

GOLF Policies & Procedures



HIGH SCHOOL GOLF 2025-2026

UHSAA ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES:

1. The UHSAA administers and support both a Fall and a Spring golf program during each school year as follows:
 - a. Fall Golf – Boys 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A
 - b. Spring Golf- Boys 1A and Girls 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A
2. UHSAA Officials shall establish and govern all policies regarding the administration of High School Golf including player eligibility.
3. As with all other UHSAA sanctioned sports and activities it is the responsibility of school Coaches and Athletic Directors to follow all UHSAA policies concerning eligibility, travel, and schedules.
4. The Utah Section PGA in conjunction with UHSAA Officials shall administer the State Championship Golf events. The Utah Section PGA will also interpret and apply the current “Rules of Golf” as outlined and published by the United States Golf Association, to include “Local Rules and Notice to Competitors”.
5. Mandatory Rules and Etiquette Clinics are required to be held on a school or region basis. Clinics for Spring Golf (1A Boys and 1A-6A Girls) must be concluded by April 15 each season. Clinics for Fall Golf (2A through 6A Boys) must be completed by September 15. The Utah Section PGA can assist in setting up these important clinics by supplying clinic presenters, outlines, “Rules of Golf” books for each participant, and other important rules material.
6. All head coaches must complete an online or recorded Golf Coaches Rules Clinic. All Coaches Rules Clinics for Spring Golf (1A Boys and 1A-6A Girls) must be concluded by April 15 each season. The Coaches Rules Clinics for Fall Golf (2A through 6A Boys) must be completed by September 15.
7. All head coaches must declare they have had communication with the golf professional at their home course on the number of players on their roster. The declaration form can be accessed from the resources/rules clinic tab on the UHSAA website.
8. Special player accommodation needs to be applied for in advance of the golf season or event. Accommodation approval will be reviewed and approved or denied as per UHSAA procedures.

MAXIMUM STROKE PLAY SCORING FORMAT:

1. ALL UHSAA Golf Championships (boys and girls) will use a Maximum Stroke Play Scoring System. Contestants will PICK UP after reaching a maximum score of nine (9) strokes on any hole of a competition.
2. Markers will record a 9 on any hole where the maximum score is scored and then it will be circled on the card for easy identification of that score.
3. All designated Region events should use this scoring system. This will provide consistent and fair qualifications for the state competitions and All-State considerations.
4. The advantages of using this system are increased speed of play and less pressure to finish a very bad hole. This system will also use the modification for penalties and disqualification penalties that are listed under USGA Rules of Golf; Rule 21.2.

REGION and STATE COMPETITION POLICIES:

1. **Region Match Schedules:** For both Fall and Spring Golf it is recommended that Regions hold at least six 18-hole matches.
 - a. It will also be the responsibility of the Region Coaches to administer fair and equitable Region events based on the most current “Rules of Golf” and UHSAA Rules and Procedures.
 - b. A maximum of 8 varsity players will be allowed to play in all Region varsity matches. If the facility can accommodate additional players, permission from the UHSAA must be given on a case-by-case basis.
 - c. A Region Representative must declare the six 18-hole matches that will be used for state qualifications by the golf start date.
2. **State Tournament Format:**
 - a. Both Fall and Spring Golf Competitions will be played according to the MAXIMUM STROKE PLAY SCORING FORMAT. See details above.
 - b. Both Fall and Spring Golf Teams will consist of six (6) player teams with the low four (4) “MAXIMUM STROKE PLAY SCORING FORMAT” scores counting for the team total. A team may compete for team honors provided they have a minimum of four players.
3. **Coaching/Caddies:**
 - a. Two certified coaches will be allowed per school. The two coaches will be the only people allowed to give advice to a player.
 - b. Coaches are not allowed to play during the Region matches.
 - c. One golf cart will be assigned to each school.
 - d. 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.
 - e. At the State Championship, coaches are not allowed on the putting surface during official play.
4. **Golf Cart Use Policies:**
 - a. Players may not use motorized golf carts during the play of any competition except when the Rules Committee determines that a 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 rule situation.
 - b. Push/Pull carts are not considered motorized carts and are acceptable for players use.
 - c. 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.
5. **Distance Measuring and Electronic Devices:** Participants may use “distance measuring devices” that conform to the Rules of Golf- Rule 4-3; Note; Appendix I. This limits the distance measuring to only measure distance and not slope, wind, or barometric pressure, etc.
 - a. 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.
6. **Dress Code:** Appropriate golf attire is required for all golfers and coaches at all UHSAA sanctioned events.
 - a. Each team must dress in golf style uniforms (shirts/tops).
 - b. Team uniforms and golf attire must comply with all standards that are set by the various host courses.
 - c. 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.

