



MPSSAA GOLF BULLETIN

State Tournament - October 23-25, 2023
University of Maryland, College Park

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association is the official governing body for the Golf tournament. Plans for the tournament were formulated by the State Golf Committee and approved by the Board of Control.
- B. Schools choosing to enter the tournament have the responsibility for reading and adhering to the rules and regulations stated in the front section of this publication as well as those appearing within this Golf Bulletin. Unless specifically stated, all rules and regulations stipulated in the USGA Rule Book will be followed.
- C. Eligibility rules for all participants are defined in MPSSAA Bylaw .02, found in the current MPSSAA Handbook.
- D. General regulations for all state tournaments are contained in MPSSAA Bylaw .07, found in both the current Handbook and in the front section of this publication.
- E. The State Golf Committee has approved the use of non-motorized pushcarts by players to carry their golf bags at all levels of play within the State.

II. DISTRICT AND STATE TOURNAMENTS

- A. Tournament Organization
 - 1. Schools may enter one team into district play that is comprised of five individuals (male or female).
 - 2. Schools without teams may enter individuals in district play as individual participants.
 - 3. Schools with a team may enter additional female participants in district play.
 - 4. Girls are subject to the same rules as boys, with the exception of playing from women’s tees in district and state play.
 - 5. The entry for district and state competition must be signed by the coach, athletic director, and the school principal or the entry will be denied.
- B. Playing Rules
 - 1. The state tournament will be divided into two classifications: 4A/3A and 2A/1A.
 - 2. Teams for the district tournament may consist of five players.
 - a. Districts will count the LOW FOUR towards the team score. The LOW FOUR will constitute the team at the state tournament.

2023 GOLF TIME LINE		
	DISTRICT TOURNAMENT	STATE TOURNAMENT
Aug. 9First practice and first play date	Oct. 17Tournament completion date Oct. 18Organizational meeting for state tournament	Oct. 234A/3A Semifinals Oct. 242A/1A Semifinals Oct. 25Finals/Raindate Dec. 14Reimbursement request due

- b. If the fifth player (the individual with the highest score) qualifies, he/she may participate in the state tournament on an individual basis only.
3. Each entrant will play 18 holes of stroke play.
 - a. All district tournaments shall be played at the distances shown on their course scorecards.
 - b. Course rating for boys is from the middle or white tees.
 - c. Course rating for girls is from the red or women's tees.
 4. Ties for the last individual qualifying place in the district tournament will be determined with a playoff starting from the course designated hole and playing complete holes until the tie is broken. If extenuating circumstances prevent the culmination of said playoff, the USGA recommended tie-breakers will be used starting with 9, 6, 3, 1.

C. Determining district championships and qualifying for the state tournament.

1. Individual advancement to the state tournament (all criteria below must be met for advancement).
 - a. Individuals must shoot a qualifying score determined by the following formula:

“Course rating +X strokes = qualifying score for that course”

District	Date(s) of Event	Course(s) & Team Qualifying Score	Female Course Rating/Qualifying Score	Male Course Rating/Qualifying Score
1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
2	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
3	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
4	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
5	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
6	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
7	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
8	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

- b. All districts' course ratings will be used in the equation. The adjustment factor, “X”, will be determined by the state committee and distributed to all district representatives. The state committee determines the “X” factor based on the USGA course ratings of all district courses to provide equity for advancement based on the district course.
- c. Individuals who shoot the qualifying score are not guaranteed advancement to the state tournament. Individuals must also be in the top one-eighth (1/8) of the remaining players after subtracting participants who advanced with their teams. (Refer to page 43 of this bulletin for further details.)
- d. District chairpersons may submit six additional qualifying alternates in numerical order.

2. Team advancement to the state tournament.

- a. **The state championship cut score for teams advancing from district tournaments to the state tournament shall be an aggregate score of 350 or less.**



- b. The four-player team in the 4A/3A and 2A/1A with the lowest aggregate score for 72 holes shall be the district champion. **District champions aggregate score for 72 holes may not exceed the state cut score of 350 or less in order to advance to the state finals.**
- c. In addition to the top 4A/3A and 2A/1A team finishers, any team shooting a qualifying score at their district course as determined by an aggregate score of four times the “X” factor plus four strokes will advance to the state tournament. When a female is included in the low four scores, the female “X” factor will be used to determine the aggregate score for team advancement. **The aggregate qualifying score for 72 holes may not exceed the state cut score of 350 or less in order to advance to the state finals.**

D. General Policies

1. District tournament directors will be responsible for the assignment of duties. It is highly recommended that the representatives from schools at the district tournament be assigned as scorers or marshals.
2. In order to accommodate all players, the State Committee may adjust the district alignment when the committee determines an overcrowding of district participants.

