

GIRLS GOLF BY-LAWS

1. GOLF COACHES

1. Chairperson of the League will be selected by the coaches of the League.
2. The League Chairperson is responsible for CCS representation, by-law review, final scheduling and league finals.
3. The coaches shall submit by-law changes to the league commissioner at the post-season fall meeting.
4. A coach shall either be a certified employee of his/her school district or sign a coaching contract with the school.
5. The last week in August, all league coaches will meet to finalize schedule and sites.

2. CLASSIFICATION

1. Competition in League is authorized at the Varsity level only.

3. GOVERNING RULES

1. USGA rules shall govern all matches unless otherwise agreed upon prior to the match by the coaches involved.
2. There shall be one (1) recognized team, consisting of six (6) players for all league matches.
3. Summer rules shall be played, unless the majority of coaches or the course pro decides the condition of the course dictates otherwise prior to the start of the match.
 1. "Winter Rules" is defined as follows: A ball lying on a "fairway" may be lifted and cleaned, without penalty, and placed one club-length of where it originally lies. A ball so lifted is back in play when the player addresses it or, if she does not address it, when she makes her next stroke at it. Winter rules do not permit such lifting, cleaning and replacing for balls that come to rest in the rough or hazard.
4. For BVAL competition, the following special rulings shall apply:
 1. All shall be stroke play without handicaps and scoring shall be determined by the total aggregate score of the best four (4) out of six (6) players for each team. A league member shall be entitled to a league match with only four (4) players or lacking a fourth player, a phantom score of ~~ninety (90)~~ **eighty (80)**, see rule 3.4.4, may be used for the fourth score and count towards the team's match total.
 2. Tie contests will be decided by a scorecard playoff, working with the four scoring players' cards and starting on hole 9, the team total on hole 9 will determine the tie break. If all four scores totaled for both teams on hole 9 still remain in a tie, then hole 8 scores for both teams will be added to determine tie break. Continue for holes 7-1 until a winner is declared. **(11/17/16)**
 3. A coach must be present at the course for the entire match or the match will be forfeited.

4. In the interest of pace of play, ~~Ten (10)~~ **Double Par** will be the highest score a player will record for any one hole.
5. ~~No electronic devices or range finders allowed turned on during play. This includes, but not limited to cell phones and iPods.~~ ***The use of cell phones or electronic devices is strictly prohibited during all league competitions.***
 - a. ***Players may obtain distance information using a device that measures distance only. If, during a league match, a player uses any distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure any other conditions that might affect her play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, slope, etc.), the player is breach of Rule 14-3 for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used. iPhones, iPods, and most other "smart" devices with apps contain a compass and other applications, which make them non-conforming distance-measuring devices and are not permitted under penalty of disqualification.***
 - b. ***If any player in a group uses a distance-measuring device then that player is strongly encouraged to share the distance information with everyone in the group. (11/18/15)***
6. If a player fails to hole out on any hole, she shall be counted as having scored the maximum strokes allowed under Section 3.4.4.

4. PRACTICE AND GAME LIMITATIONS

1. There shall be a limit of 18 matches played per season. One (1) day tournaments count as 1 match; Two (2) day tournaments count as 2 matches, etc.
2. Two (2) scrimmages are allowed as outlined in the CCS Constitution and by-laws.

5. MATCH MANAGEMENT

1. The League Chairperson, along with the BVAL Commissioner, will arrange starting times and course locations/usage.
2. Each league match will be nine (9) holes with each team playing no more than three each week for the length of the season, with the first tee time to be agreed upon by the coaches, or the League Chairperson.
 1. Matches will be limited to nine (9) holes for official score.
 2. Minimum official round.

If the coaches agree or the course pro orders that, due to course conditions or darkness that play shall be discontinued, all players must have completed a minimum of five (5) holes for the match to count as an official league match. Unless safety concerns require immediate cessation of play, players shall complete the hole they are playing when the decision to discontinue is made. In the event of a minimum official round match, individual differential scores will not be added to those players' season differential average.
3. Caddies are not permitted. During all league matches, pull carts will be permitted as long as CCS permits pull carts.
4. Spectators are allowed but must observe rules as outlined in U.S.J.G.S. Spectators must observe all rules that would apply to any on-campus school competition. Spectators, parents, and non-playing team members must not be closer than 30 yards to any player, they may not give advice to players once a match begins ***and must remain on the cart path at all times.*** Most golf courses do not allow spectators on the course and all non-players must observe these rules. Violation of the rule may result in the disqualification of the player receiving the advice. ***Coaches are ultimately responsible to enforce these rules. (11/17/16)***

