

BOYS GOLF

1. FORMAT OF COMPETITION

The league shall be divided into two divisions Bay, and Ocean. The divisions shall be determined by strength of program, recommended by the coaches and approved by the Board of Managers. The determination of league placement shall be reviewed every year.

2. RULES

- 2.1 Except as modified by these bylaws, the current edition of the United States Golf Association shall govern all play. The USGA refers to the “committee” in The Rules of Golf. The PAL shall define the “committee” as the Director of Golf and the chairperson of the Bay and Ocean.
- 2.1.1 A coach who disagrees with the interpretation of golf rules or bylaws at a league match must make opposing coach aware they are in disagreement and declare that match “disputed”. Disputed match results are not final. A disputed match is settled by the “committee” once a written explanation of the events are emailed within 24 hours to the Director of Golf. A coach who disagrees with the “committees” decision can protest to the league commissioner.
- 2.2 There shall be one (1) recognized team, consisting of six (6) players for all league matches.
- 2.3 Definitions “rules of play”. Must be announced by the match director prior to the start of play. In the absence of such an announcement, ball will be played down in accordance with Summer rules.
Summer Rules – Play ball “down” in accordance with USGA rules.
Winter (“lift-clean-place”) - Local course rules. Players may mark, lift, clean and place ball within 6” of original spot, no closer to the hole. Balls assumed to be embedded and not found are lost balls. Winter rules are applicable “through the green” (the whole area of the course except: the teeing ground and putting green of the hole being played and all hazards on the course). Winter rules may or may not be accompanied by the embedded ball rule.
Embedded Ball Rule – Must be accompanied by Winter rules and is therefore applicable “through the green”. “4 sets of eyes on each shot”. Ball must be seen to “strike the course” and bounce ... blind or difficult to observe shots may require four caddies (coach(es)). Fellow competitors (at least one from each team) must agree that the ball struck course “in play” and that it is embedded and could not be found. The player will drop a ball nearest the estimated spot of the original embedded ball and continue play without penalty.
- 2.4 Expected Pace of Play
Each coach will establish a reasonable Pace of Play for their golf course. Golfers and the opposing coach must be informed of the Expected Pace of Play prior to teeing off on the 1st hole. Coaches may mutually agree to adjust the Expected Pace of Play, taking into consideration weather, course conditions, course layout (short par 5's, long or difficult par 3's), course topography, level of play, etc...).
- 2.4.1 Record start time and target time for each group.
- 2.4.2 First group must adhere to the Expected Pace of Play (+15 minutes).
- 2.4.3 Each subsequent group must maintain contact with the group in front (+15 minutes) or maintain the Expected Pace of Play. Note: (2.4.3 applies to the first group of a match or tournament if another group is playing in front of them).

- 2.4.4 Failure of group to meet Expected Pace of Play:
(9 hole match: add 1 stroke to each player's score; coaches are suggested to provide a "check point" at the 4th or 5th hole.)
18 hole tournament: Front 9 - add 1 stroke to each player's score Back 9 (not penalized on front 9) - add 1 stroke to each player's score
Back 9 (+1 stroke on front) - add 2 strokes to each players score (total penalty= 3 strokes)
- 2.4.5 A player concerned about a slow player(s) in his group should first speak with the player(s) and encourage them to play more efficiently. Then, the concerned player may ask a coach to marshal their group. The individual player does not have to be identified; the request just needs to be made. Once a group is marshaled for slow play and an individual player is identified as holding up the pace of the group, penalties may be applied to that player and rescinded from the others
- 2.4.6 Penalty strokes for failure to meet the Expected Pace of Play must be added to each player's score prior to the players signing and attesting their scorecards.
- 2.5 For PAL league competition, the following special rulings shall apply:
 - 2.5.1 All play shall be medal play, with no handicap, and scoring shall be determined by the total aggregate score of the best five (5) out of six (6) players for each team. The highest score will not count in team total.
 - 2.5.2 All dual matches will be from the regular tees.

3. NUMBER OF CONTESTS

- 3.1 There shall be a limit of eighteen (18) matches played per season, including league matches, practice matches and tournaments. Two (2) day tournaments will count as one match. More than two days counts one contest per additional day.
- 3.2 League Finals, CCS Sectional, CCS Regional, Northern California and State Tournaments will not count as part of the eighteen (18) match limit.
- 3.3 Competition in league is authorized on the Varsity level only.
- 3.5 All players will be limited to eighteen (18) total matches per season.

