

**2020-2021****MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE**

Golf, Boys and Girls

Guidance and information is subject to change based on the most current information, directives from state government and health department officials and member school feedback.

Golf

- Start date: Monday, March 29, 2021
- First competition date: Thursday, April 8, 2021
- Last date of sections: Tuesday, June 8, 2021
- Season end date: Wednesday, June 16, 2021
- Total weeks including postseason: 12 weeks
- Maximum number of regular season contests: 16

- Contests per week as per bylaw and policy.
- Number of teams per contest determined by facility.

- Not permitted:
 - Tournaments, invitationals
 - Interscholastic scrimmages
 - Jamborees

- Recommended:
 - Opponents: Conference, Section, Regional or local teams as defined by the school.
 - Avoid contests scheduled on back-to-back days.

- Competitions with opponents from bordering states are allowed when less than 50 miles one way and when determined as local. Competitions of greater distances may be approved by the MSHSL with supporting rationale. Any out of state competition must follow MSHSL guidelines for competition types.

Golf, Boys & Girls Guidance and Information

General Guidelines

Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All student-athletes must be provided with a copy of the MSHSL COVID-19 Notice. • Athletic programs must follow the identified protocols for student-athletes or coaches who have tested positive, are experiencing symptoms consistent with a COVID-19 diagnosis or have had exposure to (close contact with) an individual who has been diagnosed with COVID-19. • Educate student-athletes about mask use, physical distancing, handwashing and sanitizer use, and other immune system protocols. • Any person who has had a fever or cold symptoms in the previous 24 hours must not be allowed to take part in workouts and should contact his or her primary care provider or other appropriate healthcare professional.
Recommendations and Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical distancing is recommended when possible. • Teams are encouraged to find appropriate methods of demonstrating good sportsmanship and respect towards others while physical distancing. • Additional care should be taken when addressing contest officials with questions or seeking interpretations. At no time, other than in the natural course of competition, should a coach or student-athlete violate the required physical distance with an official. Any coach or student-athlete who verbally interacts with an official must do so with a mask on and at a safe distance.

Locker Room Use

- Whenever possible it is recommended that locker rooms or similar indoor spaces not be used.
- If locker rooms/indoor spaces are to be used:
 - Student-athletes must only enter the locker room/indoor space with their designated pod (Varsity, JV, B-Squad, etc.)
 - The locker room/indoor space must be completely empty prior to it being utilized by a new pod.
 - Student-athletes must maintain social distancing of 6 feet.
 - Student-athletes must wear an appropriate mask/face covering.
 - If the locker room/indoor space is not large enough to provide appropriate social distancing of 6 feet for the entire pod, then the pod must be divided into smaller groups that allow proper social distancing.
 - The locker room/indoor space must be sanitized after the complete pod has exited.
- If student-athletes are in distance learning they should arrive at the venue for practice dressed for practice.
- If student-athletes are in distance learning they should arrive at the venue dressed in uniform ready for

competition.

- It is recommended that student-athletes shower at home after practice or competition. However, if school showers are to be used:
 - Student-athletes must maintain social distancing of 6 feet.
 - If the locker room is not large enough to provide appropriate social distancing of 6 feet for the entire pod then the pod must be divided into smaller groups that allow proper social distancing.

Masks/Face Coverings

Outdoor Masks/Face Coverings for Student-Athletes, Coaches, Officials, Spectators:

Not Required:

- Masks/face coverings **are not required** for student-athletes, coaches, officials or spectators in outdoor contests and practices.

Recommended:

- Masks/face coverings are recommended for participants who are not actively participating.

Indoor Masks/Face Coverings for Student-Athletes, Coaches, Officials, Spectators:

Required:

- Masks/face coverings are required for student-athletes, coaches, officials and spectators in any sports practices or competitions that are held in school buildings and/or other indoor facilities where high school athletic events are being held.
- Masks/face coverings are required for any outdoor sports for student-athletes, coaches, officials or spectators when practicing or competing indoors in school buildings and/or other indoor facilities where high school athletic events are being held.

Practice

Practice: Preparation

Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student-athletes, coaches, and team personnel must confirm that they are symptom free. These confirmations must be aligned with the CDC's "Coronavirus Self-Checker" or current recommendations. • A record must be kept of all student-athletes and team personnel at each practice session to allow for contact tracing.
Recommendations and Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning and sanitization of spaces and equipment should be completed frequently. • Student-athletes should provide their own pre-filled, labeled water bottles.