- d. Female participants may wear long pants, slacks, or golf appropriate shorts, skorts or skirts. 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. Players may wear a well-structured tee shirt provided it is consistent with the team uniform concept and is modest in design.
 - e. We recommend that coaches wear the team uniform at their competition, and they are required to conform to the above dress code policies.
 - f. Violations of any of the above dress code policies will be referred to the UHSAA.
- 7. Uniform Logo Rules:**
- a. The uniform may display the competitor's name, school name, school nickname, and/or the school logo.
 - b. Any form of advertising on the uniform is prohibited.
 - c. A single visible manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference, no more than 2 ¼ square inches with no dimension more than 2 ¼ inches is permitted on each item of the uniform.
 - d. One American flag, not to exceed 2 inches by 3 inches, may be worn or occupy space on each item of uniform apparel. By state adoption, to allow for special occasions, commemorative, or memorial patches, not to exceed 4 square inches, may be worn on the uniform without compromising its integrity.
- 8. Contest Limitations:**
- a. The number of events under the contest limitations is 10.
 - b. One (1) multi day event will count as 1 contest towards the contest limitations for golf.
- 9. 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; Aaron Goodman (801) 910-2159; Annie Fisher (801) 558-2410; Scott Whittaker (801) 913-0779.

FALL (Boys) and SPRING (Girls, 1A Boys) CHAMPIONSHIPS:

1. Formal online entries on the UHSAA Website are due by 3:00 p.m. MST the Tuesday prior to the week of the State Championship event. Region Golf Tournaments should be scheduled and played prior to these deadlines! All teams that qualify for the state competition must have their correct team selections made by the deadline. Late entries will be referred to the UHSAA.
2. Region Representatives will turn in the team averages of 6 players from every Region Team and qualifying individuals from each Region by the deadline. Region representatives should contact Aaron Goodman with the PGA to be given an access code to report scores. agoodman@pgahq.com
3. Team rankings will be determined by each Region. Player Rankings will be determined by each school (coach). The Utah Section PGA will pair teams for the State Tournament based on season averages as per current UHSAA guidelines.
4. 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.
5. Practice rounds and play ARE allowed the day before the State Championship at the State Championship site.
6. UHSAA will not provide athletic trainers on site at State Golf Tournaments.
7. 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.
8. In case of a tie for first 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 a cumulatively lower score than the other(s).
9. A tie for individual 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.

BOYS STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS REQUIREMENTS:

1. The Boy's State Championships 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A, will be 36-hole events held over two days of play.
2. 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 the qualifying procedure below.
3. 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. A minimum of 9 individuals will make the 1st day cut. If 9 individuals are not determined from the above stated list, they will be added in order of position in the event. This guarantees a minimum of 9 individuals per classification making the 1st day cut.
4. There will be a \$450. team or \$75. individual registration fee charged to all participants at the boys' state championships. 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.
5. Boy's Championship Qualifying Process: (These qualification policies are subject to UHSAA modification).
 - a. **6A Boys- Team Qualification:** All schools who field a full team (minimum of four players) will qualify for the state championship. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages for pairings will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: An additional 3 individuals from Region 1, 4 individuals from Region 2, and 3 individuals from Region 3 may qualify based on individual score averages from predetermined Region events. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state championship.
 - b. **5A Boys- Team Qualification:** The top 16 schools will qualify by an overall average TEAM score. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: An additional 4 individuals from each 5A Region may qualify based on individual score averages from predetermined Region events. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state championship.
 - c. **4A Boys- Team Qualification:** The top 16 schools will qualify by an overall average TEAM score. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: An additional 4 individuals from each 4A Region may qualify based on individual score averages from predetermined Region events. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state championship.
 - d. **3A Boys- Team Qualification:** The top 16 schools with full teams will qualify by an overall average TEAM score. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: If an individual does not qualify with their team and is in the top ten (10) for individuals in their Region, they could qualify as an individual. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state tournament.

- e. **2A Boys- Team Qualification:** The top 16 schools with full teams will qualify by an overall average TEAM score. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: If an individual does not qualify with their team and is in the top ten (10) for individuals in their Region, they could qualify as an individual. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state tournament.
- f. **1A Boys- Team Qualification:** The top 16 schools with full teams will qualify by an overall average TEAM score. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: If an individual does not qualify with their team and is in the top ten (10) for individuals in their Region, they could qualify as an individual. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state tournament.

