

GIRLS GOLF

1. FORMAT OF COMPETITION

1.2 Six Member Teams

Each league member shall field one (1) recognized team, consisting of six (6) players, for each league match in which the member participates.

1.3 Minimum of Five (5) Players

A league member shall be entitled to contest a league match with a minimum of five (5) players.

1.4 All players and coaches must be present 5 minutes before the first scheduled tee time in order to participate in the contest

2. GENERAL RULES OF COMPETITION

2.1 USGA Rules Apply

2.2 Nine Hole Rounds

All league matches (not including the league tournament) shall consist of nine (9) holes for official scoring purposes.

2.2.1 Minimum Official Round

All players must have completed a minimum of five (5) holes for the match to count as an official league match. Unless safety concerns require immediate cessation of play, players shall complete the hole they are playing when the decision to discontinue is made.

2.2.2 Incomplete matches will be considered "no contests".

2.3 League Designated Tees

Poplar Creek – silver, Palo Alto Muni - red (with the possible exception of the league tournament).

2.4 Summer Rules

As a general rule, "Summer rules" shall apply unless a majority of coaches or the course pro decide on Winter rules prior to the start of the match.

2.4.1 "Winter rules" is defined as follows: A ball may be lifted and cleaned, without penalty, and placed within 6 inches of where it originally lay, not nearer the hole and so as to preserve as nearly as possible the stance required to play from the original lie. A ball so lifted is back in play when the player addresses it or, if she does not address it, when she makes her next stroke at it. Winter rules do not permit such lifting, cleaning and replacing for balls that come to rest in the rough, hazard, or green.

2.5 Scoring

All league matches shall be conducted as stroke play, without handicaps.

2.5.1 Team Score

The team score for a league match shall be the aggregate of that team's five (5) best (i.e., lowest) eligible scores.

2.5.2 Tie Contests

Ties will remain and recorded as ties.

2.6 Rules Disputes

The players in the group are to settle immediately any dispute over rules interpretations or applications. If there is no agreement, a provisional ball should be played along with the original ball for the hole in question and note the score for each. The coaches shall settle the

dispute at the end of the round.

2.7 League competition is authorized on the Varsity level only.

3. NUMBER OF CONTESTS

3.1 The team match maximum, not including CCS and League Tournaments, is eighteen (18) matches per league season, including practice matches, tournaments, and league matches. Two day tournaments shall count as one match.

4. SEASON DATES

4.1 Starting practice dates for the 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.

6. STARTING TIME FOR CONTESTS

6.1 League matches shall start at 3:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as permitted by the golf course.

6.2 All players and coaches must be present at the pre match meeting 5 minutes before the first tee time.

7. MATCH MANAGEMENT

7.1 Caddies, Pull Carts

Caddies shall not be permitted in any league match (including the league tournament). With a doctor's statement of necessity, players shall be allowed to use pull carts.

7.2 Spectators

Spectators shall not be permitted during league matches.

7.3 Advice

7.3.1 Coaches (including assistant coaches) may speak with players but are not permitted to give advice to a player from the time that player commences her round to the time that she completes her round. "Advice" is any counsel or suggestion which could influence a player in determining her play, the choice of a club or the method of making a stroke (USGA Rule 8)

7.3.2 Teammates may offer advice within the same foursome for the entire match.

7.4 Schools must adhere to golf course rules pertaining to proper attire.

7.4.1 "Softspike" or "spikeless" shoes

A player may not participate in a league match unless and until her shoes comply with course requirements.

7.5 The match director will give official score cards to each player before the round commences. Each player will exchange score cards with another player in her group who is not on her team. Each player will keep the official score of the other player whose card she receives as well as her own unofficial score. Players shall check, compare, and record scores at the end of each hole. At the conclusion of the match, the scorer and player shall confirm scores on a hole by hole basis. Before a score card is submitted to the match director, it must be signed by the scorer and attested to by the player. Once signed and submitted, the card becomes official.