III. STATE TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament Organization

1. The 2023 State Tournament will be held at the University of Maryland golf course. State Semifinal rounds will take place Monday, October 23rd and Tuesday, October 24th. Qualifiers from the Semifinal rounds will compete in the Finals on Wednesday, October 25th.
2. The competition will be held over 36-holes, weather permitting.
 - a. TEAMS: Teams qualifying will compete in a one-day 18-hole semifinal round.
 - i. On Monday, October 23rd, the Class 4A/3A qualifying teams will compete.
 - ii. On Tuesday, October 24th, the Class 2A/1A qualifying teams will compete.
 - b. INDIVIDUALS: Individuals qualifying will compete in a one-day 18-hole Semifinal round. In order to manage the size of the field and the pace of play for each day of the Semifinals, the State Committee may assign individuals to either day of Semifinals.
 - i. Individuals, whose school has qualified as a team, will compete on the same day their school team competes.
 - ii. The committee will attempt to schedule as many individuals as possible on the same day their school’s classification competes.
 - c. Teams and individuals qualifying from the Semifinal rounds will return on Wednesday, October 25th, for State Final play. Overall results will be based on cumulative scores from the Semifinals and Finals.
3. There will be a meeting of the State Golf Committee on Wednesday, October 18th, at 10 a.m. at the University of Maryland Golf Course. District chairpersons should complete the electronic form provided by the State Committee Director.
4. Directions for State Tournament

From route 495 (Capital Beltway) : Exit Route 1 South to Md. Route 193 (University Blvd). Proceed West for two miles to golf course entrance on right.

5. Each district shall provide the following personnel who will be assigned by the State Golf Committee as scorers or marshals.
 - a. Coaches or an approved school representative in lieu of the coach will assist in tournament management.
 - b. On Wednesday, October 25th, all coaches or the approved school representatives in lieu of a coach with remaining athletes will assist in tournament management.
6. The Tournament Director will assign competitors on the basis of schools represented and scores reported on the entry blank. Players from the same school will not play together.
7. Tournament play will begin with a 'shotgun' start at **9:00 a.m.** each day.
 - a. Coaches or school-designated representatives (representatives must present on school letterhead a document stating their designation as the school representative and it must be signed by the athletic director or school principal) are responsible for signing in all participants at least 30 minutes before starting time.
 - b. Coaches or school-designated representatives must remain onsite the duration of the tournament for general supervision and in the event of student-athlete injury or emergency.
 - c. Time should be allowed for traffic, etc. Players and coaches/school representatives who fail to report before the starting time will be scratched.
 - d. The head coach must be onsite and help with general supervision or tournament management as directed. If the head coach is not onsite, an assistant coach or school designated representative must be available. Redesignating **or refusing to complete** assigned duties without prior approval of the State Golf Committee is subject to "misconduct detrimental to the tournament" and its' penalties as found in the MPSSAA Handbook.
 - e. Time Frame: * Please account for traffic in your travel plans.*
 - ** Driving Range opens at daybreak.**
 - 8:00 a.m.....Coaches Sign In
 - 8:15 a.m.....Coaches Meeting
 - 8:25 a.m.....Range Closes
 - 8:30 a.m.....Players Meeting
 - 9:00 a.m.....'Shotgun' Start

8. Method used to determine champions
 - a. The four-member team in each classification (4A/3A and 2A/1A) with the lowest aggregate score for 144 holes shall be declared the state team champions.
 - b. The individual boys and girls in each classification (4A/3A and 2A/1A) with the lowest aggregate score for 36 holes shall be declared the state individual champions.
9. Designated alternates are eligible to participate in team competition if a team withdraws any of their team competitors from the tournament and the substitute played as the fifth team-member in the district tournament.

