

2010-2011 WPIAL GIRLS GOLF SCHEDULE

February 5, 2010

UPDATE Aug. 18, 2010 – team semi date paragraph 2 this page.
UPDATE July 20, 2010 (Page 4 ~ PIAA Western Regional's 10/18/2010)

First Practice Date: August 16, 2010
First Scrimmage Date: August 19, 2010
First Play Date: August 19, 2010

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 24, 2010, 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: Beginning in the 2010 season, the alignment is a two-division system for team play, Division I and Division II. Each team will be assigned a maximum of 13 team competitions, section and exhibition. Section games 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 semi-finals on **October 11, 2010**. 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.

The top three teams from each semi-final site will advance to the team championship round on October 14, 2010. A team champion will be declared in both divisions. **The top team (Division 1 or Division 2) from the WPIAL team championship will participate in the PIAA Team Tournament.**

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.

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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 2010 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.
- THE USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES (E.G.-RANGE FINDERS, CELL PHONES, ETC.) BY PLAYERS IS PROHIBITED. (See attached WPIAL Golf Event Official Player and Coaches Rules).

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. Do not offer comments to players. No coaching. Coaches may make comments to their own players during **team** play only.
 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. A coach, assistant coach, or a playing member of the team may assist in coaching instruction.
 - 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.**

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UNIFORMS/APPAREL: All contestants are required to wear school issued golf attire (school issued collared or mock shirt, golf hat or visor). They may choose to wear either golf shorts or slacks (cargo shorts or pants excluded) provided that they are of an appropriate length. While hats are not required, players who select to use them must wear school issued hats or visors. 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. No exceptions are permitted.

Individual Championship: The WPIAL will provide Division 1 and Division 2 golfers with an opportunity to compete for in individual championship in each division. 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. 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 Thursday, September 2, 2010.**

Sectional Qualifiers: Each Division 1 and Division 2 sectional qualifier will be comprised 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.

- Each sectional qualifier will be hosted at one of the section courses. The host school for 2010-2011 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 2010-2011 sectional qualifiers have been scheduled for Wednesday, September 22, 2010.** If necessary, the host school may move the tournament to Tuesday, September 21, 2010.
- Athletic Directors of competing schools must furnish the names and grades of their entries to their *sectional manager* no later than Thursday, September 16, 2010. **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 Division 1 and Division 2 sectional tournaments.** The **Final Round will be held on Tuesday, October 5, 2010,** at a course to be designated and will be managed by members of the Golf Committee. The top scorer among Division 1 golfers and the top scorer among Division 2 golfers will be the Division 1 and 2 champion respectively and will be awarded a gold medal. The second and third place finisher among each division golfers will be awarded a silver and bronze medal respectively.

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The top **twelve (12) contestants** from the WPIAL Final Round (Division 1 or Division 2) will qualify for the Western PIAA Individual Qualifying Round with qualifiers from five (5) other PIAA western districts on **Monday, October 18, 2010**. The top **eleven (11) contestants** from the Western Regional Qualifying Round will qualify for the PIAA Championship Finals at Heritage Hills Golf course on **October 25 & 26, 2010**.

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@tigerweb.com
OR GRSB (1-800-690-8047) jdipaolo@tigerweb.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.