

## Article V – Golf

1. PRACTICE
  - A. “Organized Practice” is defined as a practice which is attended by the players and a coach, and at which the coach directs, instructs and drills the player, players and/or the whole team.
  - B. Practice shall not be held on Sundays or Christmas.
2. STARTING DATES (BOYS) — No organized practice for all levels may begin prior to a date established by the CCS — See page 11.
3. STARTING DATES (GIRLS) — No organized practice for seniors, juniors or sophomores may begin prior to Friday of the 6th week of the annual NFHS/CCS Official Calendar. See page 11.
4. STARTING DATES FOR FRESHMEN (GIRLS) — No organized practice for Freshmen Girls may begin until the Wednesday after the other levels start practice.
5. COACHING STAFF LIMIT — The maximum number of coaches, paid or volunteer, for golf is 2 for each gender.
6. GAMES AND GAME LIMITS
  - A. It is considered to be a “game” whenever two schools meet in any competition in any CIF-approved sport. The game limit for golf is:
    - Varsity: 18 Matches and 2 scrimmages
    - Junior Varsity: 18 Matches and 2 scrimmages
  - B. A tournament counts as the minimum number of contests guaranteed.
  - C. An alumni contest shall not be included in the game limit of any sport.
  - D. Matches shall not be played on Sundays and Christmas.
  - E. All matches shall be played according to the USGA Rules of Golf.
7. STARTING TIMES

Matches on both the varsity and JV levels are to begin at 3:00 during DST and 2:30 during standard time, or the time dictated by the golf course. Starting times for all matches shall be designated on all schedules and must be observed under the penalty of forfeiture. Game times and/or locations can be changed by mutual agreement from each school’s Athletic Director and WCAL Commissioner approval.
8. SCRIMMAGES
  - A. A scrimmage is defined as a practice or athletic exhibition wherein teams from different schools participate and compete, without the benefit of paid officials, timers, or scorers, and no admission is charged.
  - B. A scrimmage shall not involve any costs whatsoever.
  - C. All scrimmages must be listed on a school’s official sports schedule if they are scheduled before the season begins. If a scrimmage is scheduled after the official schedule is printed and distributed, all member schools and the League Office shall be notified within 24 hours.
  - D. All scrimmages shall be included in the official game limit set for each team in each sport.
  - E. Scrimmages may be scouted.
9. SCHEDULE (BOYS)
  - A. A double round robin League schedule shall be played each year by the Varsity and JV teams.
10. SCHEDULE (GIRLS)
  - A. A double round robin League schedule shall be played each year by the Varsity and JV teams.

## 11. ELIGIBILITY

- A. Moving Up OK, But No Downward Movement After League Begins: No player of a team whose name appears on an eligibility list may be moved to a team of lower classification after the League starts, even though he/she may not have played in nor suited up for a League game. A player may be moved up to a team of a higher classification at any time during the season and his/her name shall be added to the official eligibility list as soon as possible, with proper and prompt notice to the other schools.
- B. Temporary Moves to The Varsity: Once League play begins, a player on a lower-level team may be moved to the varsity team on a temporary basis for up to two non-league contests. Specific approval from the Commissioner must be obtained in advance. The player is considered to have moved up regardless of whether he/she plays in the contest. The maximum number of contests for the season for that player cannot be exceeded.
- C. Seniors: Senior athletes are not eligible for junior varsity competition.

## 12. SPORT-SPECIFIC RULES

- A. Levels of Competition
  - Boys – There shall be Varsity and Junior Varsity competition.
  - Girls – There shall be Varsity and Junior Varsity competition.
- B. Team Composition
  - A team for League competition shall consist of a minimum of five to a maximum of six players.

## 13. POSTPONEMENTS

- A. League Dual Matches — These matches, whether postponed beforehand or after matches begin, shall be rescheduled by the host school, after notifying the Commissioner, at the earliest possible date. Postponed matches must be made up before the League tournament.
- B. League Tournament — The tournament shall be rescheduled at the earliest possible date by the Golf Chairman under the direction of the Commissioner.

## 14. ROUND ROBIN COMPETITION

- A. The winner of the round robin competition shall be determined by a point system as follows:
  - 1. Two (2) points for a game won.
  - 2. One (1) point for a game tied.
  - 3. Zero (0) points for a game lost.
- B. Scoring for both men's and women's matches shall be medal play with the team winner determined by the lowest total of the five best scores from the six players' gross scores. This will be the scoring format unless a different format is mandated by the Central Coast Section.
- C. In the women's League a maximum score for each hole shall be double the par for that hole.
- D. If adverse conditions exist through a course and coaches believe "preferred lies" or "winter rules" would promote fair play or help protect the course, they may choose to do so. However, if the coaches agree to "preferred lies" or to "winter rules," it should be in detail and should be interpreted by the coaches, as there is no established code for "winter rules." See the USGA Rules of Golf for guidelines. If the participating coaches disagree as to what rules should be played, the rules of play shall be decided by the coach of the home team. Again, adherence to USGA Rules of Golf is encouraged.
- E. In accordance with USGA Rules, all players must putt out no matter how close the ball may be to the hole in all dual matches and in the WCAL tournament.
- F. Flagrant violation or "apparent violation" of any rule(s) of play either in League dual matches or in the WCAL League tournament must be confronted before players start the next hole.
- G. The USGA Rules shall govern procedures for determining individual scores in League dual matches and in the WCAL tournament. The competitor shall check his/her score for each hole, settle any doubtful points with the match director or the committee, ensure that the marker has signed the card, countersign the card himself/herself, and return it to the match director or the committee as soon as possible.