4. STARTING DATES

- 4.1 Starting practice dates for each sports season shall be determined by the Board of Managers.

5. DEFINITION OF PRACTICE

- 5.1 See PAL Bylaws, Article IV, Section 2.
- 5.2 Golf teams may exceed the two-and-one half (2½) hour PAL practice time limit guideline.

6. STARTING TIME FOR CONTESTS

Matches start at 3:00 PM. (Except when time is set by the golf pro or course).

7. MATCH MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 Each team match will be limited to nine (9) holes for official scoring, but players may continue to play as many holes as they can, if allowed by the golf course.
- 7.2 In case of inclement weather or darkness in order to count as an official match, the final group must have completed a minimum of five (5) holes.
- 7.3 Caddies are not permitted in league play, but pull carts are permitted, if allowed by the course.
- 7.4 Spectators are not allowed at all PAL golf events.
- 7.5 Coaches are permitted to confer with their players prior to the start of play, before the player leaves the first tee and after the 9th hole (match) or 18th hole (tournament) is played. Coaches may also confer with their players between the green and the next tee of each hole on the golf course. Once play has begun, "advice" is allowed by a player and a teammate in their group.

- "Advice" is any counsel or suggestion that could influence a player in determining his play.
"Advice" is not allowed between teammates in different groups.
- 7.6 Uniform scoring sheets shall be used by each league school. It is the responsibility of the home school coach to fax or mail the completed uniform score sheet to the designated league representative as soon as possible after the conclusion of a match.
 - 7.7 Any dispute over rules interpretation among players are to be settled, if possible, immediately by the players. If there is any doubt, a second ball is to be played along with the original, and coaches are to settle the dispute before cards are signed. Coaches are encouraged to ask help from the golf course professional when possible or necessary.
 - 7.8 Players must wear long pants, shut with collars or turtlenecks. Appropriate shirts may be worn if the golf course permits ("cargo" shirts or "short" shirts are not allowed) to be decided at the discretion of match or golf course management. Coaches will not allow any of their own players to break this rule, and a player will not be allowed to play until properly attired. If golf shoes are worn they must have "soft spikes".
 - 7.9 Each coach will send to the other coaches a list of their local course rules pertaining to dress, conduct, expected behavior, directions to the course and where to park, prior to the start of the season.
 - 7.10 At each dual match site, the home team coach will be designated as the match director and will have the following duties.
 - 7.10.1 Prepare scorecards and starting line-ups or pairings.
 - 7.10.2 Instruct players concerning special course rules or problems, Expected Pace of Play.
 - 7.10.3 Identify the tees for play. If tees used for match are not on differential chart, league rep must be informed of the rating and slope of tees actually used in the match.
 - 7.10.4 Advise players if match is being played under Summer rules, or Winter rules or Winter rules accompanied by the embedded ball rule.
 - 7.10.5 Each golfer will receive their official score card from the coach responsible for match management. Prior to the beginning of the match, each golfer will exchange official cards with their opponent (i.e. school A golfer #1 exchanges with school B golfer #1, #2 with #2, and so on through all six golfers). Each golfer will keep their opponent's official score as well as their own unofficial score on the card. Recommend that scores be checked and compared at the end of each hole. Each card, at the conclusion of the match, must be signed by the scorer and attested by the player to whom the card belongs. Once signed and turned in, the score on the card becomes official.
 - 7.10.6 Oversee match, settle disputes collect score cards, confirm scores, retain cards. Verify and fax or mail uniform PAL score sheet to the designated league representative as soon as possible after the conclusion of a match.
 - 7.11 All coaches should make sure that results are given to newspapers and the PAL Director of Golf.
 - 7.11.1 Home coach is responsible for calling papers after each match.
 - 7.11.2 Results should include individual team, medalist(s) scores, and team's won and loss record.
 - 7.11.3 An adjustment will be made to differentials when there are temporary greens on a golf course. For every temporary green an increase of 0.5 will be added to each player's differential.

I. CHAMPIONSHIPS AWARDED IN DIVISIONS

The top team in the Bay division will receive automatic CCS post season berth. The remaining automatic CCS team berth shall be determined by a four team playoff to be held on PAL Day #1. The four participating teams shall be: the second place Bay Division Team, the Ocean Division Champion

and the next two teams with the best team differential scores.

