

2023 MPA GOLF BULLETIN

Updated 09/12/23

GOLF SEASON

July 31- Aug 13	Hands-off Period (Sport Season Policy)
August 14	First Practice
August 23	First Match
September 25	Sportsmanship Voting Period through September 29
October 3	Last Playable Date for League Qualifying Tournaments
October 3	Due Date for Individual and Team Tournament Entries (electronic entry)
October 5	Starter's Tee assignments posted on MPA Golf Webpage
October 6	Team & Individual Championships (Class B)
October 7	Team & Individual Championships (Classes A & C) (SAT DATE)
October 30	New England Competition - Mohegan Sun Golf Club – Baltic CT

League	Course	Date of Qualifier	Time of Qualifier	League Contact
Aroostook	Va-Ja-Wo Golf Course	9/21/23	9:00am	Cliff Urquhart
East-West	Lakewood Golf Course	9/27/23	9:00am	Evan Worster
KVAC	Natanis Golf Course	10/3/23	10:00am	Geoff Godo/Simon Elias
MVC	Natanis Golf Course	10/2/23	10:00am	Nick Karavas
PVC – B	Jato Highlands Golf Course	9/26/23	11:00am	Rick Sinclair/Jeremy Bousquet
PVC – C	Hermon Country Club	9/28/23	11:00am	Rick Sinclair/Jeremy Bousquet
SMAA	Natanis Golf Course	10/2/23	10:00am	Tim Spear
WMC	Natanis Golf Course	9/27/23	10:00am	Paul True

There will be girl's qualifying events held on the following dates:

Northern Maine	Hidden Meadows Golf Course	9/27/23	11:00 a.m.	Jeremy Bousquet
Southern Maine	Willowdale Golf Club	9/28/23	12:00 p.m.	Tim Spear
Central Maine	Meadows Golf Club	9/28/23	11:00 a.m.	Geoff Godo
Aroostook County	Fort Kent Golf Club	9/29/23	1:00pm	Josh Nichols Cliff Urquhart

Teams may play their 1st countable match on the second Wednesday of the preseason allowing teams ample time of the regular season and qualifiers.

*Each coach must complete the NFHS “*Concussion in Sport – What You Need to Know*” video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

*Each coach must complete the NFHS “*A Guide to Heat Acclimatization and Heat Illness Prevention*” video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

*Each coach must complete the NFHS “*Sudden Cardiac Arrest*” video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

***Each coach must complete the NFHS “*Protecting Students from Abuse*” video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).**

Mandatory Rules Clinics

All members of the golf coaching staff must view the rules video prior to the start of the season.

Team Qualifiers/Qualifying Scores:

- Any school that shoots a qualifying score at or below the minimum score listed below in their league qualifier will automatically qualify for the team championship even if they are not in the top 1/3 of teams.

Class A	335
Class B	340
Class C	345

- Any school that shoots a qualifying score in their league qualifier higher than the maximum score listed below will not advance to the team championship even if they finish in the top 1/3 of teams.

Class A	380
Class B	390
Class C	400

CHAMPIONSHIPS

The MPA Golf Committee sponsors individual schoolboy and schoolgirl championships, as well as state team championships, in three classes. In 2023 the schoolgirl individual championship will be an open event to those individuals who have a qualifying score of 100. This qualifying score must come from a league-qualifying event. The names of those qualifying (both team and individual) must be submitted to the MPA no later than Tuesday, October 3, 2023. The schoolboy individual championship and team championships will be open to those individuals and teams that qualify through league qualification events. USGA rules will be used in all golf competitions.

Unsportsmanlike behavior and/or lack of golf etiquette may lead to disqualification by the tournament committee.

The use of a golf cart must be approved by the tournament director. There will be a fee for the use of a cart.

Information on USGA rules and etiquette may be found on the USGA website at www.usga.org.

Coaches should be familiar with these rules. Leagues are encouraged to have coaches' meetings or clinics where these rules are discussed.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Schools must pay a \$35 greens fee for each golfer representing the school each day of play in the tournaments. Checks must be made payable to Natanis Golf Course. Payment of greens/fees must be made prior to registering for the tournament. The greens fee for practice rounds will be \$25.
- There is a fee to use the driving range - \$25/bushel of balls, \$7/large bucket of balls, \$4/small bucket of balls.**
- All tournaments will have a minimum of 18 holes of stroke play.
- Teams or individuals must be accompanied by their school's regular season coach as documented on the annual eligibility roster. In 2023 a team will consist of the coach and the 6 players that qualify as a team and any individual that qualifies as an individual. In an emergency, a school administrator may contact the committee chair prior to playing and appoint a substitute coach. One coaching badge will be issued to the MPA eligible coaches or the school's appointee for each team.
- Coaches can approach and talk to their players during matches only after a group has holed out and is walking to the next tee. Coaching at any other time is prohibited. Coaches are not to act as rules interpreters. **Coaches need to be present immediately in the need of emergencies.**
- Caddies may not be used in any of the MPA tournaments. Parents and spectators may follow players around the course but must observe the rules and etiquette of golf including refraining

from giving advice or coaching in any way, in person or using electronic communication devices. **(They must not be closer than fifty (50) feet from the players.)**