B. General Policies

1. Advancement standards for qualifying from semifinals to finals:
 - a. TEAMS: The top forty percent of teams (up to 40%) from each semifinal will advance to the finals with at least three teams guaranteed to advance. All teams who tie the cutoff score will advance.



- b. INDIVIDUALS: The top forty percent of individual male and female competitors will advance to the finals. All individuals who tie the cutoff score will advance to the finals. There will be one male cut score and one female cut score announced at the conclusion of each semifinal round for all individuals. **At least five total males and five total females are guaranteed to advance.**
2. Within each classification (4A/3A and 2A/1A), each of the top two teams will receive a plaque. Awards will be presented to the top individual male and female finishers in each classification.
 - a. Ties for first place will be resolved by playoff, starting on the course designated hole and continuing until the tie is broken. All other individual ties will stand.
 - b. In case of a tie for first team honors, the teams involved start from the course designated hole and continue on until the tie is broken.
3. The number of individual awards may be reduced in the proportion to the number of participants in district and state play.
4. All equipment, including golf balls, shall be furnished by the competing teams or individuals.

C. Playing Rules

1. The regular green fee is expected for all practice rounds. No free practice rounds will be permitted on the course prior to the tournament.
 - a. Only a limited number are available on the weekend prior to the tournament.
 - b. Coaches are reminded of MPSSAA regulations prohibiting Sunday practice and may not accompany players to Sunday practice rounds.
2. Coaches are responsible for reviewing the rules of stroke play with their players.
3. An official scorer will accompany each foursome to assist play and carry the official score card.
 - a. Golfers are expected to keep their own score and should verify it as a whole group with the scorer after each hole.
 - b. Official scorers and golfers must enter the designated "Scoring Area" to verify and sign their official scorecards after each round. All questions regarding the round shall be addressed PRIOR to the golfers leaving the designated scoring area. Official scorers shall also deliver the signed scorecards to the Match Director in the designated "Scoring Area" and sign-out that it was delivered. Failure of a player to verify, sign, and submit a scorecard shall be considered "conduct detrimental to the tournament".
 - c. Any unsportsmanlike action directed at these officials, such as abusive language, may result in disqualification from tournament play.
4. Local rules of the host club shall be observed implicitly. An official school representative from each competing school shall be responsible for such compliance by members of his/her group. The tournament director may delegate the responsibility to rule on technical questions arising from play to some other person; however, should there be any reservations on a ruling that was made some time after a questionable problem or development, the situation may only be resolved through action of the tournament committee as designated by the tournament director.
5. Closing of the course due to inclement weather
 - a. In the event a Semifinal on Monday OR Tuesday is postponed, the postponed Semifinal will be contested on October 25th. Based on the availability of the University of Maryland golf course, a possible second 18-hole final could be completed on a date to be determined.

- b. In case both Monday AND Tuesday Semifinals are postponed, an alternate plan will be developed by the State Golf Committee.
6. **The MPSSAA State Golf Committee has adopted the following policies prior to, during, and after each day of the state tournament in the interest of the integrity of the game, sportsmanship, and safety.**
- a. Participating players are prohibited from using tobacco products during the tournament.
 - b. All players must wear appropriate nonmetal cleated shoes and may not play barefooted.
 - c. All players must wear appropriate golf attire.
 - d. The use of a caddie or motorized golf cart is not permitted. Non-motorized pushcarts will NOT be available to rent at the state tournament.
 - e. Spectators are restricted to the cart path and must remain off all fairways and greens.
 - f. Coaches, parents, students, and/or spectators are prohibited from providing direct or indirect advice to players, scorers, and tournament officials throughout the tournament. Failure to comply may result in player disqualification and/or restricting the offending spectator to the clubhouse.
 - g. Pace of Play - The MPSSAA State Golf Committee reserves the right to time a group whenever the Committee deems the group to be out of position. Players should also be aware that under USGA Rule 5.6, the Committee may assess a penalty to a player in a group which is out of position if that player makes no effort to help the player's group get back into position, e.g., such as when a player unduly delays play between shots.
 - h. **Distance measuring devices, including portable electronic devices, are allowed and permitted to be shared with other competitors.**
7. **Any violation of aforementioned actions by participants, coaches, and spectators may result in warnings, penalties, and/or disqualification upon determination of the tournament committee as designated by the tournament director.**