7.5.1 Grounds For Disqualification

Submission of the official score card without the signature of the scorer and the attestation of the player shall result in disqualification of the player. The player is

responsible for the correctness of the score recorded for each hole on her card. If she returns a score for any hole lower than that actually taken, she shall be disqualified. If she returns a score for any hole higher than actually taken, the score as returned shall stand.

7.6 Scoring Sheets

Results for league matches shall be recorded on uniform scoring sheets. The match director shall be responsible for completing and retaining the scoring sheet following conclusion of the league match and submitting the scoring sheet promptly to the golf chairperson.

7.7 Match Director

Each league match shall have a designated "host team". The coach of the host team shall be designated as the match director, with the following duties:

- a. Preparing and distributing the official score cards to all players, and completing the uniform scoring sheet.
- b. Instructing all players concerning any local course rules, special conditions or problems of the course.
- c. Identifying the color of the forward tees.
- d. Advising all players, if "Winter rules" are being applied.
- e. Monitoring the pace of the play of all groups.
- f. Collecting score cards of each player following conclusion of play and take reasonable steps to see that they are properly completed, signed, and attested to. Score cards shall be retained until the end of the league season by each team's coach.
- g. Completing the uniform scoring sheet and verify with other coaches.
- h. Transmitting results for the match to the designated media.
- i. Settling rules and scoring disputes.

7.8 Electronic devices may not be used.

8. LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

8.1 League Tournament Participation - Team

Each league member shall be entitled to enter a team of at least four (4) and no more than six (6) players in the league tournament. All players entered in the league tournament shall also be eligible to qualify as individuals for the CCS Sectional Individual Championship.

8.2 League Tournament Participation - Individual

In addition to the team entry, each league member shall be entitled to enter no more than two (2) additional qualifying individual players in the League Tournament to qualify for the CCS Sectional Individual Championship.

8.2.1 A player must have played in at least one-half (½) of her team's league matches to qualify for entry as an individual in the league tournament. A player not so qualified may appeal to the PAL girls golf committee based upon extenuating circumstances that may include injury, academic eligibility, residential eligibility and scheduling adjustments that effect course availability.

8.2.2 The league tournament chairperson shall coordinate the league tournament.

8.3 League Tournament Site

The site of the league tournament shall be determined by vote of the coaches of all-league members at the start of the league match Season or as soon as possible.

8.3.1. League Tournament Site Criteria

To be eligible for consideration as the league tournament site, a golf course must meet the following criteria:

- a. The course shall be par 70 or greater for eighteen (18) holes.
- b. The course shall have a Slope of 120 or greater from the tees to be used.
- c. The course shall be available for play by all players on all league member teams.

8.4 League Tournament Date

The league tournament shall be scheduled for a date prior to the CCS. seeding meeting

8.4.1. Rain Date

If play is permitted by the golf course, the league tournament will be played on the scheduled date, regardless of the weather. The determination regarding the use of "Winter rules," if appropriate, shall be made according to the criteria and procedures set forth in Section 2.4.1. If play is not permitted by the golf course on the scheduled date, every effort shall be made to re-schedule the Tournament such that the deadline for submitting qualified individuals to CCS for the CCS Sectional Championship can be met.

8.5 League Tournament Starting Time

Subject to availability of tee times, the league tournament shall commence at 10:00 AM or as soon thereafter as the course will permit.

8.6 League Tournament Director

The tournament director will be the league chairman or his designee.

8.7 League Tournament

This tournament is for the purpose of qualifying only individual golfers for CCS.

8.8 Special League Tournament rules

League match rules apply during the league tournament except as follows:

8.8.1 Eighteen (18) Holes

The league tournament shall be eighteen (18) holes

8.8.1.1 Minimum Official Round

In the case of inclement weather or darkness the upon concurrence of the coaches or order of the course professional, requires discontinuance of play, all players much have completed a minimum of fifteen (15) holes for the match to count as an official league match. Coaches shall not review any players' scoring before considering and deciding whether to discontinue play. Unless safety concerns require immediate cessation of play, players shall complete the hole they are playing when the decision to discontinue is made.

8.8.2 No Maximum Strokes Per Hole

There will be no maximum limit to the number of strokes a player may score on any hole.

