

Massachusetts High School Golf Championship - Rules Sheet

General Rules:

- All players will play from the Blue Tees at approximately 6,400 yards
- No caddies or coaches are permitted
- Players may not take rides from spectators between holes (one warning will be issued, then a 1 stroke penalty for future breaches). If play is suspended or a player needs to return to re-hit players may take rides
- Phones may only be used to receive tournament email updates or for course maps (see next)
- Distance measuring devices and course map apps are permitted (except if slope is provided)
- Bunkers will be played without rakes. Players may lift and clean the ball, smooth the sand with their club or hand, and place the ball within one scorecard no closer to the hole without penalty
- Flagsticks must be left in the hole at all times
- Cart path relief is available for paved roads, dirt road extensions, and traffic worn areas adjacent to cart paths
- Ground Under Repair includes exposed rocks in areas cut to fairway height or less
- Measures have been taken by the committee to ensure that the object in the hole will indeed allow the ball to come to rest completely below the surface of the ground and will have as little chance of affecting play. Ball must remain in the hole to be holed
- The event will be paperless with the exception of scorecards. Each player will receive a scorecard of another player in the group and scores will be verbally attested adhering to USGA guidelines. Verbal score verification will take place outside with players standing 6 feet apart from one another in designated standing areas
- Scoring will be conducted socially distanced with no physical scoreboard
- Prizes will be awarded to the top 10 finishers and those 10 players will receive an invitation to the 2021 NHSGA High School Golf National Invitational at Pinehurst Resort
- The NHSGA will not tolerate players or spectators who do not adhere to guidelines put in place. We reserve the right to penalize and/or disqualify players who knowingly, willingly and or repeatedly disregard our policies to promote social distance. Players are also responsible for the actions of their family members or spectators
- In the event the competition is not completed by all groups and there are 5 holes or less remaining for all groups, the remaining holes will be completed on Sunday, Nov 8th. No partial scores will be taken

Pace of Play:

- Lead groups that fail to complete their rounds in 4 hours and 45 minutes or do not establish position behind the final group starting on the opposite side will receive a 1 stroke penalty
- Groups will be deemed “out of position” and receive a warning if the last player holes out more than 14 minutes (par 3), 15 minutes (par 4), or 17 minutes (par 5) behind the group ahead of them
- Groups that do not get back into position by subsequent checkpoints will receive a “red card” status which is subject to a 1 stroke penalty on that hole. All penalties will be null and void if that group gets back into position at a future checkpoint OR if they complete their round in under 4 hours and 45 minutes
- The Committee has the right to penalize individuals 1 stroke after making an initial warning. Players are limited to 40 seconds per stroke. Players are expected to play ready golf and be courteous of all members of the group

Tiebreakers:

- In the event players tie for medalist, an on-course playoff will take place if daylight permits
- Scores are compared with the other player(s) that are tied each hole. In the event these scores are the same, the playoff will continue until a single player remains. Each hole order of play reverses
- A scorecard playoff is used to break all other individual ties comparing the scores on the #1 handicap hole and continuing until the tie(s) are broken

*If a playoff is possible and the individual(s) are not available to compete, they forfeit the playoff. If the Committee determines the playoff cannot continue due to darkness, the scorecard tiebreaker will be used

The Rules Committee consists of designated Rules Officials, Andy Jordan (PGA), and Matt Weinberger. Learn more about championship guidelines on the [“What to Expect”](#) page. Contact 513-277-9992 for rulings.