

Golf Committee

June 12, 2024

Minutes

1. Call to order – Welcome
2. Minutes approved 10-0
3. 2024 Spring Tournaments
 - Dave K- NCW- 72 players at East Mountain CC.
 - Piloted Golf Genius- Used scoring stations. Positive feedback on GG
 - Medalist shot 64 (Lillian from Westwood)
 - Phil N (for Jared T)- South had 57 players. Winner was Mya Murphy from Sturgis shot a 75 +3
 - Mary O- State Tournament 61 golfers, 6 teams. Isabella Brozena, course record 66 (-6), over 5600 yards, so it was not an easy course.
 - South teams really struggled, they are used to 4200-yard courses. Fall girls had no issue managing the courses.
 - Had some push back on the difficulty of the course but I stand by the decision as this is a state championship.
 - Some issues with coaches not checking in the players by 8:45. At this time I had 4 coaches who did not check in. Caused a 10-minute delay in the meeting. Not sure what the answer is. Don't want to punish the golfer. Phil will follow-up with ADs of these schools.
 - Another issue- cart path only...made that announcement, but one coach had to be reminded 3 times by the manager, and he just continued to ride all over the place. Barnstable Coach. Phil has scheduled a meeting with the school Assistant Principal
 - Dr. Fitz- maybe have some 'cart path only' signs on the cart.
 - Comments/Suggestions'
 - Phil- Need to move away from mandated sectional rotation as courses are hard enough to find.
 - Tom- Why not have the girls and boys in the same season?
 - Dave- Biggest challenge is the schools that have both will struggle with course to host both teams in the Fall.
 - Dave- 2016 Boys golf was separated from the Spring season to the Fall. 2001/2002 was first spring girls tournament in MIAA
 - Phil- recommend posing that question back to your leagues.
 - Dave- Finding courses is easier in the fall than the spring
 - Mary- if all in the fall, would we lose girls to other sports.
4. Max Score Discussion
 - Kevin, I feel like if we adopt something it should be a max consistent with all 18 holes.
 - Dave- Could also add that if you are to pick up, it disqualifies you from counting your score and/or team results.
 - Carolyn- Golf Genius data is fun to look at. Good news it is not impacting outcome. Bad news, is it really impacting pace of play?

- One way is to take 5 and 6 girls on teams to play 9 holes.
 - Tom – I struggle with the different formats being played in the regular season. We wouldn't make our football team play ½ a game. Making them play 18 holes is a challenge. Time is a major issue, as it takes 5-6 hours. Why change the game for playoffs? Why is it 9 during regular season, but 18 during the postseason.
 - Tom – It is a drastically different game to play 9 versus 18.
 - Chris- Different for only half of the field?
 - Tom- Agree, I am in favor of more kids participating but should all be? Is the field too big?
 - Kevin- We could use Handicap to qualify.
 - Dave- Been a champion of this for a while. Yes, you can use non-league scores outside of the season but that information is valuable.
 - Justin- Some logic to Tom's point.
 - Pete- In the Spring, is there a way to do a match play format for the postseason? All spring schools use match play. Power rank top 16, and play it out until you have 2 teams. TMC wants us to start to think about employing statewide.
 - Mary- Hard to do power rankings unless we mandate the format used since it varies. No other sport allows coaches/leagues to dictate scoring.
 - Dr. Fitz- I don't think our current system is broken.
 - Dave- Discussion is always about the bottom 3rd.
 - Tom- I agree with Mary, we need to integrate this sport with other sports.
 - Carolyn- System is broken, we need to educate these kids to play stroke play.
 - Phil- We can put a subcommittee together to discuss tournament formats
 - Chris- We follow same format as NCAA
 - Kevin- I feel like we really need to utilize GHIN. It is free!
 - Justin- Coaches will not like it
 - Phil- Cannot be concerned about the outlier coach that wouldn't do it. If it's mandated, I am confident they will do it.
 - Phil- What if we allow girls to 'opt out' during the tournament, which allows them to take double par max but they cannot count towards individual and teams scores.
 - Bruce- We need to do something to assist the bottom 1/3 who struggle.
5. The committee provided positive feedback on using Golf Genius as the live scoring platform. The committee unanimously supported sticking with Golf Genius for the 2024 Fall Tournaments.

Adjournment