7. Teams or individuals seeking to practice at the sites of the tournaments must pay greens fees for practice rounds, must reserve tee times in advance, and must have a responsible adult accompanying each group. The greens fee for practice rounds is \$25. Checks must be payable to Natanis Golf Course.
8. The MPA representatives will be responsible for the administration of the tournament and will monitor the competitions. However, the resident Golf Professional Rules Official will make all rules interpretations and judgments.
9. Coaches are expected to provide all student participants with instructions in appropriate golf play etiquette and golf rules. This may be accomplished, for example, by requiring athletes to view a video such as the "USGA Spirit of the Game" or similar instructions provided by the local pro. **Athletes and coaches are required to wear appropriate attire. Jeans and t-shirts are prohibited.**
10. At the discretion of the tournament director, players will be grouped in threesomes or foursomes with priority being given to providing consistency within the tournament.
11. Shotgun starts will be used in tournament play.
12. Golfers will be able to use global positioning system (GPS) devices in the tournaments in accordance with USGA rules. **Golfers may use cellphones, including those that have a GPS app, while competing in the championship.** If this becomes an issue with integrity of the game. IT IS NOT TO BE USED AS A COMMUNICATION DEVICE BETWEEN OTHER PLAYERS OR COACHES. FIRST will be a warning, SECOND a disqualification.
13. Online scoring will be utilized in all championships.

EJECTION RULE

In all team and individual sports (varsity or sub-varsity), ejection or disqualification from a game, meet, or match for unsportsmanlike behavior of any form, by a coach or a player shall result in the suspension of that player or coach. The coach or player ejected from a contest must sit out all contests at all levels until the coach or athlete completes the ejection penalty by sitting out the next game at the level from which he/she was ejected. This rule applies to a game, meet, or match suspended before completion as well as a completed contest. This penalty may not be served by sitting out an exhibition, subvarsity, or other competition.

A suspended coach may not be present at the game site. Not being physically present at the site means the disqualified coach is not to be present in the locker room, on the sidelines, in the stands, or site area before, during, or after the game/meet.

Prior to their return to the sideline any coach ejected from a game must complete the NFHS "Teaching and Modeling Behavior" video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

Prior to their return to play any player ejected from a game must complete the NFHS "Sportsmanship" video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

Any coach or player ejected from the last game, meet, or contest of a sports season shall serve a one game suspension in the opening countable game, meet, or contest in the next varsity sport in which he/she participates. The coach/athlete may participate fully in the preseason prior to serving the one game suspension.

This policy will not prevent standing committees from imposing more restrictive disciplinary action. (Effective Date: 1996-97 Winter Sport Season; Revised 2008, 2009)

TEAM & INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (Friday/Saturday, October 6-7, 2023)

Classes A, B & C Team -- Natanis Golf Course, Vassalboro.

Coaches will register teams in the Natanis clubhouse.

Class B registration will be from 9:30- 10:30 on Friday, October 6. Class A registration will be from 8:30-9:30 on Saturday, October 7, and Class C will be from 9:30- 10:30 on Saturday, October 7. Teams will be assigned practice time on the driving range (there is a charge for driving range).

Course Assignments:

Friday, October 6	Class B	Tomahawk	11:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 7	Class A	Tomahawk	10:00 a.m.
	Class C	Arrowhead	11:00 a.m.

1. A team's entry into the team championships will be attained through competition in its league. For each three or a fraction over multiples of three teams, in a class in a league, one team will qualify for the team championships. (Example: A league with 10 schools – 4 A and 6 B – would qualify two A schools and two B schools). Leagues that don't have a minimum of three schools in a classification (A, B, or C) must combine their qualifier with another league in that class so that there is a minimum of three schools in that class. Any league accommodating a non-league school shall not have any of its schools displaced. One additional qualifier shall be allowed for accommodating up to two non-league teams.

Schools that join another league's qualifying tournament under this provision must join the closest league qualifier in that school's classification. Schools that may be members of more than one league – MAY PLAY IN ONLY ONE LEAGUE QUALIFIER. Schools must declare to each league which qualifier they will compete in before the golf season commences. Schools are asked to participate in their league's qualifier even if their golfers will not qualify. This allows another representative from the league to qualify for the tournament.