PROJECTED MPSSAA GOLF TOURNAMENT DATES		
2024 - October 28/29, 30	2025 - October 27/28, 29	2026 - October 26/27, 28

MPSSAA State Committee Members are listed on the MPSSAA Website at www.mpssaa.org

2023 ALIGNMENT FOR GOLF

CLASS 4A-3A

<u>DISTRICT 1</u>				<u>DISTRICT 4</u>		<u>DISTRICT 6</u>	
1. Manchester Valley	Car	17. Col. Zadok Magruder	Mtg	1. Northern	Cal	1. Dundalk	B Co
2. Westminster	Car	18. James Hubert Blake	Mtg	2. North Point	Cha	2. Kenwood	B Co
3. Frederick	Fre	19. John F. Kennedy	Mtg	3. St. Charles	Cha	3. Parkville	B Co
4. Linganore	Fre	20. Rockville	Mtg	4. Chopticon	StM	4. Perry Hall	B Co
5. Oakdale	Fre	21. Sherwood	Mtg	5. Great Mills	Stm	5. Woodlawn	B Co
6. Thomas Johnson	Fre	22. Thomas S. Wootton	Mtg	6. Leonardtown	Stm	6. Catonsville	B Co
7. Tuscarora	Fre	23. Watkins Mill	Mtg			7. Dulaney	B Co
8. Urbana	Fre					8. Franklin	B Co
9. North Hagerstown	Was					9. Lansdowne	B Co
10. South Hagerstown	Was					10. Overlea	B Co
						11. Towson	B Co
		<u>DISTRICT 3</u>		<u>DISTRICT 5</u>			
		1. Bladensburg	PG	1. Annapolis	AA		
		2. Bowie	PG	2. Broadneck	AA		
		3. Charles H. Flowers	PG	3. Glen Burnie	AA		
		4. Dr. Henry A. Wise	PG	4. Meade	AA		
		5. Duval	PG	5. North County	AA		
		6. Eleanor Roosevelt	PG	6. Old Mill	AA		
		7. High Point	PG	7. Arundel	AA		
		8. Laurel	PG	8. Chesapeake	AA		
		9. Northwestern	PG	9. Crofton	AA		
		10. Parkdale	PG	10. Northeast	AA		
		11. Suitland	PG	11. Severna Park	AA		
		12. Oxon Hill	PG	12. South River	AA		
				13. Atholton	How		
				14. Howard	How		
				15. Long Reach	How		
				16. Marriotts Ridge	How		
				17. Mount Hebron	How		
				18. Oakland Mills	How		
				19. Reservoir	How		
				20. River Hill	How		
<u>DISTRICT 2</u>						<u>DISTRICT 7</u>	
1. Albert Einstein	Mtg					1. Aberdeen	Hfd
2. Bethesda-CC	Mtg					2. Bel Air	Hfd
3. Clarksburg	Mtg					3. Edgewood	Hfd
4. Gaithersburg	Mtg						
5. Montgomery Blair	Mtg						
6. Northwest	Mtg						
7. Northwood	Mtg						
8. Paint Branch	Mtg						
9. Quince Orchard	Mtg						
10. Richard Montgomery	Mtg						
11. Seneca Valley	Mtg						
12. Springbrook	Mtg						
13. Walt Whitman	Mtg						
14. Walter Johnson	Mtg						
15. Wheaton	Mtg						
16. Winston Churchill	Mtg						

