

GOLF Policies & Pairings

UHSAA General Golf Rules and Administrative Policies:

1. "Rules of Golf" - All Region and State level play shall be governed by the most current "Rules of Golf" as published and interpreted by the United States Golf Association. This includes all rules governing "USGA amateur status". School or Region events that do not follow USGA established Rules of Golf cannot be considered for qualifying spots in the state events.
2. The UHSAA Officials shall govern and establish all policies regarding the administration of High School Golf. The administration of the state championship tournaments and the interpretation and application of the Rules of Golf shall be in concert with the Utah Section of the PGA.
3. It is the responsibility of each Region and School to make sure their events meet all policy guidelines as outlined in this document or that are updated through official communications.
4. Rules and Competition Clinics are required to be held on a region basis. Clinics for Spring Golf (1A Boys and 1A-5A Girls) must be concluded by April 15 each season. Clinics for Fall Golf (2A through 5A boys) shall be completed by September 15. The Utah Section PGA can assist setting up these important clinics by supplying clinic presenters, outlines, "Rules of Golf" books for each participant, and other important rules materials.
5. The UHSAA shall determine all player eligibility.
6. **Coaching/Caddies**
 - Two coaches will be allowed per school. The two coaches will be the only people allowed to give advice to a player.
 - One golf cart will be assigned to each school
 - You may not "switch out" a coach during official play. Once the two coaches are declared at the beginning of the round, they will be the coaches for the remainder of that day.
 - At the State Championship, coaches are not allowed on the putting surface during official play.
7. **Golf Cart Use Policies:**
 - Players may not use motorized golf carts during the play of any competition except when the Rules Committee determines that player may be transported between holes to help with pace of play; or when a rules official allows a player to ride back to a previous position to put another ball in play during a rules situation.
 - Hand carts or "trolleys" are not considered motorized carts and are acceptable for players use.
 - Any appeals for cart use based on a chronic medical condition must be heard and approved by UHSAA Officials prior to the start of the golf season. Region officials do not have the authority to hear or rule on cart use issues.
 - Spectators are prohibited from using motorized golf carts to spectate at the State Golf Championships. Appeals of this policy, under current ADA policy, will be decided onsite by the Utah Section PGA Officials. A person wishing to use a cart for medical reasons must prove permanent/long term disability by providing an auto handicap sticker or medical specialist (doctors) prescription or note. Coaches and players please alert your fans to this rule!
8. **Distance Measuring and Electronic Devices-** Participants may use "distance measuring devices" that conform to the Rules of Golf- Rule 14-3 Note; Appendix I. This limits the distance measuring to only measure distance and not slope, wind, or barometric pressure, etc. Turning off the applications other than distance on a device does not bring it into compliance.

- In fairness to the field: a player using a “distance measuring device” must allow a fellow-competitor within their grouping to use the information from that device upon request. If the player does not comply, permission to subsequently use of the device will be withdrawn.
 - No cell or smart phones, or other electronic devices may be used during the competition.
9. **Dress Code-** Appropriate golf attire is required for all golfers and coaches at all UHSAA sanctioned events.
- Each team must dress in golf style uniforms (shirts/tops).
 - Team uniforms/and or golf attire must comply with any and all standards that are set by the various host courses.
 - Male participants may wear long pants or golf appropriate shorts. Host course dress restrictions (including the state championship venues) take precedence over all other policies so consider this when selecting uniforms. Denim, basketball, or cargo style shorts are not recommended. Collared shirts or mock turtleneck shirts are recommended.
 - Female participants may wear long pants, slacks, or golf appropriate shorts, skorts or skirts. Shorts may not have an inseam shorter than 4 inches and must be modest in style and structure. Host course dress restrictions (including the state championship venues) take precedence over all other policies so consider this when selecting uniforms. Denim, basketball, or cargo style shorts are not recommended. Collared shirts or mock turtleneck shirts are recommended. They may wear a well-structured tee-shirt provided it is consistent with the team uniform concept and is modest in design.
 - We recommend that coaches wear the team uniform at their competitions and they are required to conform to the above dress code policies.
 - Violations of any of the above dress code policies will be referred to the UHSAA.
10. **Rules Assistance:** The Utah Section PGA will provide “Call-in Rules Help” should the Region committees or school coaches need additional help. Please call or text the following numbers for Rules Help: Devin Dehlin (801) 556-0393; Annie Fisher (801) 558-2410; Aaron Goodman (801) 910-2159 Doug Vilven (801) 502-5432;. **A USGA interactive rules training module is available for coaches and players use at www.usga.org/rules/trainers**