GIRL'S STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS REQUIREMENTS

1. 1A and 2A: 18-hole event (one day)
2. 3A; 4A; 5A; and 6A: 36-hole event (two days). There will be a team cut after the first day of play. The low 60% of the team field including ties for the final spot will play the second day.
3. 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. A minimum of 9 individuals will make the 1st day cut. If 9 individuals are not determined from the above stated list, they will be added in order of position in the event. This guarantees a minimum of 9 individuals per classification making the 1st day cut.
4. **Registration Fee:** There will be a registration fee charged for all participants at the girls' state championships. 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: \$225. team or \$38 individual
 - 3A, 4A, 5A & 6A Fees: \$450. team or \$75. individual
5. **Girl's Championship Qualifying Process:** (These qualification policies are subject to UHSAA modification).
 - a. **6A Girls- Team Qualification:** All schools who field a full team (minimum of four players) will qualify for the state championship. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages for pairings will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: An additional 3 individuals from Region 1, 4 individuals from Region 2, and 3 individuals from Region 3 may qualify based on individual score averages from predetermined Region events. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state championship.
 - b. **5A Girls- Team Qualification:** The top 16 schools will qualify by an overall average TEAM score. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: An additional 4 individuals from each 5A Region may qualify based on individual score averages from predetermined Region events. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state championship.

- c. **4A Girls- Team Qualification:** The top 16 schools will qualify by an overall average TEAM score. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: An additional 4 individuals from each 4A Region may qualify based on individual score averages from predetermined Region events. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state championship.
- d. **3A Girls- Team Qualification:** The top 16 schools with full teams will qualify by an overall average TEAM score. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: If an individual does not qualify with their team and is in the top ten (10) for individuals in their Region, they could qualify as an individual. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state tournament.
- e. **2A Girls- Team Qualification:** The top 16 schools with full teams will qualify by an overall average TEAM score. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: If an individual does not qualify with their team and is in the top ten (10) for individuals in their Region, they could qualify as an individual. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state tournament.
- f. **1A Girls- Team Qualification:** The top 16 schools with full teams will qualify by an overall average TEAM score. A TEAM TOTAL will be submitted with scores for four players at six matches. The team averages will be determined using the official course rating for the tees played. Matches must be declared before the season begins. The declared matches must be the same for every school within the Region.
Individuals: If an individual does not qualify with their team and is in the top ten (10) for individuals in their Region, they could qualify as an individual. No more than 8 athletes may represent their school at the state tournament.

ALL-STATE SELECTION:

The Utah Section PGA All-State Tournament and Awards Banquet will be held the last week of May. Every First Team All-State team member will be invited (120 players total). The selection of All-State Golf Teams is not a function of the UHSAA and questions concerning the process should be directed to the Utah Section PGA. (801) 566-1005

- First Team All-State is the top 10 players in each classification. Second team and honorable is also 10 players. Visit utahpga.com for a full All-State Team list.
- All-State Team Selection: The number of region scores used in the All-State Selection process needs to be uniform across the state. The number of matches to be turned in to the Utah PGA to use in the All-State Team selection process is as follows: (These matches will need to be declared before the season begins.)
- THE MAXIMUM STROKE PLAY SCORING FORMAT must be used in region play for scores to be turned in for All-State Team calculations.
 - All Girls- Turn in 4 scores, 3 will be used for All-State Selection
 - 1A Boys- Turn in 4 scores, 3 will be used for All-State Selection
 - 2A & 3A Boys: Turn in 7 scores, 5 will be used for All-State Selection

- 4A, 5A & 6A Boys: Turn in 8 scores, 6 will be used for All-State Selection
- Can be combined, NOT doubled. (Example: 8 - 9 hole scores OR 4 - 18 hole scores)
- All-State Team Selection is on a 45% Region score / 55% State score formula.
- Region score reporting forms will be provided by the PGA one week prior to the State Championships.

Contact the following people for clarification or additional questions:

Jan Whittaker, UHSAA	jwhittaker@uhsaa.org
Devin Dehlin, Utah Section PGA	ddehlin@pgahq.com
Annie Fisher, Utah Section PGA	afisher@pgahq.com
Aaron Goodman, Utah Section PGA	agoodman@pgahq.com