Dual match scoring shall be used to determine the winner of the PAL - CCS Playoff. The winner of the PAL/CCS Playoff will be the PAL's second automatic qualifier to the Central Coast Section Regional tournaments.

Should a tie exist for 1st place in the PAL/CCS Playoff, a "scorecard playoff" shall be used to resolve the tie the tie comparing the cumulative score of the 5 golfers used to establish the tie on holes 4-9, 7-9, and finally the 9th hole ... until a cumulative winning "team" score is determined. In the case of multiple golfers having the same "fifth best score" for a team, the coach must designate which of the golfer's score he wishes to use in the scorecard comparison before the tie-breaking process begins. Once the tie-breaking process has begun, the selection of golfer cannot be changed. If the tie breaking procedure (involving the 5 best golfers) listed above fails to resolve the tie, the 6th (dropped) golfer's score shall be added to each tied school's team score. If a tie still exists, the "scorecard playoff" procedure shall be applied to each team's score utilizing all six golfer's scorecards. In the event that a tie still exists, a coin toss (two teams tied) or a blind draw (three or more teams tied) shall be used to resolve the tie.

The four teams not advancing through the PAL/CCS playoff as the PAL's 2nd automatic CCS qualifier, may petition the CCS Golf Committee for entry into the CCS post season tournament as an "at-large" candidate.

8.1 The team championships in both divisions shall be decided by double round robin dual meets at stroke play, all players without handicap, on the basis of dual meet, won or loss records.

8.1.1 When two or more teams tie for a divisional championship, they shall be declared "co-champions". If a tie in the divisional standing occurs for any of the following (to determine automatic CCS Regional qualifiers and/or entrance into the PAL-CCS Berth Playoff).

Bay Division - 1st or 2nd place

Ocean Division - 1st place

The tie shall be resolved by applying the following criteria in descending order: .

1. Head to head win/loss record
2. Won/Loss record vs. teams above the tie in the division standings
3. Won/Loss records vs. the team below the tie in the division standings
4. Team with lowest team average differential
5. Coin flip

8.2 CCS individual representatives will be determined at the PAL Individual Golf Championship Tournament held the week before the CCS Regional Tournament.

8.2.1 The PAL Individual Championship shall consist of the top 48 golfers on the PAL Rankings List who have played in 7 matches will be eligible to play on PAL Day #1.

8.2.2 PAL Day #1 - includes all golfers ranked #1-48 on the PAL Differential Chart plus golfers playing in the 4 Team Playoff that are not ranked in the Top 48. All schools will be represented on PAL Day #1. Additional entries will be allowed if a school in the PAL does not have a golfer ranked in the top 48 they would be allowed to enter their top #1 advance to Day #2. Top 5 advance to CCS. The 4 Team Playoff (2nd in Bay, 1st in Ocean, next two teams with lowest differentials) and PAL Day #1 will be played on the same day. Golfers on the 4 Team Playoff will all play together. Winner of Playoff joins Bay winner at CCS. Once a predetermined date is established prior to PAL Day #1, there will be no more alternates entered, the school will be responsible for withdrawing golfers' green fees.

8.2.3 Resolution of Ties
Possible Ties

Day #1 - 24th place

Day #2 - 24th place

Day #3 - 1st & 10th place; 7th individual CCS qualifier not on a qualifying team

a. A sudden death playoff shall take place involving all tied players

b. If a sudden death playoff is not feasible, the score cards of the tied players shall be matched according to the following sequence until a winner is determined:

The method of matching scorecards must be announced in advance

Best score for last 9 holes

Best score for last 6 holes

Best score for last 3 holes

Best score on the 18th hole

Hole by hole comparison beginning with the 17th hole working back through the scorecard until a winner is determined

8.2.4 Apply above criteria when necessary to day #2 scorecards

Apply above criteria when necessary to day #3 scorecards

Blind draw

8.2.5 The top number of scores designated by the CCS from the PAL Individual

Golf Championship not on a CCS qualifying team shall advance to the CCS Regional

Tournament as "individual competitors". A coach can have their players apply for a

CCS individual at-large berth by using the score from PAL Day #1.

). **TIE CONTESTS** -Ties will remain and be recorded as ties.

10. POST SEASON TOURNAMENT

10.1 Neither pre or post season matches shall be authorized before or after the close of the regularly scheduled athletic activity season unless approved by the Board of Managers.