Formats

- 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A and 5A Boys’ Golf will be scored under the Stroke Play Rule (Rule 3) as covered in the Rules of Golf. Regions shall hold 9 or 18-hole events from which a Region team ranking positions for the state championships will be determined. It is recommended regions hold at least six 18-hole matches.
- 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A and 5A Boys’ Golf teams will consist of 6 players with the low 4 “stroke play” scores counting. A team may compete for team honors if they have a minimum of 4 players.
- All Girls’ Golf teams will consist of 6 players with the 4 highest “Modified Stableford Point” scores counting. A team may compete for team honors if they have a minimum of 4 players.
- In order to create a more positive experience for the players, it has been decided to use a “Modified Stableford Point” system for girls high school golf. All Girls’ Golf will use the “Modified Stableford Point” format for scoring in region events and at the State Championship as covered under Rule 32 in the Rules of Golf. The “Modified Stableford Point” schedules and scoring format are:
 - A score of quadruple-bogie (4 over par) on a hole would gain- 1 point.
 - A score of Triple-bogie (3 over par) on a hole would gain- 2 points.
 - A score of Double-bogie (2 over par) on a hole would gain- 3 points.

- A score of Bogie (1 over par) on a hole would gain- 4 points.
- A score of Par (even par) on a hole would gain- 5 points.
- A score of Birdie (one under par) on a hole would gain- 6 points.
- A score of Eagle (two under par) on a hole would gain- 7 points.
- A score of Double Eagle (three under par) on a hole would gain- 8 points.
- The individual with the highest number of points would win the individual medal.
- The team with the highest number of the combined four lowest player's scores would win the team event.

Utah High School Boys' and Girls' Golf State Championships:

- Formal online entries on the UHSAA Website are due by 3:00 p.m. MST the Wednesday prior to the State Championship event. Region Golf Tournaments should be scheduled and played prior to these Deadlines! All teams that qualify for state must have their correct team selections made by then. Late entries will be referred to the UHSAA.
- Region qualifying events CANNOT be held at the site of the state championship within two weeks of the state tournament. Availability for scheduling both region events and practice rounds at the state championship site will be determined by the championship host site per their policies & availability.
- Practice rounds and play ARE allowed the day before the State Championship at the State Championship site.
- UHSAA will not provide athletic trainers on site at State Golf tournaments.
- If bad/severe weather dictates that alternate formats/number of holes be used to complete the event, when or if necessary the new format will be determined by UHSAA and UPGA Officials onsite.
- In case of a tie for first or second place in team standings, there will be a sudden-death playoff. Four golfers from each tied team (as designated by the coach) will tee-off together and play a hole or holes as designated by the Rules Committee until one team scores cumulative lower score than the other(s).
- A tie for medalist honors will be broken by sudden-death playoff. If all players tied for medalist honors are in a playoff with their respective team, no separate medalist playoff will be held but will be determined from scores earned during the team playoff.

- State Championship Seeding: Regions will submit their State Championship Roster in order of ranking. **Example:**
 - a. Region 1: 1st Place Team
 1. Player 1
 2. Player 2
 3. Player 3
 4. Player 4
 5. Player 5
 6. Player 6
 - b. Region 1: 2nd Place Team
 1. Player 1
 2. Player 2
 3. Player 3
 4. Player 4
 5. Player 5
 6. Player 6
 - c. Region 1: 3rd Place Team
 1. Player 1
 2. Player 2
 3. Player 3
 4. Player 4
 5. Player 5
 6. Player 6
 - d. Region 1: 4th Place Team
 1. Player 1
 2. Player 2
 3. Player 3
 4. Player 4
 5. Player 5
 6. Player 6

Team ranking will be determined by each region. Player rankings will be determined by each school. Pairings for the State Championship will be set with all Team Champions together, All 2nd place teams together, 3rd place teams together and so on. Individuals will be paired together.

Utah High School Boys Golf State Championships:

- The Boy's State Championships will be 36-hole events held over two days of play.
- There will be a team cut after the first day of play. The low 60% of the team field and including ties for the final spot will play the second or final day. See qualifying procedure below.
- Individual players that shoot a score on the first day of play that is within ten shots of the individual leader; or shoots a score that is in the top ten individuals on the first day; or shoots a score of 79 or better will make the cut and play the second day.
- There will be a \$240 team or \$40 individual registration fee charged all participants at the boys state meets. This fee will cover green-fees, practice balls, and other administrative costs. This registration fee should be paid to the Utah Section PGA who administers at the State Championship events. Payment may be made onsite at the State Championships in the form of cash, check, or credit card.
- Boys' Championship qualification policies are as follows (These qualification policies are subject to UHSAA modification):
 - 5A Boys Championship- Region 1= 4 teams; Region 2= 4 teams; Region 3= 4 teams; Region 4= 4 Teams. **Individuals: Twelve (12) individuals who do not otherwise qualify through a team but are in the top twelve individuals for the region are eligible to enter.**
 - 4A Boys Championship- Region 5= 4 teams; Region 6= 4 teams; Region 7= 4 teams; Region 8= 4 Teams. **Individuals: Twelve (12) individuals who do not otherwise qualify through a team but are in the top twelve individuals for the region are eligible to enter.**
 - 3A Boys Championship- Region 9= 4 teams; Region 10= 4 teams; Region 11= 4 teams; Region 12= 4 Teams. **Individuals: Twelve (12) individuals who do not otherwise qualify through a team but are in the top twelve individuals for the region are eligible to enter.**
 - 2A Boys Championship- Region 13= 4 teams; Region 14= 4 teams; Region 15= 4 teams; Region 16= 4 Teams. **Individuals: Twelve (12) individuals who do not otherwise qualify through a team but are in the top twelve individuals for the region are eligible to enter.**
 - Each region will sponsor golf and will qualify teams under the following policy based on number of schools that ultimately field teams. If three(3) schools participate- two (2) will qualify; If four (4) schools participate- three will qualify; if five schools participate- three will qualify; If six (6) schools participate- four (4) will qualify; if seven (7) schools participate- five (5) will qualify. Each region is responsible for developing guidelines as to number and format of events that will qualify them to participate in the State Championship from your region. **Twelve (12) individuals who do not otherwise qualify through a team but are in the top twelve individuals for the region are eligible to enter.**