The competitor is responsible for the correctness of the score recorded for each hole while the match director or tournament committee is responsible for the addition of the scores.

- H. Caddies shall not be permitted in dual matches and/or League tournament. However, the players are allowed to use pull carts in both dual matches and the League tournament. Electronic rangefinders that measure distance only are permitted in League matches.
- I. The number of holes to be played at a dual match shall be agreed upon by the coaches before the match begins, but a minimum of nine holes must be played:
  - 1. If less than nine holes are played because of weather or darkness, a rematch shall be necessary. (See “Postponements” above.)
  - 2. If the number of holes agreed upon beforehand exceeds nine, but that number of holes cannot be played, the scores of the players’ first nine holes shall determine the winner.
- J. Dual matches which end in a tie shall not be played off.

15. DETERMINING THE CHAMPIONSHIP FOR GIRLS’ GOLF AND AUTOMATIC ENTRY INTO THE CCS

- A. Round Robin Champions — The team that has the highest number of points after the League season shall be declared the round robin champion. The winner of each match shall receive two points. If a match ends in a tie each team shall be awarded one point. In the event that two or more teams tie for the most points in the round robin, the championship shall be determined as follows:
  - 1. If two teams tie for the round robin championship and one team has a better overall record against the other team in head to head competition that team shall be declared round robin champion.
  - 2. In the event that two teams tie and both teams have defeated or tied the other in head to head competition then both teams shall be declared co-champions of the round robin. The team with the most number of combined points from the round robin and the League championship tournament shall be declared the #1 seed to CCS.
  - 3. If more than two teams tie for the round robin championship the champion shall be the team with the greatest number of points within the tie. If a tie cannot be broken this way there will be no round robin champion, and the automatic entry into CCS, and the sole League champion, will be the team with the highest number of combined points from the round robin and the League championship tournament.
- B. Tournament Champion — A tournament shall be held at the end of the season to determine a tournament champion, and also resolve the automatic entry into CCS. The tournament shall involve all League teams, and points will be awarded to each team depending upon how they finish in the League championship tournament. The team that wins the league tournament shall be declared a co-champion with the team that won the round robin.
- C. Automatic Entry into CCS for Girls— The automatic entry into the CCS tournament will be the team that has the highest number of points after combining the points from the round robin schedule with points received in the League championship tournament.

Points in the round robin will be awarded by how teams finish in the round robin standing based upon the number of teams participating within the league, then doubling the actual number of points. For example, if seven teams play in the round robin the winner would receive 7 points for first place, and then those points would be doubled making the winner of the round robin having 14 points. Second place would receive 6 points doubled, or 12 points, etc.

Teams that tie for a spot in the standing would split the points for all the places that are tied. Assume two teams tie for second place and third place. Those two teams would split 12 points for second place and 10 points for third place giving each team 11 points.

Additional points would be added to all the teams based upon how they finish in the League Tournament. For example, if seven teams play in the League Tournament, the winner gets 7 points; second place 6 points, etc. Teams that tie would split the total points for all places tied the same as round robin. Assume two teams tie for second in the Tournament. They would split second and third place points - 6 points for second, 5 points for third giving each team 5½ points each.

Once the Tournament is finished we combine all the points each team has accumulated, and the team with the highest number of combined points is the Automatic Entry into the CCS Tournament. The first at-large entry to the CCS would be the team that has the next highest number of combined points, Second At-Large entry to CCS would be the next team with the highest number of points, etc.

- D. Entries to the CCS Tournament in the Event the League Tournament is Not Held – In the event the year-end tournament is cancelled due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, the individual players who are to be selected to the CCS tournament who are not on qualifying teams will be selected as follows:
1. Coaches from all the League teams may nominate any of their qualified players for consideration for selection.
  2. All the League coaches will discuss the nominees and vote to list the players in order of preference for selection as the individuals to the CCS tournament.

16. LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP, CCS SEEDINGS, AND INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- A. For boys, the round robin winner shall be declared a co-champion with the winner of the league tournament. The round robin winner is the #1 seed to CCS, and the winner of the league tournament is the #2 seed to CCS.
- B. For both boys and girls, the individual champion shall be the player who shoots the lowest score during the League championship tournament.
- C. In case of ties among teams or individuals in the League championship tournament, ties shall be broken as follows: First tie-breaker shall be the total scores for the back nine holes; if still tied the second tie-breaker shall be the total scores for the last six holes on the back nine; if still tied the next-tie breaker shall be the total scores on the 18th hole. If a tie still exists, the tie shall be broken by chance (flip of a coin by the Commissioner).
- D. For boys, in the event of a tie between two or more teams in the round robin for the championship the following shall prevail:
1. For varsity only, if two teams tie for the round robin championship and one team has a better overall record against the other team in head to head competition that team shall be declared the round robin champion.
  2. In the event two teams tie and both teams have defeated or tied the other in head to head competition then both teams shall be declared co-champions of the round robin. If a third team wins the League championship tournament, then all three teams shall be declared tri-champions. In the event of ties in the round robin, the seeding to CCS shall be determined by Section 19. E. on page 16 of this handbook.
  3. If more than two teams tie for the round robin championship the round robin champion shall be the team with the greatest number of wins/points within the tie. If the tie cannot be broken with head to head competition based upon the results of the round robin, then the winner of the League championship tournament shall be the sole champion of the League and the #1 seed to the CCS. In this case the #2 and #3 seeds to CCS shall be determined by the results of the League championship tournament.