8.8.3 Failure to Hole Out

If a player fails to hole out at any hole she shall be disqualified (USGA Rule 3-2)

8.8.4 Spectators are not allowed on the course during PAL League and PAL Championship tournament play.

9. SELECTION OF CCS QUALIFIERS

9.1 Team Qualifier

The team championship 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. When two or more teams tie for a championship, they shall be declared "co-champions". If a tie in the standing occurs for any of the following: to determine automatic CCS Regional qualifiers and or entrance into the PAL/CCS berth playoff.

9.1.1. Tie Breaker

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

1. Head to head won/loss records
2. Won/loss record vs. teams above the tie in the division standing
3. Won/loss records vs. the team below the tie in the division standings.
4. Lowest 5 team individual scores at PAL Championships.
5. Team with lowest team average differential in league play.
6. Coin Flip.

9.2 Individual Qualifiers

All individual players in the league tournament who meet the qualifying criteria set forth in the CCS Bylaws shall qualify for berths in the CCS Sectional Individual Championship.

10. ALL-LEAGUE SELECTION PROCEDURE

10.1 The top ten players in the PAL tournament will be declared all-league.

10.2 Qualifying Criteria

A player must have played in at least fifty-percent (50%) of her team's league matches (not including the league tournament).

10.3 League Match Medalist Points

The top ten (10) qualifying players in the league championship match will be the all-league team.

10.3.1 Ties

Ties for any position will be broken by a "sudden death playoff," involving all tied players. 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.

11. AWARDS

11.1 All League Certificates

Certificates recognizing "all-league selections" will be made available by the Peninsula Athletic League Commissioner's office. A perpetual team trophy will be awarded the league champion.

12. INFRACTIONS/PENALTIES

If the commissioner has found a school/team to have violated the PAL Constitution or Bylaws there shall be a penalty imposed by the commissioner.

12.1 The principal of an involved school may appeal the commissioner's decision. The appeal is to be directed to the President of the Board of Managers by phone within two (2) school days of the commissioner's decision, followed by a letter within five (5) school days.

12.2 All appeals shall include a check for fifty (\$50.00) dollars made out to the PAL. Checks will be returned if the appeal is upheld.

- 12.3 The President of the Board of Managers shall appoint an appeal committee. The composition of the committee shall be: one principal, one athletic director, and two coaches. No committee members shall be associated with the school or schools involved.

13. SPECIAL RULINGS

- 13.1 Disqualification and Injury
- 13.1.1 The highest score for the match (all teams) plus one will be assessed to any player disqualified due to an involuntary or inadvertent rule violation.
- 13.1.2 The highest score for the match (all teams) plus ten (10) shall be assessed to any player who withdraws during a match or knowingly violates a disqualifying rule.
- 13.1.3 If a player is forced to withdraw from a match due to an injury, no score will be recorded. However, the player must inform her coach of the injury and officially withdraw from the match who then must inform the match director prior to leaving the course.
- 13.4.4 "Any reckless, dangerous and/or impulsive action such as throwing a club or ball; hitting a 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; or loud swearing will immediately disqualify a player and rule 14.1.2. will apply (adds 10 strokes to highest score).
- 13.4.5 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.

14. SPORTS CHAIRPERSONS

- 14.1 The golf chairpersons shall serve for a minimum of two (2) years.
- 14.2 The duties of the chairperson shall include:
- 14.2.1 Acting as league scoring director.
- 14.2.2 Notifying the commissioner of all sport committee meetings.
- 14.2.3 Calling and conducting a meeting of all league member girls golf coaches prior to the beginning of the season to go over schedules, by-laws, rules changes, and any other topics pertaining to the upcoming season.
- 14.2.4 Calling and conducting a meeting of all league member girls golf coaches following the end of the season to review the bylaws, set up schedules for the next season, select all league players, and discuss any other issues relating to the season just completed.
- 14.2.5 Reporting the all-league selections to the commissioner.
- 14.2.6 Representing the PAL at CCS Girls Golf Committee meetings.