*League Qualifiers are administered by leagues. It is recommended that each League Qualifier designate a "Rules Interpreter" for that tournament to handle rules interpretations.

2. Ties for the last qualifying spot in the team tournament must be resolved by the league. It is recommended that the tie breaking procedure be the same as the MPA uses to break ties. Teams must shoot below the maximum score to qualify for the championship.
3. A maximum of six players from each school will be allowed to participate in the team championships. A golf team may be composed of any combination of six boys and/or girls. If girls are playing on the team, the course will be sloped, and the girls will play from the ladies' tees.
4. The team score is the gross score of the best four scores of the six-member team. In the event of a tie for first place in team competition, there will be a sudden victory playoff between the schools tied. Each coach will select two players to participate in the tiebreaker. The playoff will be held on a hole(s) determined by the committee and the school that scores the best individual score will win.
5. Schoolboy and schoolgirl individuals qualify based on the total number of schools in the competition and on obtaining a score of 90 (for boys) and 100 (for girls) or lower—if there were 10 schools, the best ten scorers, after removing those golfers that will be competing in the team championships, would qualify irrespective of the school affiliation or the class of the school. Individuals who represent schools without teams must qualify at the nearest individual league championship. Any league accommodating non-league schools will not have any of its golfers displaced.
6. Qualifying scores will be determined at a minimum eighteen-hole league-qualifying event. Leagues that have girls competing on a boys' team should ensure that those girls have an equal chance of qualifying for the girls' championships as those girls who are competing only in the girls' qualifier.

7. Individual golfers from schools that do not have golf teams may qualify at a league tournament for the individual championships only if they have been attached to another school's team by a cooperative agreement.
8. No league substitutions for individual qualifiers who withdraw will be allowed.
9. In the individual Boy's and Girl's tournaments, ties for first, second and tenth places will stand. Medals will be given to the top ten finishers.
10. The tournament director will match the better players together within the same class. (Players from the same school will not be placed in the same group.) The girls will be considered one class.
11. Individuals must be accompanied by their regular season coach. In an emergency, a school may designate in writing another certified coach to accompany an individual qualifier. There will be a \$100 fine for any school that fails to have a certified coach present with individual athletes.
12. Girls Individuals will be determined with a champion in Class A, Class B and Class C.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The safety of athletes (*participants*), spectators, coaches/directors, school personnel, and all others present at an athletic contest must be the first and foremost concern to the contest officials and building administrators.

1. When an interscholastic contest has been scheduled and dangerous playing conditions exist, or severe weather is anticipated, the following should be considered:
 - a. Prior to beginning an athletic contest, when severe weather is anticipated, the head contest official and the principals of each school, or their designees, will meet to review the suspension and/or postponement procedures. This would include any playing rule book coverage.
 - b. The host school administrator will be responsible for informing contest officials, visiting school administrators and, if applicable, the individual responsible for public address announcements of designated shelter areas.
 - c. When lightning is observed near a contest conducted outdoors, play should be suspended.
 - d. If any other life-threatening condition occurs, play should be suspended immediately, and predetermined directions to safe locations will be announced.
2. When a suspension of a contest occurs, the following should be considered:
 - a. If the suspension is forty-five minutes or greater, resuming later should be considered.
 - b. Play shall not be resumed until **30 minutes** after the last flash of lightning.
 - c. When it appears that weather conditions are no longer a threat to the safety of participants, spectators, or contest officials, administrators from all schools involved will meet with the head contest official to determine if play will continue.
 - d. If play is to be resumed, contestants will be given at least a fifteen-minute warm-up period prior to competition.
3. If evacuation is necessary, the following should be considered:
 - a. If lightning is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators should evacuate to available safe structures or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced and displayed on placards at all athletic venues.
 - b. All personnel, athletes and spectators should be clearly informed of available safe structures or shelters in the event a thunderstorm approaches. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced. The person in authority must be aware of the amount of time it takes to get to each structure and the number of people each structure can safely hold. For large events, time needed for evacuation is increased and there must be a method (i.e., announcement over loudspeaker) for communicating the need for evacuation and directing both athletes and spectators to the appropriate safe shelters.
 - c. The most ideal structure is a fully enclosed, substantial building with plumbing, electrical wiring, and telephone service, which aids in grounding the structure. A fully enclosed

automobile with a hard metal roof and rolled up windows is also a reasonable choice. School buses are an excellent lightning shelter that can be utilized for large groups of people. However, it is important to avoid contact with any metal while inside the vehicle.