- E. For boys, in the event that two or more teams are tied for the round robin championship, and the tie was unable to be broken by procedures in “D” above, and are still tied after the League championship tournament, then the normal tie-breaking procedures for tournaments outlined in “C” above shall be applied to break the tie(s), and establish the League champion and the seeds to the CCS.
- F. For Boys:
  - 1. In the event two or more teams tie for second or third place in the round robin the tie shall be broken as follows: If two teams tie for either second or third place, the results of head-to-head competition during the round robin shall determine which team receives the higher place finish. If more than two teams tie for either second or third place the higher place team(s) shall be the team(s) with the highest number of wins within the tie.
  - 2. If the tie cannot be broken by item #1 above, then the team with the greatest number of wins above the tie shall be given the higher place finish.
  - 3. In the event there is no outright winner in either of these two situations, then the team(s) shall be given the higher place finish(es) based upon how the teams finish in the League championship tournament. If a tie cannot be broken by the scores of the year-end tournament, then the normal tie-breaker procedure for the tournament mentioned in “C” above will be applied to break the tie.
- G. There shall be no playoffs or tournament to determine the JV boys’ championship. The winner of the JV round robin shall be declared the League champion. In the case of ties for first place, regardless of the number of teams tied, all teams involved in the tie shall be declared co-champions.

17. QUALIFICATION TO THE CCS SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT (BOYS)

- A. If the round robin winner wins the playoffs they are the #1 seed to CCS, second place in the round robin is the #2 seed to CCS, and the third place team in the round robin is the #3 entry into CCS.
- B. If the second place team in the round robin wins the playoffs, they are the #2 seed to CCS, the first place team in the round robin would be the #1 seed to CCS, and the third place team in the round robin would be the #3 entry into CCS.
- C. If the #3 team from the round robin wins the playoffs they would be the #2 seed to CCS, the winner of the round robin would be the #1 seed to CCS, and the second place team from the round robin would be the #3 entry into CCS.
- D. If any team which finished the round robin in any place lower than third wins the playoffs, they would be the #2 seed to CCS, the winner of the round robin would be the #1 seed to CCS, and the second place team from the round robin would be the #3 entry into CCS.
- E. In the event the teams that are tied for the round robin winner are also tied after the League championship tournament, then the normal tie breaking procedures should be applied as done previously in deciding the League tournament champion.

18. ENTRIES TO THE CCS TOURNAMENT IN THE LEAGUE TOURNAMENT IS NOT HELD

In the event the yearend tournament is cancelled due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, the individual players who are to be selected to the CCS tournament who are not on qualifying teams will be selected as follows:

- A. Coaches from all the League teams may nominate any of their qualified players for consideration for selection.
- B. All the League coaches will discuss the nominees and vote to list the players in order of preference for selection as the three individuals to the CCS tournament.

19. LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

- A. The League championship tournament shall be organized by the Golf Chairman under the supervision of the Commissioner.
- B. The site of the League championship tournament shall be rotated yearly between a northern and southern site, if possible.
- C. Each school shall enter six players, or the number mandated by CCS rules.
- D. For boys, scoring shall be medal play with the team winner determined by the lowest total of the five best scores from each of the player's gross score, unless a different format is mandated by CCS rules. For girls, scoring shall be medal play with the team winner determined by the lowest total of the five best scores from each of the player's gross score, unless a different format is mandated by CCS rules. Individual placing shall be determined by the lowest gross scores.

20. ALL-LEAGUE TEAM

- A. The All-League Team shall be selected by the coaches. The All-League Team includes the Player of the Year and Tournament Medalist each year. In addition, the team(s) that win the round robin and/or the league tournament shall have two players on the All League Team selected by the coach(s) of those teams. Finally, additional players from the other teams will be selected by the coaches.

21. COACHING DURING MATCHES – It is permitted to appoint one coach to give advice to members of their team during League matches. Coaches may not give advice to players on reading greens prior to putting. Also, the pace of play cannot be delayed while waiting for a coach to come to give advice to any player. This coaching advice is allowed at any level for both boys and girls. Finally, no advice can be given in the year-end League Tournament by coaches to any players.

22. SEASON LONG PLAY— 50% RULE

Athletes must participate in at least ½ of all league matches to qualify for CCS playoffs.  
This is the CCS 50% rule and specific language can be found on page 21 of the handbook.