number of sub-sections for each class for which they are responsible. The Region Committee shall also determine the number of teams and individuals who will advance from the sub-section to the section tournament.

## **TOURNAMENT ADVANCEMENT**

Team and individual members who participate in the sub-section and section meets and advance to the state meet as an individual or team member are eligible for individual awards at the state meet.

## **AWARDS**

### **SUB-SECTION:**

- A. Medals will be awarded to each member of the 1st-place team (6), and to the 1st-, 2nd-, 3rd-, 4th- and 5th-place individuals.
- B. Medals will be awarded to tournament qualifiers who do not finish in places 1-5 and who are not members of the winning team, but who will advance to the section tournament. These medals are for individual tournament qualifiers ONLY. If a member of a qualifying team has received a medal but does not finish in the top five (5) individual rankings, that team member does not receive a tournament-qualifier medal. It is possible that a golfer may receive two medals (i.e., one of the five players with the lowest score who also is a member of the winning team).
- C. Trophies will be awarded to the 1st- and 2nd-place teams.

It is a violation of MSHSL Policy for a member school or a representative of a member school to establish, distribute or accept any awards not provided by the MSHSL for subsection, section or state tournaments.

## **SECTION GOLF TOURNAMENTS**

**FINAL SECTION TOURNAMENT DATE:** The final date to schedule a Section Tournament is **Tuesday, June 4, 2019.**

## **ADVANCEMENT**

Sections may permit all schools sponsoring golf teams to advance directly to the Section Tournament and not sponsor separate sub-section tournaments. In this event, the policies for first-level tournaments shall apply.

## **ENTRIES**

**Individual Competition:** All participants who advance from the first level of tournament play are eligible to compete for individual honors. Only one (1) wristband will be provided for a school coach, regardless of the number of individual entries from a school.

**Team Competition:** Only the first-place team from each first level tournament is eligible to compete for team honors. A team shall consist of a minimum of four (4) players and a maximum of six (6) players. The score of the team shall be determined by combining the four (4) lowest scores of the six (6) team members during each day of the tournament. The team with the lowest aggregate score is the winner. Two (2) wristbands will be provided for one (1) head coach and one (1) duly hired assistant coach.

Each person providing advice to the players from the school must be identified to the Committee prior to the start of the round.

**All qualifiers for each level of tournament play are eligible to win individual honors.**

## **AWARDS**

### **SECTION:**

- A. Medals will be awarded to each member of the 1st- and 2nd-place teams (6), and to the 1st-, 2nd-, 3rd-, 4th- and 5th-place individuals.
- B. Medals will be awarded to tournament qualifiers (3) who do not finish in places 1-5 and who are not members of the winning team, but who will advance to the state tournament. These medals are for individual tournament qualifiers ONLY. If a member of a qualifying team has received a medal but does not finish in the top five (5) individual rankings, that team member does not receive a tournament-qualifier medal. It is possible that a golfer may receive two medals (i.e., one of the five players with the lowest score who also is a member of the winning team).
- C. Trophies will be awarded to the 1st- and 2nd-place teams.

## **STATE TOURNAMENT QUALIFYING SCHOOL INFORMATION**

Specific information for qualifying schools is available on the MSHSL Administrative Web Site under Tournament Information.

## **RESPONSIBILITY FOR SPECTATOR CONDUCT (8/9/05)**

In order to elevate standards of sportsmanship and encourage the growth of responsible citizenship among the students, member schools, fans and school personnel, the MSHSL held a Sportsmanship Summit and asked student participants to identify behavior expectations they felt should be in place at every school event.

These minimum behavior expectations provide a foundation upon which member schools, conferences, administrative regions and the League's Board of Directors can build specific guidelines for activities under their control.

**MSHSL Bylaw 409, RESPONSIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATING TEAMS, STUDENTS AND SPECTATORS**, speaks to this issue, directly, and Bylaw 409-2 specifically states that, "School officials shall be held responsible for the proper conduct of teams, team members, students and home spectators regardless of where the contest is being held."

In all MSHSL activities, each participating school shall designate a person or persons from that school to serve as crowd control supervisors or chaperones. MSHSL tournament staff may require school administrators to contact the tournament manager prior to the start of the tournament game so that they can be immediately contacted to respond to behavioral issues regarding their team members, students and/or spectators at the tournament site. Each supervisor or chaperone should be immediately identifiable to the students and to the tournament site ushers and other security personnel. This will help to coordinate crowd control between school supervisors and tournament site personnel.

## **MSHSL MINIMAL BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS FOR REGULAR AND POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT COMPETITIONS:**

Respect the American flag and the National Anthem.

