

# WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC LEAGUE

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## WPIAL Golf Championships

### Coach Rules

1. The United States Golf Association (USGA) rules will govern play with the exception of local course and/or committee rules. WPIAL rules specify that each player have knowledge of the rules of golf and practice proper etiquette.
2. Coaches may coach during TEAM competition only.
  - a. Coaching is permitted during team matches by ONE coach that is identified BEFORE the competition to the Committee as the "Advice Giver" for that team.
  - b. The Coach identified as the "Advice Giver" for the team is the only person of that team that may communicate with players during that competition.
  - c. Coaches may only make comments to their players during the competition.
  - d. Any contact between coach & player may neither disrupt pace of play nor distract other players.
3. Coaches are not permitted to play during WPIAL golf competitions.
4. All coaches will have an assignment. Coaches may be assigned to act as forecaddies, observers, starters, etc. For those coaches who assigned as observers/markers, please review the "Observer Rules & Responsibilities" handout prior to the championship event.
5. Do not move, talk, or stand close to or directly behind the ball when a player is addressing the ball or marking a stroke.
6. Do not lift a ball or mark its position. You may point out the location of an errant ball shot but please maintain a distance from it.
7. Do not attend to the flagstick.
8. Coaches are responsible for their players' spectator's behavior. Poor behavior will need addressed and could involve removal from the course if non-compliant.
9. Coaches are asked to observe and report any flagrant violations to the rules committee by parents, spectators, and media who chose to walk the course during competition. Spectators must follow these guidelines:
  - a. Do not offer comments or make suggestions to the players. No coaching allowed.
  - b. Do not observe play closer than twenty-five (25) yards from the group of players being observed.
  - c. Do not cross over or observe play from teeing areas, fairways, or putting greens during play. Play may be observed from the cart paths or rough only.
  - d. Follow the rules of golf etiquette while the players are addressing the ball.
10. Do not attempt to decide questions of fact or attempt to apply to rules of golf. A rules committee has been appointed. The rules committee will act on any rules violations or situations that they observe or is reported to them.

***Thank you for your effort in making this an enjoyable event for all our student-athletes!***