

501 GOVERNING BODY

United States Golf Association is the governing authority in golf. The State CIF, NCS, or the MCAL may make modifications to the USGA rules.

502 GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Girls golf shall be a fall sport. Boys golf shall be a spring sport.
2. MCAL golf is based on a complete double round robin schedule, sixteen (16) matches for girls and eighteen (18) matches for boys as defined by NCS and approved by a majority of the coaches. (5/30/07)
3. Matches may be played any day of the week, Monday-Friday, subject to course availability.
4. MCAL golf matches will be scheduled to start no later than 3:00-4:00 depending on season of sport.
5. If the coach or coaches must leave due to an emergency, the match will be suspended and must be replayed.
6. Cancelled or suspended matches must be rescheduled or completed on the next date available to both teams.
7. No match may begin unless both coaches are present.
8. Inclement weather: Home teams will be responsible for canceling matches due to inclement weather. Matches must be cancelled by 1:00. Coaches and athletic directors of teams affected need to be notified.
9. MCAL golf has adopted a code of conduct for all golfers as noted in 505.12.

503 OFFICIALS

Golf is a self-officiated sport.

504 ADMISSION

Admission may be charged at any MCAL contest although it is not customary to charge admission for golf matches.

505 LEAGUE RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. Any practice on the golf course before the match is strictly prohibited.
2. Use of the course driving range by team members competing in the match is prohibited unless agreed to by both coaches. Practice squad players can use the driving range.
3. Only the course practice putting green may be used for putting or chipping (if allowed).

4. The coach of the home team determines whether to “lift, clean and place” or play “the ball down”. The home team coach is responsible for explaining any “local rules” of the home course. (4/30/06)
5. No spectators will be allowed on the course unless agreed upon by both coaches and the course manager. If spectators are allowed they must stay on cart paths, remaining no closer than 30 yards from the players at all times, and may not communicate in any way with any player.
6. Players and coaches must wear collared shirts. Shirts are to be tucked in at all times. Shorts must meet the course requirements. Players are not allowed to wear blue jeans in any competition. Caps must be worn with the bill forward. Face and body paint are not allowed. No scarves, do-rags, headbands, or any other attire deemed inappropriate by the host coach may be worn. Golf shoes or tennis shoes must be worn.
7. All matches will be played in “stroke” format, scoring the lowest 5 of 6 scores recorded for each team. Teams may play with only five players. Coaches may agree to play a match under the double par format. Any players who will play using the double par must be identified to the opposing coach prior to the start of the match. Any player who plays a match under this format is ineligible for all-league points during that match. For team competition scoring purposes, any player who is competing using the double par rule will have their score recorded as double par for the match: if par for the course is 36 their score will be recorded as a 72, regardless of the actual score recorded. If both teams compete with the same number of players playing the double par format the total scores of players not using the double par format will determine the winner. If one team competes with fewer players playing double par than the opponent, the team with more players counting all strokes will be declared the winner of the match. (8/27/08)
8. In case of a tie, the team with the lowest sixth score wins. If after six scores are used, the teams remain tied, the scorecards of the players listed in the number one position will be compared starting with the first handicap hole and proceeding hole-by-hole until one player has a lower score on a hole. If there is still a tie, the same procedure is applied to the second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth players until the tie is broken.
9. Players are to exchange scorecards with their opponents before their group tees off. Players **MUST** check scores at the end of each hole. Upon completion of the round, the competitor and their marker will compare scorecards for discrepancies. If the competitor and the marker cannot resolve discrepancies, both coaches are to be advised of the situation and, after discussion, make a ruling. Once the scorer signs the card and it is attested, the score is considered final. No further protests or rulings will be allowed.
10. No coach may give advice to player during a match. Coaches are encouraged to walk the course with players to assist in rules interpretations and insure pace of play is maintained. **Note: Information on the Rules of Golf is not considered to be advice. (8/27/08)**
11. Forfeits. A team, which does not show up for a scheduled match, will be deemed to have forfeited the match. A team, which shows up with less than five players, will be deemed to have lost the match but the match will be played with those players available eligible for individual scoring.
12. Players are responsible for knowing the rules of golf and for scoring correctly. Players will sign the following statement prior to the first league match and a copy will be forwarded to the league office.

“I understand that, under USGA rules, attesting an incorrect score can result in disqualification of the competitor from the match. I also

understand, under MCAL rules, scoring incorrectly for an opponent may result in disqualification of the scorer from the match.” A form with the above will be handed out to all coaches at the preseason meeting (pg. 18b of this section).

13. If a player is disqualified from two matches in a season he/she is excluded from postseason participation.

506 CHAMPIONSHIP

1. All teams with a win/loss ratio of 500 or better will advance to the MCAL championship tournament. (1/11/10) Additionally, any non-qualifying team may send one golfer to the tournament. (4/30/06)
2. Teams, which have forfeited a league match during the season, are ineligible to participate, as a team, in the league tournament.
3. Winner of the MCAL automatically advances to TOC. MCAL 2nd place team will automatically be NCS qualifier. And all others may apply for an at large berth to the NCS Tournament.
4. The top three individuals not on a qualifying team will qualify for the NCS regional tournament.
5. All ties in team competition will be broken according to section 505, paragraph 8. In the event of a tie between two or more individuals for the last qualifying berth to the NCS regional or NCS section tournament, the players tied shall have a sudden death playoff, for that final position only, starting on the 1st hole and continuing only until the tie(s) is/are broken. If time does not permit a playoff, the last nine holes will be compared, if a tie still exists the last six holes are compared, if a tie still exists the last three holes are compared. If a tie still exists the last hole will determine the winner.
6. In the MCAL championship, the tournament committee will determine the conditions of play.
7. During the league tournament, coaches/school officials will marshal the competition. Order of assignments will be drawn by lot. Coaches may serve as the tournament committee but coaches will not serve as members of the rules committee.(5/30/07)
8. Rotation of sites for the play-offs will be the same for boy’s & girl’s seasons:
School Year
2011-2012 Peacock Gap 2012-2013 Napa course TBA
2013-2014 San Geronimo 2014-2015 Indian Valley
If a course is not available, drop to the next course and keep rotations as is.

507 AWARDS AND PENNANTS

1. After completion of the regular season, the team with the best record will receive the league championship pennant. If two teams have the same won/loss record, the tie will be broken by head to head competition between the teams. If a tie remains, the tie will be broken by comparing total strokes of the scoring players in the head-to-head match(es) will be totaled. The team

with the lowest stroke total will receive the pennant for being the round robin champion. If teams are tied, both teams will be declared co-champions and receive a pennant. If the winner of the championship tournament is a different team than the round robin winner, a pennant will be awarded to that winner also.

508 ALL LEAGUE

1. To determine the Player of the Year and 1st and 2nd Team All League honorees the average strokes over the course rating method will be used. The number of strokes over/under the course rating for each course played a competitor totals during the round robin competition will be divided by the number of league matches the competitor participated in.
2. Averages will be calculated and the players with the lowest average (rounded to two decimal places) will be the Player of the Year. The next six lowest averages, plus ties, will be first team all-league. The next lowest six players and ties will be second team all-league. In addition, each coach may add one player to the honorable mention category. (5/30/07)
3. In order to be eligible for all-league and Player of the Year honors, a player must play in at least ten league matches.