Spectators must wear clothing that covers the entire torso. Those who do not comply or who wear clothing that is vulgar, obscene or that in some other way inappropriate, as determined by school/tournament personnel, will be removed from the arena/stadium if they do not cooperate with this behavior expectation.

The use of appropriate language is expected at all times. Profanity, negative chants, booing, trash talk, name calling, personal attacks or other acts of disrespect are unacceptable and must be immediately addressed by school and/or tournament administrators.

Respect the game/contest. Under no condition shall anyone other than the members of the official squad enter the playing surface. No one may interfere with the contest in any way.

Hand held signs, which do not obstruct the view of others, will be permitted provided they are in good taste. Signs, message boards, "white" boards or other similar items contest/tournament officials deem to be in poor taste will be removed.

Artificial noise makers (i.e. megaphones, cowbells, sirens, whistles, thunder sticks, and other similar items) are not allowed.

Laser lights are strictly prohibited.

**THANK YOU for supporting your student athletes and fine arts participants and for providing a positive environment in which educational activities are conducted.**

## **STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**INFORMATION FOR ALL STATE TOURNAMENT INDIVIDUALS AND TEAM CAN BE FOUND ON THE GOLF COACHES CLIPBOARD.**

### **ENTRIES**

*Individual Competition:* All participants who advance from the first level of tournament play are eligible to compete for individual honors. Only one (1) wristband will be provided for a school coach, regardless of the number of individual entries from a school.

#### *Team Competition:*

Only the qualifying team(s) from each first-level tournament is (are) eligible to compete for team honors. A team shall consist of a minimum of four (4) players and a maximum of six (6) players. The score of the team shall be determined by combining the four (4) lowest scores of the six (6) team members during each day of the tournament. The team with the lowest aggregate score is the winner. Two (2) wristbands will be provided for one (1) head coach and one (1) duly hired assistant coach.

All qualifiers for each level of tournament play are eligible to win individual honors.

**SITES AND SCHEDULE:** The state tournament sites, practice rounds and tournament information can be found on the **Coaches Clipboard** on the League's website.

**REGISTRATION:** State Tournament qualifiers **MUST** be accompanied by the coach or a member of the faculty officially assigned by the school. The coach must register and pick up the registration envelope at the course prior to the player's first tee time.

**STATE TOURNAMENT ROSTER:** The State Tournament Roster is certified to the Committee upon verification of the Section Tournament Results by the Section Committee. Only substitutions as identified above will be honored for State Tournament play once the Section Tournament Results have been certified.

### **START OF PLAY**

All players in the State Golf Tournaments will be assigned a tee time by the League office.

Player foursomes will be re-assigned for the second day.

Starters will supervise tee boxes on the "front and back" tees.

Uniform requirements will be strictly enforced.

**SCORECARDS:** Participants will trade scorecards at the beginning of each round so that each member of the foursome will be keeping another player's scorecard.

The player and his/her marker **MUST** sign the scorecard at the completion of each 18-hole round.

Thirty-six (36) holes will be scheduled for play. In the event of emergency circumstances or inclement weather, the Tournament Director, in consultation with the committee, may adjust the number of holes that will be played.

In cases of interruptions or delays due to emergency circumstances or weather conditions, scores will become official and will count in the final standings when all entries have completed the same 18-holes and any subsequent holes-in-common whereas those same holes are recorded for all players.

#### **TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURE**

**Individual and Team Competition:** Ties in the state tournament will not be broken. Duplicate medals and/or trophies will be awarded as follows:

**Individual Competition:** If there are ties for the first eight places in the individual scoring, duplicate medals will be awarded.

**Team Competition:** If there is a tie for the first three places in the team scoring, duplicate medals and trophies will be awarded.

**TEAM SCORING:** The score of a team shall be determined by combining the four (4) lowest scores of the six (6) members for each day of the competition. The team with the lowest score is the winner. If only one day of golf can be played, the four (4) lowest scores of the six team members would be the team score.

**REPORTING SCORES:** Players should report their scores after 9 and 18 holes to the Official Scorers who will be located between the 9th and 10th and 18th and 1st holes, respectively. This will enable the scorers to post results on the leader board.

**AWARDS CEREMONIES:** Award ceremonies will follow the completion of the play at each tournament site.

#### **AWARDS**

##### **STATE:**

- A. Certificates of participation will be presented to each participant in the State Tournament.
- B. Certificates of recognition will be presented to the head coach of each team.
- C. Medals will be awarded to each member (6) of the 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-place teams and the top eight (8) individual finishers.
- D. Medals will be awarded to the head coach of the 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-place teams.
- E. Trophies will be awarded to the 1st-, 2nd- and 3rd-place teams.