



Boys Golf By-Laws

Article I

Competition

Section 1. League play is authorized on the Varsity level only.

Article II

Governing Rules

Section 1. U.S.G.A. rules shall govern all matches, unless options are agreed upon prior to the match by the coaches involved.

Section 2. There shall be two (2) recognized teams; boys' only and boys and girls combination, if there is no girl's team in fall season. Teams will consist of six (6) players for league matches.

Section 3. Summer rules shall be played unless the conditions of the course dictate otherwise, and it is **agreed upon by the coaches involved before the match.**

3.1 Local rule for lost ball and out of bounds is in effect for league matches

3.2 League standard for lift, clean and place is one club length of the fairway you are playing.

Section 4. For SCVAL competition, the following special rules shall apply:

4.1 All league matches shall be nine (9) hole matches.

4.2 All play shall be stroke play and scoring shall be determined by total scores best of five (5) of six (6).

4.2.1 The winner of the match will be determined by the lowest total strokes of those five (5) players. *A league member shall be entitled to a league match with only five (5) players or lacking a fifth player, a phantom score of ninety (90), see rule 6.6.1, may be used for the 5th score and count towards the team's match total.*

- 4.2.2 Each school shall be allowed to bring at least 1 automatic competitor to the League Tournament. It must be their highest ranked player based on the USGA scoring differential formula. If the school chooses to not send its one automatic qualifier it is allowable by school and athletic department notification. **But, all league head coaches are required to attend the league tournament whether they have a player in the tournament or not.** An additional 8 individuals will qualify based on league play using the USGA scoring differential formula. A player must submit 6 scores to be eligible for the league tournament as an individual
- 4.2.3 The Deanza division regular season champion will automatically qualify for the league tournament. The El Camino division regular season champion will automatically qualify for the league tournament. The next best (4) teams based on USGA scoring differential formula will qualify for the league tournament regardless to division.
- 4.2.4 Team differential shall be calculated using the top five (5) players from each school.

4.3 *Tie contests will remain and be recorded as a tie.*

4.4 All matches scheduled should be played according to the arrangements made by the two coaches prior to the season starting. If a change is to be made the coaches in question need to agree prior to the match being played. Any questions not resolved by the coaches, need to be presented to the committee of coaches for final resolution. Reasons for changing the match would include; dangerous weather on the day of the match, or golf course conditions.

4.5 ***Individual league standings will use the USGA scoring differential formula using the USGA 9 hole course slope and rating.***

Article III

Practice and Game Limitation

- Section 1.** No school shall engage in practice matches before the date established by the CCS Board of Managers.
- Section 2.** No team or individual shall play more than eighteen (18) total matches per golf season.
- Section 3.** A tournament may be substituted for one match. (One tournament = One match).

Article IV

League Schedule

Section 1. S.C.V.A.L. will split into two (2) divisions based on strength

De Anza: Palo Alto, Gunn, Los Gatos, Saratoga, Los Altos, Cupertino, Monta Vista

El Camino: Wilcox, Homestead, Fremont, Milpitas, Santa Clara, Mountain View, Lynbrook

The league chairperson and Athletic Director liaison will develop a draft league schedule for both divisions each spring.

Article V

Match Management

Section 1. Home coaches are responsible for arranging starting times between 2:00 and 3:15. Exceptions to this rule will need to an agreement by the competing **coaches**.

Section 2. Team members and coaches must be ready to tee off at the scheduled match time. Match time is defined as 10 minutes prior to the 1st scheduled tee time. Coaches are responsible for exchanging line-ups with league rankings at least a half an hour prior to the match if you are going to play out of order otherwise prior to the match.

Section 3. Pull carts are allowed. Caddies are not allowed. Spectators are allowed at any S.C.V.A.L. competition. Spectators must observe rules as outlined in U.S.J.G.S. Spectators must observe all rules that would apply to any golf course school competition or rules for spectators. Spectators, parents, and non-playing team members must not be closer than 30 yards to any player and they may not give advice to players once a match begins. Most golf courses do not allow spectators on the course and all non-players must observe these rules. Violation of the rule may result in the disqualification of the player receiving the advice. No electronic devices are allowed to be used by players including music devices and phones.

3.1 *Players may obtain distance information using a device that measures distance only. If during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measure device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect their play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3 for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used.*

3.2 *iPhones and most other smartphones contain a compass and other applications which make them non-conforming distance measuring devices; distance measuring applications on cell phones are not permitted under penalty of disqualification.*

3.3 *If any player in a group uses a distance measure device then the player is encouraged to share distance information.*

Section 4. Nine holes must be completed for a match to be official. If 9 holes can not be completed for any reason, the match will be terminated and must be rescheduled. Reply of the entire nine holes will occur.

Section 5. Any official protest should be brought before the golf coaches committee immediately following the match. If it does not occur that day protest will not move forward. If the question is not resolved, the S.C.V.A.L. League chairperson will be asked to rule on the protest. If this dispute deals with scheduling problems, the question should go directly to the League Chairperson for resolution. The SCVAL Commissioner shall be notified by chairperson to issues and outcomes.