5. Any school wishing to file a protest, please refer to Article 15 of the BVAL Constitution for the proper procedure.
6. At each dual match site, the home team coach will be designated as match director and will have the following duties:
 1. Paring and starting times.
 2. Type of play, summer rules shall be played, unless the condition of the course dictates otherwise. The match director and/or course pro shall determine if winter rules are authorized. See 3.3.1. for definition of “Winter Rules”.
 3. Oversee match, collect and collate scorecards and retain official scorecards.
 4. Each player will have her own scorecard and exchange it with her opponent within the group.
 - ~~1.~~ Each player will be responsible to keep her own score, as well as the score of the opponent she exchanged scorecards with. The match director will give official scorecards to each player before the round commences. Each player will exchange scorecards with another player in her group who is not on her team. Each player will keep the official score of the other player whose card she receives as well as her own unofficial score. Players shall check, compare, and record scores at the end of each hole. At the conclusion of the match, the scorer and player shall confirm scores on a hole-by-hole basis. Before a scorecard is submitted to the match director, it must be signed by the scorer and attested to by the player. Once signed and submitted, the card becomes official. When two players cannot agree upon a score, the match director will resolve the conflict. ~~If there is no resolution, both players will be disqualified.~~ **(11/17/16)**
 2. All players must sign their opponent’s card and attest their own card.
 5. Communications of results to newspaper and league scoring chairpersons.
 1. Results should include team scores and medalist(s).
 2. League Chairperson – email hansonb@esuhsd.org
 6. Coaches cannot be paired with players #1-6 during a match.
 7. Before daylight savings, coaches must play behind the 3rd group. After daylight savings, coaches may play between groups #2 or #3.
 8. All coaches shall prepare and submit by Friday of each week of competition an official match result. It must be sent by e-mail to hansonb@esuhsd.org or the league designee.
7. All matches will be played from the courses’ designated women’s tee or forward (red) tees.
8. Make-up schedules as a result of rainouts, matches must be played within five (5) school days of scheduled contest to secure a course or to record the date of make-up. The home team must notify the BVAL Commissioner.

9. Head coaches, only, are allowed to advise players during matches, including but not limited to; (pace-of-play, shot and club selection, rules clarification, reading greens, strategies, emotional/mental/physical concerns, etc..)

6. LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND CCS REPRESENTATION

1. The division championship shall be determined on the basis of dual meet competition with each team to play every other team twice (2). The winner will be the team scoring the highest percentage of wins over losses against teams in their division. The double round-robin team champion will earn the automatic team entry into the CCS playoffs.
 2. If two teams are tied in win-loss standings at the end of double round-robin schedule, we will declare a co-champion, but for CCS seeding purposes, the Division Champion will be determined by the results of the total combined stroke differential of the two teams in head-to-head competition. If the two Division Champions tie, then the championship will be determined by the results of the two (2) aggregate scores. The winner is the team with the lowest aggregate score. If three (3) or more teams are tied in win-loss standings, a 9-hole playoff will determine the winner.
 3. The Automatic Individual entry into the CCS playoffs will be determined by calculating the season differential average and will be awarded to the individual placing the lowest differential season average, not on the automatic team entry.
2. The BVAL League Finals will be a one-day event for teams and individuals on a course with a slope and yardage as close as possible to the course CCS will use for their tournament. The start time will be early enough to finish before sunset based on tournament size.
 1. Additional at large spots will be determined by current CCS criteria.
 2. All schools are required to submit the player's list and requests for at-large players to the BVAL chairperson one week before the BVAL League Finals. Schools may submit an at-large entry request for an athlete who has competed in 50% of the league matches. The remaining spots will be open to any team.
 3. The Varsity Golf Individual League Tournament Champion will be the one BVAL individual having the lowest score of the total eighteen (18) holes played during the League Finals. Medals and certificates for the top five (5) individuals will be presented at the BVAL League Finals when possible. At large non-BVAL players are not eligible for medals or certificates. In case of a tie at the end of the eighteen (18) holes, the Individual League Tournament Champion will be determined immediately following that day's play with a sudden victory playoff, if time permits.
 4. The Varsity Golf Team Tournament Champion will be determined by the total aggregate score of the best five (5) out of six (6) players for each team having the lowest score of the total eighteen (18) holes played during the League Finals. Medals and certificates for the winning team will be presented at the BVAL League Finals when possible.

7. LEAGUE DRESS CODE

1. All players and coaches must wear appropriate attire and shirts with collars as approved by the golf course. Hats or visors, if worn, must be bill forward. No gym shorts, no tee-shirts, no jeans, and no sweats should be worn. Inappropriate dress will result in that player being removed from play at the beginning of the match.