10.1.1 These matches also need CCS/CIF approval.

11. ALL-LEAGUE SELECTION PROCEDURE

11.1 Bay, and Ocean all-league selection will be based on end of season differential chart.

11.2 Six golfers from each division will be selected using differential chart. All-league golfers must have played in more than half of their team's divisional matches.

11.3 The Golfer of the Year trophy is awarded to the player who finished first in the league based on the lowest differential at the end of the season. To be eligible a golfer must have participated in 75% of the league matches.

12. AWARDS

Authorized Peninsula Athletic League awards include:

12.1 Certificates and medals recognizing "all-league selections", to be made available by the Peninsula Athletic League Commissioner's office, in addition perpetual trophies that existed prior to the formation of the PAL or were purchased since its inception will be awarded to division champions.

13. SPECIAL RULINGS

13.1 Three-Way Matches.

13.1.1 In a three-way match, the two visiting teams will play the home team but will not play each other.

13.1.2 In a true three-way match, the two visiting teams will play the home team and also will

- play each other.
- 13.1.3 In a special three-way match, the visiting team (1) will play the two home teams, but the two home teams will not play each other.
 - 13.1.4 Three-way matches will consist of six (6) threesomes with one player from each school or three (3) foursomes and two (2) threesomes.
- 13.2 Disqualification and Injury:
- 13.2.1 The highest score for the round (both teams) plus one will be assessed to anyone who is disqualified due to an involuntary or inadvertent rule violation.
 - 13.2.2 Any player who quits during the round or knowingly breaks a disqualifying rule will have ten (10) strokes added to the highest score (both teams) for the round.
 - 13.2.3 If a player is forced to retire because of an injury, no score will be recorded. However, the player must inform his coach of the injury and officially withdraw from the match prior to leaving the area, or rule 15.3.2 above will be applied.
 - 13.2.4 "Any reckless, dangerous and/or impulsive action such as throwing a club or ball or any other object like a baseball or any other action not conducive to the game of golf; burying a club head in the ground; loud swearing or using electronic equipment during a match such as answering or making phone calls, reading or replying to text, or listening to an IPOD will immediately disqualify a player and rule 15.3.2 will apply (adds 10 strokes to highest score)." Players are allowed to use electronic equipment once they have completed their last hole, if in compliance with the course rules discussed in the pre-match speech.
 - 13.2.5 Disqualification for unsportsmanlike/flagrant misconduct
A claim by a "fellow competitor" on another golfing patron on the course will result in the offending player being "marshaled" by his coach for the duration of the round and the next subsequent inter divisional round.
A claim by the coach of either competing team; course marshal or other golf course personnel..... player is disqualified and suspended from next inter divisional match.
- 13.3 Canceled matches will be rescheduled when possible. Coaches involved are responsible for rescheduling and must notify the league chairs of the change. Matches necessary to determine league championship or runner-up positions will have first priority.
 - 13.4 Failure of a golfer and coach to make his tee time under any circumstances shall result in disqualification unless appropriate accommodations have been made within tournament time schedule.
 - 13.5 If a team is disqualified for not having enough golfers to start or finish the match, the team's differential for that match will be 10 points higher than their highest team differential for the season.

14. SPORTS CHAIRPERSONS

- 14.1 The PAL Director of Golf shall serve for a minimum of two (2) years.
- 14.2 The duties of the PAL Director of Golf:
 - 14.2.1 Make league schedule (Bay and Ocean) and submit to commissioner.
 - 14.2.2 Chair per-season PAL golf meeting to go over reporting procedures, schedules, and tournament information. This meeting shall include all coaches from all divisions.
 - 14.2.3 Oversee the specifics of the date and site planning of the end of year tournaments.
 - 14.2.4 Serve as part of the three person Golf Committee.
 - 14.2.5 Gather, record, and report PAL regular season golf scores to all divisional coaches.
 - 14.2.6 Assign a participating coach to be Match Director of 4 Team CCS Playoff.
 - 14.2.7 Serve as Match Director for the three PAL tournaments which entails being responsible

for the duties under Bylaw 7.10 and assign individual coaches specific duties for the events.

14.2.8 Attend or assign a representative to attend CCS seeding meeting.

14.2.9 Fill out paper work online and submit to CCS championship events.

14.2.10 Chair post season PAL golf meeting to announce post season golf honors, discuss re-leaguing, and discuss proposed bylaw changes. The meeting shall include coaches from all divisions.

14.2.11 Attend or assign a coach to attend CCS golf evaluation meeting.