Utah High School Girls' Golf State Championships:

- 1A and 2A : 18-hole event (one day)
- 3A, 4A and 5A: 36-hole (two day) There will be a team cut after the first day of play. The low 60% of the team field and including ties for the final spot will play the second or final day.
 - Individual players that shoot a score on the first day of play that is within ten shots of the individual leader; or shoots a score that is in the top ten individuals on the first day; or shoots a score of 85 or better will make the cut and play the second day.
- Registration Fee: There will be a registration fee charged for all participants at the girls state meets. This fee will cover green-fees, practice balls, and other administrative costs. This registration fee should be paid to the Utah Section PGA who administers at the State Championship events. Payment may be made onsite at the State Championships in the form of cash, check, or credit card.

- 1A & 2A Fees: \$120 team or \$20 individual
- 3A, 4A & 5A Fees: \$240 team or \$40 individual
- Modified Stableford Point Scoring for UHSAA Girls Golf:
 - In order to create a more positive experience for the players, it has been decided to use a “Modified Stableford Point” system at the region level and State Championships. Use of this system of scoring reduces the number of disqualification penalties and will speed up pace of play.
 - It is required that all regions use the “Modified Stableford Point” system so scores used for the State Championship ranking and for All-State Team selection are consistent.
 - Regions that would like an excel document that easily converts a stroke scores into “Modified Stableford Points” can request that from the Utah Section PGA by calling (801) 566-1005 or emailing afisher@pgahq.com
 - Official UHSAA Modified Stableford Scoring system:
 - A score of quadruple-bogie (4 over par) on a hole would gain- 1 point.
 - A score of Triple-bogie (3 over par) on a hole would gain- 2 points.
 - A score of Double-bogie (2 over par) on a hole would gain- 3 points.
 - A score of Bogie (1 over par) on a hole would gain- 4 points.
 - A score of Par (even par) on a hole would gain- 5 points.
 - A score of Birdie (one under par) on a hole would gain- 6 points.
 - A score of Eagle (two under par) on a hole would gain- 7 points.
 - A score of Double Eagle (three under par) on a hole would gain- 8 points.
 - The individual with the highest number of points would win the individual medal.
 - The team with the highest number of the combined four lowest player’s scores would win the team event.
- Girls’ Championship qualification policies are as follows (These qualification policies are subject to UHSAA modification):
 - 5A Girls Championship- Region 1= 4 teams; Region 2= 4 teams; Region 3= 4 teams; Region 4= 4 Teams. Individuals- any individual that did not qualify as a team member and places as a top twelve player in their region is eligible.
 - 4A Girls Championship- Region 5= 4 teams; Region 6= 4 teams; Region 7= 4 teams; Region 8= 4 Teams. Individuals- any individual that did not qualify as a team member and places as a top twelve player in their region is eligible.
 - 3A Girls Championship- Region 9= 4 teams; Region 10= 4 teams; Region 11= 4 teams; Region 12= 4 Teams. Individuals- any individual that did not qualify as a team member and places as a top twelve player in their region is eligible.
 - 2A Girls Championship- Region 13= 4 teams; Region 14= 4 teams; Region 15= 4 teams; Region 16= 4 Teams. Individuals- any individual that did not qualify as a team member and places as a top twelve player in their region is eligible.
 - 1A Girls Championship- Each region will sponsor golf and will qualify teams under the following policy based on number of schools that ultimately field teams. If three(3) schools participate- two (2) will qualify; If four (4) schools participate- three will qualify; if five schools participate- three will qualify; If six (6) schools participate- four (4) will qualify; if seven (7) schools participate- five (5) will qualify. Each region is responsible for developing guidelines as to number and format of qualifying events. Twelve (12) individuals who do not otherwise qualify through a team but are in the top twelve for the region are eligible to enter.

Further clarification or additional questions can be answered by contacting the following people:

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