

2012-2013 WPIAL GIRLS GOLF SCHEDULE

February 3, 2012

First Practice Date: August 13, 2012
First Scrimmage Date: August 16, 2012
First Play Date: August 16, 2012

Maximum Contests: 18 Contests
Maximum Scrimmages 2

NOTE: A copy of this schedule must be given to your coach.

OVERVIEW/SCHEDULE: WPIAL girls' golf section competition will begin on Tuesday, August 21, 2012, and must be completed according to the schedule. Section matches will be played in a **nine-hole** format.

- Since the WPIAL is dependent upon outside facilities for the golf program, it may be necessary for some dates to be adjusted due to restrictions placed on the school by the golf course management. The WPIAL recognizes this problem and we ask that the home school notify their opponents when this occurs.
- The correct starting time should be established by the home team and made known to the visitors in plenty of time. It is recommended that regular season section matches do not start before 3:30 PM unless the golf course dictates another time. Both school principals should be notified when this occurs.
- IF YOU SHARE A GOLF COURSE WITH OTHER MEMBER SCHOOLS, PLEASE MOVE HOME DATES TO PREVENT TOO MANY TEAMS FROM BEING ON THE SAME COURSE ON THE SAME DAY. **ATHLETIC DIRECTORS SHOULD CONTACT EACH OTHER TO MAKE THESE ARRANGEMENTS.**

ALIGNMENT/TEAM PLAYOFFS: The alignment is a two-classification system for team play, Class AA and AAA. Section matches only will be used to determine entry in the girls' golf team championships. The top two (2) teams and ties for second place in each section will enter the team championship tournament. If two teams tie for second place but one of the teams has lost both head-to-head contests, that team **will not** enter the tournament round. Three-way ties will be broken in the following manner:

- a. Section records of the tied teams will be compiled.
- b. The team that has the best numerical record among the tied teams will be the qualifier.
- c. If the tie cannot clearly be broken, all tied teams will enter the tournament.

In Class AAA & AA, all qualifiers will advance directly to the team championship round on **October 11, 2012**. **The AA and AAA team champion will advance directly to the PIAA final round on October 24, 2012.**

MATCH FORMAT: The format for girls' golf is a team comprised of five golfers who play for a combined team total medal score for the day. Only the top four scores will count to determine the team winner for the match. This format is in effect for all team matches. It is imperative that all shots are played and no concessions permitted.

All teams **must** field a minimum of four players. Failure to field four players will result in a forfeit victory for the opponent, provided they have at least four players ready to play.

A match once started must be completed that day with two exceptions:

[1] DARKNESS

[2] AUTHORITIES CLOSE THE COURSE DUE TO STORMS OCCURRING DURING PLAY.

In either case, the match must be completed on a subsequent day starting play at the last completed hole for each contestant. On a crowded course, it may be necessary to start play at Tee #10 or even #1, but scores are used for only the un-played holes of the first day.

In case of a tie in the total medal score, each coach will choose two players to represent their squad in a two-hole playoff with the twosome shooting the lowest combined score winning. If there is still a tie after the two-hole playoff, the players will play "sudden death" extra holes until the tie is broken.

2012-2013 WPIAL GIRLS GOLF SCHEDULE – PAGE 2

RULES/MATCH ADMINISTRATION: All clubs and balls used in WPIAL regular season and tournament play must conform to USGA rules. Use of non-conforming equipment will be penalized as per the 2012 USGA Rule Book.

- All matches are conducted under the rules of the **United States Golf Association**. Local rules of the course may modify USGA rules in certain cases. Local rules should be discussed and clarified prior to the start of the match.
- In WPIAL golf matches, the coaches will function as the Rules Committee as specified in the USGA Rules Book. The Rules Committee will decide applications of the rules, resolve disputes, and verify all individual and team scores prior to leaving the course. Once competing coaches agree on the final results and depart the course, the competition is deemed to have closed (Rule 34-1B). The Rules Committee has no power to waive a Rule of Golf. If the coaches cannot resolve a dispute, a third-party ruling may be obtained from the resident golf professional or by contacting the WPIAL Office no later than the day following the competition.
- Competing players may report violations to the Rules Committee, but are not permitted to call penalties except for applications of the Rules of Golf. While contestants are responsible for entering the correct score for each hole played, the Rules Committee is responsible for the addition of scores (Rule 33–5).
- Coaches are to teach the Rules of Golf as well as the etiquette of the game as prescribed by the USGA.
- **During all matches, the player should play the ball as it lies. Exceptions will be limited to adverse course conditions, such as prolonged rain or extreme heat that make the fairways unsatisfactory. In such cases, the Committee will enforce the local rule of lift, clean, and place. Players are not permitted to improve their lies by rolling the ball with a club.**
- WPIAL One Ball Rule – Competing players may carry on their person only the ball in play. Additional ball(s) are not permitted. Penalty – First time warning, second time 2-strokes penalty.
- **A player may obtain information by using a device that measures distance only (range finders, GPS Unit and cell phones with a GPS Application). If a player uses a distance measuring device designed to measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g.-gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.) the player is in breach of Rule 14-3 for which the penalty is disqualification. The sharing of yardage information among players is encouraged but not required. Coaches are not permitted to use GPS units to give yardage information to their players.**
- **The use of a cell phone by a player for any reason other than accessing a GPS Application (e.g. communications, taking photos, texting, etc) is strictly prohibited and the penalty for such use is disqualification.**

RESPONSIBILITY/CONDUCT: The conduct of players, coaches, and spectators is subject to the following restrictions:

- A. A two-stroke penalty shall be assessed for conduct unbecoming interscholastic players. Such conduct shall include but not be limited to: club throwing, (defined as releasing the club in anger or in a manner intended to cause harm to any person or to the golf course), willful acts which damage the property or equipment of the golf course, use of profane or inappropriate language, or other unbecoming conduct as determined by the tournament or match director.
- B. The PIAA and the WPIAL forbid the use of tobacco or tobacco products by any coach, player, or spectator at any WPIAL matches.

