



CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL WOMEN'S STATE GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

Play is governed by the 2012-15 USGA Rules of Golf and where applicable the Local Rules, NCHSAA Conditions of Competition and the NCHSAA Handbook.

SUPERVISION: All individuals participating in regional and state playoff competition must be supervised. If not, they should be eliminated from competition. This is stated in the NCHSAA Handbook, page 84. If anyone other than school personnel accompanies the participant(s), a letter must be sent from the principal to the NCHSAA, as well as with the participant(s) to have available at the site.

SPORTSMANSHIP: Any competitor found to be guilty of poor sportsmanship, i.e., use of profanity, throwing of clubs in anger or general misbehavior as deemed by the NCHSAA Committee will have their playing privileges revoked and they will be dismissed from the tournament.

SUBSTITUTES: Once entries have been submitted, coaches can substitute for any/all team members up to start of tournament. Individuals cannot be substituted.

STARTING TEES: Single tee or double tee starts shall be used. "Shotgun" starts should only be used in emergency situations.

TIME OF STARTING: If the competitor arrives at their starting point, ready to play, within five minutes after their starting time, in the absence of circumstances which warrant waiving the penalty of disqualification as provided in Rule 33-7, the penalty for failure to start on time is a two stroke penalty on the first hole to be played. Penalty for lateness beyond five minutes is disqualification.

SCORING: Stroke play will be used. (Triple Bogey Maximum will **NOT** be in effect)

THE GOLF BALL: One-Ball-Rule is not in effect. Any golf ball may be used in this tournament; however the ball must appear on the USGA Conforming Ball List.

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS: Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

ADVICE: NCHSAA rule is *Advice cannot be given by anyone except the designated coach*.

COACH REGULATION: The NCHSAA will allow ONE designated coach from each school to coach during the regional and state finals. It is the conference's option during the regular season. The following regulations must be followed:

- There must be some way to identify the ONE coach who is allowed to give advice (armband, neck tag, etc.).
- ONE designated school coach may give advice, of a short and quick duration, from the tee to the greens and the walk between holes. NOTE: Coaches may not provide continuous coaching while walking with a player. Once finished, coach must return immediately to the cart path.
- Any violation of the coaching rule can result in a TWO STROKE PENALTY and may cause the coach to lose his privilege to communicate with players the remainder of the event during the round/rounds.
- Prior to any stroke, the coach must step back from the player.
- Coaches may not be on the tee box or enter onto the green(s) at any time.
- Use of radios, walkie-talkies, cell phones and other electronic devices by players or coaches is NOT ALLOWED. All cell phones must be turned to silent. Violation may result in disqualification. A cell phone with a range finder application is illegal by NCHSAA conditions of competition.
- Use of USGA approved range finders, except cell phones, is permitted at any time. Yardage measuring devices and information may be shared among players. A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If, during a round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect play (e.g., slope/gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used."

****Others will not be allowed to give advice and must limit conversations to words of encouragement only. Any other types of conversations could be considered advice, which could result in a TWO STROKE PENALTY to the player**

PARENT/SPECTATOR GUIDELINES: All spectators will be restricted to cart paths (Spectators may leave the cart paths to assist in searching for lost balls). Spectators may carry umbrellas, food, water, medicine or a change of clothing for a competitor. Please limit all conversations to words of encouragement only. Any other types of conversation could be considered advice, which would result in a TWO STROKE PENALTY to the player.

PULL CARTS: Non—motorized pull carts are permissible if the course allows. See local rules for actual course rule.

DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE: Rule 3-3. In stroke play, if a competitor is doubtful of his rights or the correct procedure during the play of a hole he may, without penalty, complete the hole with two balls. After the doubtful situation has arisen and before taking further action, the competitor must announce to his marker or a fellow competitor that he intends to play two balls and which ball he wishes to count if the Rules permit. If he fails to do so, the provisions of Rule 3-3b(ii) apply. *The competitor must report the facts of the situation to the Committee before returning his scorecard. If he fails to do so, he is disqualified.*

PREFERRED LIES: It is up to each course to determine if ball will be played down, or if adjusting the ball for preferred lies will be allowed. At the regional and state tournaments, the ball will be played down.

EMBEDDED BALL: "Through the green" a ball which is embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground, other than sand, may be lifted without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the "course through the green".

WATER HAZARDS: Water hazards are identified by yellow stakes and defined by yellow lines. Lateral water hazards are identified by red stakes, defined by red lines and include unmarked drainage ditches and other open water courses. When a lateral water hazard is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When water hazards and lateral water hazards are bounded by out of bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Defined by white lines. Fire ant hills and French drains are ground under repair. White-lined areas tying into cart paths are part of those obstructions. Sod seams (not the sod itself) are deemed to be ground under repair, and relief is available under Rule 25-1 if the ball lies in or touches a sod seam or the sod seam interferes with the area of intended swing. All seams and edges within the sodded area are considered the same seam or edge.

