



COVID 19 Protocols & Procedures – Girls Golf

The MHSAA/NFHS Guidance for Re-Opening School Sports lists Golf as a low risk sport. *Low risk sports can be done with physical distancing or individually with no sharing of equipment or the ability to clean the equipment between use by competitors.*

Competition and Spectator Limitations

- 2020 Fall regular season tournament competition limit – no more than 72 competitors at a site.
- No scrimmages allowed.
- Spectators will be limited. The number of spectators and individuals allowed for indoor and outdoor events will be based on future guidance from the governor's office, and will be posted prior to the first dates of competition.

Practice

- Team Meetings prior to Practice- Observe social distancing/ wearing of face masks recommended.
- Handouts/Rule Books- use of online materials, emails and other electronic communication is recommended
- Hydration/Food, Snacks- All players must provide their own water bottles or drinks and snacks. There is to be no sharing of food or drink. Also, public drinking facilities should not be used. Coaches should not provide food or drink to players.
- When engaging in multiple drills or stations, ensure that players are properly spaced out and there is no congregating of players while waiting to hit or perform drills.
- There must be a minimum distance of 6 feet between each individual at all times.
- There should be no shared athletic equipment (towels, clothing, shoes, rangefinders or specific equipment) between students.
- Do not touch flagsticks, rakes in the bunker or ball cleaning devices during practices unless they are sanitized after contact.
- Players should only touch and use their own golf ball and not touch other players golf balls or equipment.
- Players licking fingers – If a golfer touches their mouth, practice is stopped and the player must sanitize their hands.
- Students should wear their own appropriate clothing (do not share clothing.)
- Individual drills requiring the use of athletic equipment are permissible, but the equipment should be cleaned prior to use by the next individual. Cleaning/ sanitizing supplies should be readily available on site.
- Player habits – Coaches should work to continue to reinforce safe and healthy habits. This includes staying away from touching their face, social distancing of 6 feet between individuals, and constant hand washing.
- Masks – Players are not required to wear cloth face coverings, but may do so if they desire. Coaches and others are required to wear masks, especially when not able to maintain social distancing. If an individual would like to wear a mask on the playing course or in a meeting, they may do so. There is no prohibition on the color of the mask. Spectators, workers, and others are required to wear masks and they are expected to follow social distancing guidelines.

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- Hand sanitizer and/or sanitizing wipes – Players, coaches, and officials are encouraged to provide their own hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) and/or sanitizing wipes.

Competition

- Field size should not exceed 72 competitors at a course. Player groupings of no more than threesomes are recommended.
- Team issued uniforms, umbrellas, golf bags, competition golf balls, towels, etc. must be sanitized before handing out and if possible, players would be advised to use their own equipment or keep it for the duration of the season.
- Provide clear instruction to teams in advance of contests about entrance and exit points of the facility.
- Provide clear instruction regarding suggested arrival time and protocols for clubhouse, restrooms and practice facilities. When using the restroom, maintain social distancing while waiting and avoid congregating in the rest room.
- Arrivals of participants are not be prior to 30 minutes before tee time (limit practice time).
- Each team is responsible for its own hand sanitizer and its own med kit.
- All players are encouraged to have their own hand sanitizer in addition to what coach has available.
- Masks – Players are not required to wear cloth face coverings, but may do so if they desire. Coaches and others are required to wear masks, especially when not able to maintain physical distancing. If an individual would like to wear a mask on the playing course or in a meeting, they may do so. There is no prohibition on the color of the mask. Spectators, workers, and others are required to wear masks and they are expected to follow social distancing guidelines.
- Consideration should be given to limiting or restricting access to driving ranges and putting greens.
- Warm-up facilities-Coaches are responsible for ensuring physical distancing is maintained. Host school should set up practice facilities to ensure physical distancing.
- Range Balls should be sanitized if possible prior to being put on range.
- Coaches carts should be sanitized prior to use and there use may be restricted.
- No gathering points for registration.
- Coaches meeting- It is encouraged that coaches wear a mask and social distancing is set up.
- Coaches coffee and donuts during coaches meeting should not be shared and may have to be eliminated.
- Handouts/Tournament information/ Local rules given to coaches via electronic communication or verbally at the coaches meeting. Team packets may have to be eliminated or reduced.
- Players meetings should be changed and/or cancelled instead relying upon each coach to share tournament information to their players in a physically distanced manner while everyone wears a mask.
- If players meetings do become necessary, face coverings must be worn during any players meeting.
- No pre-match and post-game handshakes/high-fives/fist bumps.

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- Consideration should be given to reducing the amount of shuttling between and to holes.
- Consideration should be given to not exchanging scorecards but instead using electronic scoring via cell phone if available. This includes programs like iWanamaker, BirdieFire and Golf Genius to score events. A process for verifying, collecting player and team scores should be determined prior to competition by administration and/or coaches.
- Consideration should be given to alternative end of round procedures to ensure golfers do not congregate.
- Golf equipment – Players should use their own equipment and golf balls. Players should not touch other players’ equipment or golf balls.
- Course equipment – Players should not touch the flagstick, bunker rakes or ball cleaning devices on the course.
- All players shall bring their own water bottle or drinks. Water bottles must not be shared.
- Public water facilities should NOT be utilized. Bottled water or individual water bottles should be used.
- Use of team coolers is not recommended.

On Course Play

- Only essential personnel are permitted on the course. These are defined as players, coaches, athletic trainers, and officials. All others, i.e., managers, video people, media, photographers, etc. are considered non- essential personnel and are to be in the gallery remaining by the cart path (when present) or remaining at least 25 yards from the players.
- Shotgun starts are allowed with strict social distancing and staging that eliminates the potential for large gatherings. Alternative tee time starts are still recommended. Gatherings no larger than 72 players may be held, though it is recommended to keep these gatherings to a minimum. (ex. scoreboard area, clubhouse, registration, etc.).
- Award ceremonies may have to be modified or eliminated. No gathering points for awards ceremony. Functions may be held following physical distancing protocol and local guidelines.

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