COACHES/SPECTATORS: Coaches and spectators who choose to walk the course **behind** the contestants during all individual tournaments must follow these rules:

1. Spectators are not permitted to offer comments to players.
2. Do not approach players nearer than twenty-five yards from behind the group being observed.
3. Do not cross over tees, fairways, or putting greens. Observe from cart paths or “rough”.
4. Follow the rules of golf etiquette while players are addressing the ball.
5. Do not attempt to apply the rules of golf.

Coaching is permitted during all **team** matches. **Coaches may make comments to their own players only between holes during team play only provided such contact neither disrupts pace of play nor distracts other players.** A coach, assistant coach, or a playing member of the team may assist in coaching instruction.

2012– 2013 WPIAL GIRLS GOLF SCHEDULE – PAGE 3

- Coaches are **not** permitted to play golf during section matches or individual tournament play and must remain out on the course to monitor the competition. Coaches must remain at the golf course until the match is completed. **No exceptions.**

UNIFORMS/APPAREL: All contestants are required to wear school issued collared or mock shirt. They may choose to wear either golf shorts or slacks (cargo shorts or pants excluded) provided that they are of an appropriate length. Appropriate sweaters, jackets, and sweatshirts may be worn over the school issued shirt when the weather is a factor. **No** advertisements other than a 2" x 2" logo are permitted on the golf shirt. No exceptions are permitted.

Individual Championship: The WPIAL will provide Class AA and Class AAA golfers with an opportunity to compete for an individual championship in each classification. The WPIAL Individual Championship will be contested by qualifying players representing member schools. Each player must follow the approved qualifying process in order to qualify for the championship.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (General Information):

- It is not necessary to determine an alternate from each sectional qualifier; however, a final round alternate should be selected by designating the player finishing next in order after the qualifiers has been determined.
- Ties for the final qualifying spot at the WPIAL Final Round should be broken with "sudden victory" extra holes.
- Caddies and motorized carts are not permitted at any round of the tournament series.
- Each of the WPIAL individual tournaments will consist of 18 holes of stroke play.
- **Member schools not fielding a team** in the WPIAL competition may enter one (1) golfer who is capable of playing tournament golf have knowledge of the rules of golf, and practice proper etiquette. It is strongly recommended that 18 hole scores for girls should be less than 110. In the event that a school has more than one (1) that wants to enter, the school must determine the best golfer in head-to-head competition. **Those Athletic Directors must submit the name, grade, and average score of their player (18 holes), in writing, to the WPIAL Office no later than Friday, September 7, 2012.**

Sectional Qualifiers: Each Class AA and AAA sectional qualifier will be comprised of a maximum of five (5) players from each section team. It is expected that these players be qualified to play tournament golf, have knowledge of the Rules of Golf, and practice proper golf etiquette. It is strongly recommended that 18 hole scores for girls should be less than 110.

- Each sectional qualifier will be hosted at one of the section courses. The host school for 2012-2013 is designated by an asterisk (*) in the listing of schools in each section.
- The athletic director of the host school will serve as tournament manager and will be responsible for communicating appropriate information to section schools. **The 2012-2013 sectional qualifiers have been scheduled for Thursday, September 20, 2012.** If necessary, the host school may move the tournament to Wednesday, September 19, 2012.
- **Athletic Directors of competing schools must furnish the names and grades of their entries to their sectional manager no later than Wednesday, September 12, 2012. Players will advance from each sectional qualifier to the individual championship round by:**
 - a.) Placing in the top five (5) scores, including ties **OR**
 - b.) By shooting the designated target score (within 20 shots of the course rating)*.

**** The Golf Steering Committee will determine the course rating, target score, distance, and tees to be played and notify each sectional manager of this information.***

Individual Championship Finals: The Individual championship Final Round will consist of **all qualifiers from all Class AA and AAA sectional tournaments.** The **Final Round will be held on Monday, October 1, 2012,** at a course to be designated and managed by members of the Golf Committee. The top scorer among Class AA and AAA golfers will be the Class AA and AAA champions respectively.

2012-2013 WPIAL GIRLS GOLF SCHEDULE – PAGE 4

The top 8 contestants from Class AA and the top 8 contestants from Class AAA will qualify for the Western PIAA Individual Qualifying Round with qualifiers from five (5) other PIAA western districts at Tom's Run Golf Course on Monday, October 15, 2012 provided their score in the WPIAL championship round does not exceed 100. The top 6 AAA contestants from the Western Regional Qualifying Round and the top 10 AA contestants will qualify for the PIAA Championship Finals on **October 22 & 23, 2012 at a course to be selected by the PIAA.**

REPORTING SCORES:

The home team is obliged to phone all scores to:

Don Rebel @ MSA Sports Network (412/539-0360) drebel@nauticom.net
Pittsburgh Post Gazette (412-263-1621 ~ 1-877-672-6224) highschool@post-gazette.com
Tribune Review - PGH (1-888-748-8742) pschofield@tribweb.com
OR GRSB (1-800-690-8047)
Washington Observer Reporter (1800-222-6397) orsports@observer-reporter.com

Other appropriate local papers should be notified as well.

NOTE:

All Athletic Directors are responsible for reporting team standings to the League Office before the Pairings Meeting.