AERATION HOLES: Through the green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned and dropped, as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. On the putting green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be placed at the nearest spot not nearer the hole that avoids the situation.

IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO THE PUTTING GREEN (BALL IN CLOSELY MOWN AREA): Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken under Rule 24-2. In addition, if a ball lies off the putting green **and in a closely mown area through the green** and an immovable obstruction on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may take relief as follows: The ball must be lifted and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lay that (a) is not nearer the hole, (b) avoids intervention and (c) is not in a hazard or on a putting green. The ball may be cleaned when lifted.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF COURSE: Include cables, rods, wires or wrappings when closely attached to trees; artificial walls and pilings when located in hazards, unless otherwise denoted.

TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS: Greenside fans, starting, scoring and concession tents are deemed to be temporary immovable obstructions (TIO's). See page 131 of the 2012-15 Rules of Golf for interference and relief procedure.

STONES IN BUNKERS: Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions.

SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION: When the NCHSAA Committee suspends play for a dangerous situation, if the competitors are between play of two holes, they shall not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they shall discontinue play immediately and shall not thereafter resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If a competitor fails to discontinue play immediately they shall be disqualified unless circumstances warrant waiving such penalty as provided in Rule 33-7.

Discontinue Play Immediately---One prolonged note of siren/horn.

Discontinue Play-----Three consecutive notes of siren/horn repeated.

Resume Play-----Two short notes of siren/horn, repeated.

TRANSPORTATION: Competitors shall walk at all times during a stipulated round. NOTE: Rules officials may transport competitors back to where the previous stroke was played from in the event of a lost/out-of-bounds ball in order to expedite play. **Penalty for breach of condition:** Two strokes for each hole at which breach occurred. Maximum penalty per round of four strokes. In the event of a breach between play of two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole. NOTE: Use of any unauthorized form of transportation shall be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach occurred. Otherwise, the competitor shall be DISQUALIFIED.

CADDIES: No caddies will be allowed.

PRACTICE BETWEEN HOLES: Between the play of two holes, a player shall not play any practice strokes on or near the putting green of the hole last played.

PENALTY: Two-strokes on the next hole.

PACE OF PLAY: Groups that are found to be out of position (not having completed the hole being played by the time the preceding group has completed the play of the next hole) will be informed of that fact and individual players will be timed. Competitors will be allowed forty-five seconds to complete a stroke. Time will commence when it is the competitor's time to play and no outside distractions are present. Penalty for breach of Rule 6-7 will be:

First offense: -----One stroke Second offense:-----Two strokes Third offense:-----Disqualification

Penalties are applied individually, but more than one competitor in a group may be penalized

DECIDING TIES:

Individuals –

If the course is available for a playoff:

- Ties for 1st place only will be decided by a sudden-death playoff, NCHSAA Tournament Supervisor will select holes for the playoff.

If the course is not available for a playoff:

- A scorecard comparison for the tied individuals beginning with the #1 handicap hole.

Teams –

If course is available for playoff:

- Coach of each team would choose three (3) golfers for the playoff.
- These three players would be ranked #1- #3 by the coach.
- **Coaches cannot change golfers after the first playoff hole.**
- First playoff hole, golfers #1 & #1 from each team would tee off and complete the hole. Golfers #2 & #2 from each team would then tee off and complete the first playoff hole. Golfers #3 & #3 would then tee off and complete the first playoff hole. All three team scores would count to break the tie.
- If the summary scores are equal after the first playoff hole, proceed to second playoff hole and use same playing procedure as previous hole.
- Continue until tie is broken and State Champion is declared.
- If more than two teams are in the playoff, pair golfers by rank, i.e., 3 #1 golfers in first pairing, 3 #2 golfers in next pairing, 3 #3 golfers in next pairing, and complete first playoff hole.
 - If after first playoff hole 2 teams are still tied but one team has higher score, team with higher score is eliminated.
 - Keep pairings the same and proceed to 2nd hole and continue playoff.
 - Keep playing holes counting all 3 team scores until the tie is broken and a State Champion can be declared.

If the course is not available:

- If two or more teams are tied, go to the 4th golfer's total and compare. Lowest score wins.
- If still tied, go to the 5th golfer's total and compare.
- If still tied, Co-Champions will be declared.
 - If the 4th and/or 5th players' scores cannot be compared because a team does not have that same number of players the #1 players' total from each tied team will be compared, lowest score wins. If still tied, compare #2 players' total, lowest score wins. If still tied, compare #3 players' total, lowest score wins.

SCORE CARD: A score is deemed returned when approved by the NCHSAA Rules Committee and the score is posted on the scoreboard.

RESULTS OF THE COMPETITION: The competition is deemed closed when the final result is announced and/or trophies have been awarded to teams and individuals.