CLASS 2A-1A

<u>DISTRICT 1</u>		<u>DISTRICT 3</u>		<u>DISTRICT 6</u>		<u>DISTRICT 8</u>	
1. Allegany	All	1. Central	PG	1. Carver A&T	B Co	1. Colonel Richardson	Cin
2. Fort Hill	All	2. Crossland	PG	2. Chesapeake	B Co	2. North Caroline	Cin
3. Mountain Ridge	All	3. Fairmont Heights	PG	3. Eastern Tech	B Co	3. Cambridge-SD	Dor
4. Century	Car	4. Frederick Douglass	PG	4. Hereford	B Co	4. North Dorchester	Dor
5. Francis Scott Key	Car	5. Friendly	PG	5. Loch Raven	B Co	5. Kent County	K
6. Liberty	Car	6. Gwynn Park	PG	6. Milford Mill Academy	B Co	6. Kent Island	QA
7. South Carroll	Car	7. Largo	PG	7. New Town	B Co	7. Queen Anne's	QA
8. Winters Mill	Car	8. Potomac	PG	8. Owings Mills	B Co	8. Washington	Som
9. Brunswick	Fre	9. Surrattsville	PG	9. Patapsco	B Co	9. Easton	Tal
10. Catoclin	Fre			10. Pikesville	B Co	10. St. Michael's	Tal
11. Middletown	Fre			11. Randallstown	B Co	11. James M. Bennett	Wic
12. Walkersville	Fre			12. Sparrows Point	B Co	12. Mardela	Wic
13. Northern	Gar	<u>DISTRICT 4</u>		13. Western Tech	B Co	13. Parkside	Wic
14. Southern	Gar	1. Calvert	Cal			14. Wicomico	Wic
15. Boonsboro	Was	2. Huntingtown	Cal			15. Pocomoke	Wor
16. Clear Spring	Was	3. Patuxent	Cal			16. Snow Hill	Wor
17. Smithsburg	Was	4. Henry E. Lackey	Cha	<u>DISTRICT 7</u>		17. Stephen Decatur	Wor
18. Williamsport	Was	5. La Plata	Cha	1. Bohemia Manor	Cec		
		6. McDonough	Cha	2. Elkton	Cec		
		7. Thomas Stone	Cha	3. North East	Cec		
		8. Westlake	Cha	4. Perryville	Cec		
				5. Rising Sun	Cec		
				6. C. Milton Wright	Har		
				7. Fallston	Har		
				8. Harford Tech	Har		
				9. Havre de Grace	Har		
				10. Joppatowne	Har		
				11. North Harford	Har		
				12. Patterson Mill	Har		
<u>DISTRICT 2</u>		<u>DISTRICT 5</u>					
1. Damascus	Mtg	1. Chesapeake Science Pt.	AA				
2. Poolesville	Mtg	2. Southern	AA				
		3. Centennial	How				
		4. Glenelg	How				
		5. Hammond	How				
		6. Wilde Lake	How				

MPSSAA STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT QUALIFYING CHART

The Chart below is used to determine the number that will qualify from individuals who are officially entered and participate in the District Tournament. FIGURES ARE BASED ON THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS REMAINING AFTER SUBTRACTING PARTICIPANTS WHO ADVANCED WITH THEIR TEAMS.

DISTRICT TOURNAMENT			
Individual Qualifying Chart			
1- 1	34- 4	67- 8	100-13
2- 1	35- 4	68- 9	101-13
3- 1	36- 5	69- 9	102-13
4- 1	37- 5	70- 9	103-13
5- 1	38- 5	71- 9	104-13
6- 1	39- 5	72- 9	105-13
7- 1	40- 5	73- 9	106-13
8- 1	41- 5	74- 9	107-13
9- 1	42- 5	75- 9	108-14
10- 1	43- 5	76-10	109-14
11- 1	44- 6	77-10	110-14
12- 2	45- 6	78-10	111-14
13- 2	46- 6	79-10	112-14
14- 2	47- 6	80-10	113-14
15- 2	48- 6	81-10	114-14
16- 2	49- 6	82-10	115-14
17- 2	50- 6	83-10	116-15
18- 2	51- 6	84-11	117-15
19- 2	52- 7	85-11	118-15
20- 3	53- 7	86-11	119-15
21- 3	54- 7	87-11	120-15
22- 3	55- 7	88-11	121-15
23- 3	56- 7	89-11	122-15
24- 3	57- 7	90-11	123-15
25- 3	58- 7	91-11	124-16
26- 3	59- 7	92-12	125-16
27- 3	60- 8	93-12	126-16
28- 4	61- 8	94-12	127-16
29- 4	62- 8	95-12	128-16
30- 4	63- 8	96-12	129-16
31- 4	64- 8	97-12	
32- 4	65- 8	98-12	
33- 4	66- 8	99-12	

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* Individuals who shoot the qualifying score does not guarantee advancement to the state tournament. Individuals must also be in the top one-eighth (1/8) of the remaining players after subtracting participants who advanced with their teams. (Refer to page 33 of this bulletin for further details.)