Section 6. All players will have their own scorecard with first and last name, which will be exchanged at the first tee. Each player is responsible for the accuracy of his/her own score for each hole played. At the end of the round, each player shall verify his/her scores for each hole, record his/her overall score, and sign the scorecard before turning it in to the official scorekeeper.

- 6.1 For league matches, there will be a maximum score of ten (10) on any one hole. Players are instructed to pick up after nine (9) strokes if the ball is not in the hole and score a ten (10). This is for speed of play purposes. League championships are not subject to this by-law.
- 6.2 If a player is disqualified for a scorecard violation at the end of the match his score will not count for match purposes but his actual score must be reported for individual scoring purposes in league rankings
- 6.3 If a player is disqualified for a rule violation or for not finishing a hole his score on any hole in question should be recorded as a ten for reporting purposes for individual rankings
- 6.4 Coaches and one assistant can give advice and counsel players during League matches in an effort to improve a player's golf skills and to help with pace of play for all league matches. Coaching on greens is NOT allowed. Parents and/or a teaching pro are NOT included in this process. Coaches should utilize proper etiquette, not delay play or disrupt other players.
- 6.5 If Coaches play they cannot be paired with players #1-6 during a match.

Section 7. Communications of results to newspaper and league scoring chairpersons.

- 7.1 Results should include team and individual scores with medalist (s).
- 7.2 League Chairperson – email: dknight@pausd.org
- 7.4 Winning coach to call in results. Text match results immediately after match to Sports Information Director- 408-230-0452
- 7.5 League Score Keeper-email: Jim.McGuirk@mvla.net

Article VI

Golf Committee

- Section 1.** The League chairperson will be selected by the coaches of the league and will **serve a minimum of two (2) years.**
- Section 2.** The League chairperson along with the Athletic Director liaison is responsible for by-law review and scheduling. The league reps will represent the league at CCS Boys Golf sports committee meetings.
- Section 3.** The league coaches shall recommend by-law changes and division schedules at the May meeting. They will be sent to the Athletic Directors Council and the SCVAL Board of Managers for final approval.

Article VII

League Championships and C.C.S. Representation

- Section 1.** The Varsity golf division championship shall be determined on the basis of dual meet competition. Each school will play every school in its division home and away. Two (2) points will be awarded for each win and one (1) point awarded for each tie. The winner will be the team scoring the most points during the league season. If there is a tie between two (2) or more teams, the tied teams shall be declared “Co-Champions”.
- 1.1 When two (2) teams share the championship, the team that won the dual match during the season, shall be identified as the “first place team”. In the De Anza division that team will claim the first automatic CCS spot
- 1.2 When more than two (2) teams share the championship or second place, or any other place identification of rank will be determined by the following procedure:
- 1.2.1 Teams will compare their win-loss records during “Head to Head” league match competition.
 - 1.2.2 If still tied then total strokes against each other in the two matches will be compared. The team with the fewest number of strokes will be declared the winner
 - 1.2.2 If all of these procedures do not break the tie, a simple flip of the coin will break the tie. The League Chairperson will flip the coin.
- Section 2.** Boys Team C.C.S. representation: The first place team in the De Anza Division based on league record will qualify for CCS automatically. The first place team in the league tournament will automatically qualify for CCS. If the De Anza division winner also wins the league tournament then the second place team in the league tournament will qualify for CCS
- If there is a tie in the team competition at the league tournament the tie will be the U.S.G.A. scorecard tiebreaker will be used to determine who advances (Appendix I, Part C of the current rule book. All five scores will be counted

Any teams not qualifying may submit at-large applications and will be considered by the C.C.S. golf committee based on their finish in league and competition outside of league.

2.1 The top five (5) players not on a C.C.S. qualifying team shall participate at the C.C.S. regional golf event. The five (5) players will be the golfers with the lowest total score from the League Tournament. If there is a tie for the 5th spot the U.S.G.A. scorecard tiebreaker will be used to determine who advances. All qualifying team members qualify as individuals for the C.C.S regional

Section 3. The league tournament starting time shall be as soon after 1:00 pm as the course can accommodate. Starting before 1:00 pm requires special permission of the SCVAL Board of Managers. The league tournament will be played over eighteen (18) holes.

Section 4. "All League" certificates will be awarded to the top ten (10) individual golfers based on league matches using the USGA scoring differential formula in each division.

Section 6. The League Chairperson will be in charge of the League Tournament.

ARTICLE IX

Realignment

Section 1 At the end of each season the divisions will be realigned. The top 7 teams based on the team scoring differential for non seniors will be in the De Anza Division. The other 7 will be in the El Camino Division

1.1 Any coach can propose a different alignment and if it passes by a 2/3 vote of the coaches then it shall move forward to ADC and BOMs.