Practice: Equipment	
Required	
Recommendations and Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No touch distribution and collection methods of equipment are encouraged. Equipment must not be shared to the extent that it is possible.
Practice	
Required	
Recommendations and Considerations	
Competition	
Competition: Site Set Up	
Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See MSHSL Event and Facility Management Guidance and Information for additional requirements.
Recommendations and Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the needs of contest personnel and reduce the number whenever possible. When possible, spectators should be separated from student-athletes and restricted to areas outside of the competition area.
Competition: Pre-Contest	
Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A record must be kept of all participants at each contest. Student-athletes, coaches and other team personnel must be screened daily. Each team is responsible for their own screening. The host school must communicate information to the visiting team ahead of time. This includes entrance information, areas to store items etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formatting of the event should be communicated in advance to avoid large numbers of competitors congregating in the same area. Designate times and a rotation for utilizing the driving range or the practice green to provide adequate distancing. If a shotgun start is used, communicate which hole each athlete will start on so that the athlete can make their way to that hole without congregating near the clubhouse or other areas of the course. Arrival for tee times should be staggered to adhere to proper

	distancing.
Recommendations and Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas for video, web-streaming or televising should be designated prior to the contest and sanitized. • Set up tee times in iWanamaker to allow for touchless scoring at the event. • Additional signage may be necessary to identify restricted spectator areas. <u>See Signage for Facilities and Events.</u>
Competition: Contest	
Required	
Recommendations and Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before, during, and after competition, student-athletes, coaches, and personnel should wash their hands as frequently as possible. • Student-athletes should avoid common touch points such as flags, golf ball washers and scorecards. • It is recommended that coaches limit the use of carts and if carts are used, only one coach per cart. • It is recommended that schools utilize iWanamaker to score events in lieu of paper scorecards. • Competitors from the same four(or fewer) schools compete as part of all foursomes versus straight “seedings” or rankings
Competition: Post-Contest	
Required	
Recommendations and Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams and coaches should consider ways to show physically distanced post-game appreciation for opponents.

Resources:

- [COVID-19 Sports Practice Guidance for Youth and Adults](#)-Minnesota Department of Health
- [COVID-19 Youth and Adult Sports Guidance](#) Minnesota Department of Health
- [CDC Sports Guidance](#)



Minnesota State High School League

COVID-19 NOTICE: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

In accordance with governmental directives, the MSHSL will offer certain activities subject to compliance with local, state, and federal laws, regulations, and guidelines. The Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Department of Education and the MSHSL have developed guidance and requirements related to youth sports, use of school facilities and modifications of MSHSL activities designed to keep participants safe and reduce the spread of COVID-19. Even with these measures, the MSHSL cannot guarantee that student-athletes or other individuals participating in organized athletic activities ("Participants") will not be exposed to COVID-19. Participants and their parents/legal guardians should consider the risks before participating in any MSHSL activities. It is a shared responsibility to protect everyone from COVID-19 and Participants should follow State/CDC guidelines to reduce the risk of exposure, including but not limited to the following:

- Stay home as much as possible;
- Stay at least 6 feet from other people if you are in public places;
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Wash your hands often, with soap and water. Wash for at least 20 seconds;
 - Always wash your hands after being in a public place;
 - Always wash your hands after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing;
 - If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol;
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue. Throw used tissues in the trash;
- Wear masks/face coverings that cover your nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides of your face.

In recognizing the serious nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and the positive impact that participation in MSHSL fine arts activities and athletics has on student-athletes participants, it is imperative that student-athletes and families know and understand the following:

1. Participating in MSHSL activities is **voluntary**.
2. While participating in MSHSL activities, all laws as well as MSHSL and school rules, guidelines, and protocols related to COVID-19 must be followed.
3. Participant acknowledges the contagious nature of COVID-19, and the Participant understands that there is risk of injury and/or illness from participating in MSHSL activities, including the risk to have direct or indirect contact with individuals who have been exposed to and/or diagnosed with COVID-19.
4. Participant agrees that if he/she is exposed to, or infected by, COVID-19 during the period of participation, they will immediately cease participation and follow Minnesota Department of Health protocols for schools and activities. The MSHSL Graduated Return to Sport protocol is recommended following a diagnosis.
5. Participant has signed a separate Eligibility Statement connected to general participation in MSHSL athletics/activities and agrees that the terms of that statement are wholly incorporated into this document and that the terms of this document are incorporated into the Eligibility Statement.

Additional information regarding Activity Participation and COVID can be found at:

- health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sportsguide.pdf,
- health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/k12planguide.pdf
- www.mshsl.org
- www.nfhs.org