Avoid using shower facilities for safe shelter and do not use showers or plumbing facilities during a thunderstorm as the current from a local lightning strike can enter the building via the plumbing pipelines or electrical connections. It is also considered unsafe to stand near utilities, use corded telephones or headsets during a thunderstorm, due to the danger of electrical current traveling through the telephone line. Cellular and cordless telephones are considered reasonably safe and can be used to summon help during a thunderstorm.

When caught in a thunderstorm without availability or time to reach safe structures, you can minimize the risk of lightning-related injury by following a few basic guidelines:

- Avoid being the highest object. Seek a thick grove of small trees or bushes surrounded by taller trees or a dry ditch.
- Avoid contact with anything that would be attractive to lightning. Stay away from freestanding trees, poles, antennas, towers, bleachers, baseball dugouts, metal fences, standing pools of water, and golf carts.
- Crouch down with legs together, the weight on the balls of the feet, arms wrapped around knees, and head down with ears covered.

NEW ENGLAND COMPETITION

The New England Competition will be held on, **Monday, October 30, 2023 at Mohegan Sun Golf Club in Baltic, Connecticut** . **Practice rounds may be played on Sunday, October 29 (there is a fee for the practice round)**. More information may be found on the New England Council website, which has a link on the MPA website (www.mpa.cc) once it has been determined. The state champion (boys and girls) in each class will qualify for the New England Championship. The next top nine scores, regardless of class, plus ties will also qualify to compete in the New England Championships.

GOLF CLASSIFICATION

CLASS A 650+	CLASS B 400-649	CLASS C 0-399
1. Lewiston, 1,505 2. Thornton, 1,345 3. Portland, 1,105 4. Bangor, 1,102 5. Sanford, 1,090 6. Oxford Hills, 1,055 7. Bonny Eagle, 1,025 8. South Portland, 991 9. Noble, 977 10. Edward Little, 972 11. Windham, 929 12. Deering*, 918 13. Scarborough, 913 14. Massabesic, , 885 15. Gorham, 835 16. Hampden, 810 17. Brunswick, 741 18. Biddeford, 738 19. Messalonskee, 738 20. Kennebunk, 730 21. Mt. Ararat, 718 22. Skowhegan, 707 23. Brewer, 703 24. Marshwood, 702 25. Mt. Blue, 695 26. Westbrook, 695 27. Camden Hills, 694 28. Falmouth, 672 29. Greely^, 603 30. Cheverus^, 364	1. Nokomis, 631 2. Cony, 630 3. Gardiner, 618 4. Gray-New Gloucester, 606 5. Freeport, 603 6. Morse, 598 7. Lawrence, 587 8. Fryeburg, 587 9. Lincoln, 573 10. Leavitt, 572 11. Hermon, 567 12. Medomak Valley, 542 13. Cape Elizabeth, 539 14. John Bapst/Bangor Christian, 535/87 15. Lake Region, 530 16. Yarmouth, 528 17. Ellsworth, 527 18. York, 523 19. Old Town, 517 20. Ersline, 514 21. Oceanside, 513 22. Mt. Desert, 493 23. Poland, 485 24. Waterville/Winslow, 485/381 25. Caribou, 445 26. Belfast, 443 27. Presque Isle, 440 28. Wells, 411	1. Oak Hill, 397 2. Spruce Mountain, 380 3. Mountain Valley, 380 4. Houlton/Greater Houlton, 331/20 5. Maranacook, 360 6. Bucksport, 365 7. Foxcroft, 322 8. Mt. View, 303 9. Maine Central, 355 10. Orono, 374 11. Monmouth/Hall-Dale, 188, 263 12. Washington, 317 13. George Stevens, 307 14. Berwick, 282 15. Mattanawcook, 296 16. Central, 302 17. Dexter, 272 18. Waynflete, 267 19. Fort Kent, 239 20. Calais, 267 21. Sumner, 249 22. Winthrop, 221 23. Kents Hill, 216 24. Gould Acad., 211 25. Dirigo, 203 26. Mt. Abram, 203 27. Madison, 183 28. Old Orchard, 193 29. Narraguagus, 194 30. North Yarmouth, 162 31. St. Dominic/Lisbon, 127/343 32. Searsport*, 141 33. Fort Fairfield, 142 34. Hodgdon, 137 35. Penobscot Valley, 131 36. Central Aroostook, 117 37. Machias, 166 38. Southern Aroostook/Katahdin, 107/88 39. Ashland, 66 40. Shead, 77 41. Jonesport-Beals, 64 42. Greenville, 58 43. Rangeley, 58 44. Valley, 56 45. Forest Hills, 46