



# Iowa Girls' High School Athletic Union

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[www.ighsau.org](http://www.ighsau.org)

## 2026 State Golf Tournament Qualifier Information May 28-29, 2026

<b>Locations:</b>	1A	Cedar Pointe Golf Course	Boone
	2A	American Legion Golf Course	Marshalltown
	3A	Pheasant Ridge Golf Course	Cedar Falls
	4A	Waverly Municipal Golf Course	Waverly

### TIME SENSITIVE TO-DO

#### State Qualifier Entry Form:

1. State Qualifying teams/individuals must submit the 2026 State Golf Entry Information Google form that was emailed to all regional finalists. **Deadline: 9:00 AM on Friday, May 22**

CLICK → [-- Team Entry Form --](#) ← CLICK

2. Photos must be submitted from state qualifying teams and individuals by **9:00 am, on Friday, May 22**. When submitting your team photo, list each person pictured, along with their grade in school (Ex: Lisa Smith (10), Sara Thompson (12), etc.). Pictures must be in a jpeg or tiff format. In the subject line of the email, put the name of the school, your school's classification, and the sport (ex: Smithville, 2A, Golf). Send to Heidi Reed @ [heidireed@ighsau.org](mailto:heidireed@ighsau.org)

#### Coaches' & Players Golf Carts

- Complimentary carts provided:
  - Qualifying teams: 1 cart for head coaches
- **Cart reservations required:**
  - Qualifying teams: 2<sup>nd</sup> cart (if desired) \$15/day
  - Coaches of individual qualifiers (if desired) \$15/day
  - Golfers who require a cart for medical reasons Free

**-- To reserve coaches' carts, you must email Ben Van Wyk ([ben@ighsau.org](mailto:ben@ighsau.org)) by Friday (5/22) at noon --**

#### Spectator Golf Carts

**PLEASE PASS THIS ONTO YOUR SPECTATORS:** All spectator golf cart reservations will be directly through the course prior to the state meet. Spectator golf carts can be reserved by calling the course clubhouse beginning at **10:00 am on Monday, May 25th**. If you qualify for state and have a spectator in your community who you believe will be wanting a cart, please inform them of this.

## **Format**

A 9:00 a.m. shotgun start will be used on Day 1. Tee times will be used on Day 2 starting at 8:30 a.m. If weather is an issue, Day 2 may utilize a shotgun start. Tee assignments will be given at the coaches meeting on Day 1. The tournament is 36-hole stroke play unless weather requires a shorter tournament.

## **Admission**

\$10 / day for K – Adult. Tickets must be purchased online @ Bound.

## **Tee Assignments**

The top five teams (based on team averages) will be paired together, and the bottom five teams will be paired together for both days of the tournament. Individual qualifiers will be grouped together both days of the tournament. Day 2 tee assignments are based on Day 1 scores. Golfers will not be paired with another golfer from their school.

## **Team Tournament**

The team tournament is separate from the medalist tournament, although a player's score in the State Tournament shall count toward both the team and medalist results.

Each team may play six (6) participants, with the low four (4) of six (6) 18-hole scores counting for the team total. Player personnel may be changed from the Regional to the State Tournament and subsequently changed from Day 1 to Day 2 of the State Tournament. Schools may list a 7<sup>th</sup> golfer on their State Qualifier Google Entry Form that will replace one of the other six golfers listed for one day at the State Meet.

## **Driving Range Fees**

Driving range fees for the two-day tournament will be \$20 (total) for qualifying teams and \$10 (total) for qualifying individuals. Driving range fees must be paid to the clubhouse. The driving range fees allow access to the range before competition on Thursday and before competition on Friday. Use of the range after Thursday's round is not included in this fee.

## **Live-Scoring**

Hole-by-hole live-scoring will be used both days, in addition to physical scorecards. One golfer from each group will enter that group's scores after each hole. The live scoring link is located at [IGHSAU.org](http://IGHSAU.org) in the Golf section. **Posted live scores are not considered official.** Please have all your golfers download the Golf Genius app to their phone prior to the event.

## **Scorecard Protocol**

Scorecards will be exchanged between members of the group, with each player serving as a marker for another player in the group. At the conclusion of play, each golfer should TOTAL her score (9 and 18 holes) and write it on the scorecard. The scorer and the person whose score is being kept must sign the scorecard prior to turning it in to officials at the Official Scoring Area. Golfers must turn in their own scorecard. **COACHES–DO NOT** hold all the team cards until all golfers are in.

## **Water / Food Distribution**

*Outside food and beverages will not be allowed at the State Golf Tournament sites.* Teams and spectators are not allowed to bring food, coolers, beverages onto the course. The clubhouse will have food prepared for golfers to “grab and go” for lunch. Golfers should move to the front of the line to ensure pace of play is not affected. “Grab and go” lunches are not complimentary.

The IGHSAU allows a coach or parent to hand beverages/food to their player/daughter on the course, with every effort being made for this to occur between green and tee or near the clubhouse. No golf instruction should occur between the golfers and parents at this time.

### **Coaches Meeting**

Coaches will be given packets containing their coaching badges, program, tee assignments, player scorecards and informational sheet when checking in on Day 1. **A coaches meeting will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Day 1.** This will be followed immediately by a player/coach meeting. There will be no group coaches meeting on Day 2. Coaches will receive instruction needed for Day 2 from the IGHSAU meet manager when checking in their team/individual due to the tee time format.

Coaches' meetings are mandatory for all coaches as rules for competition and local rules will be explained. Failure to attend this meeting may result in disqualification of that team's members. It is the responsibility of each coach to attend and in turn carry instructions to their own golf squad. The tournament will not await arrival of coaches or players either day so plan accordingly.

Coaches will wear lanyards and wristbands issued by the State Office. Qualifying schools are given two lanyards/wristbands for certified, school-appointed coaches to use. This is to clarify who is permitted to give instruction to players on the course. Only coaches wearing the lanyards and wristband may communicate with players, which can occur from tee to green and from green to tee. No communication shall occur once the golfer and the golfer's ball are on the green. **Coaches' lanyards / wristbands must be worn and visible at all times.**

### **Souvenir Programs / Merchandise Stand**

The State Golf Tournament merchandise stand will be at each site both days. The merchandise stand hours will vary at each site. State souvenir programs will be on sale both days at each site. Programs are \$5.

### **Rules Officials**

PGA rules professionals will serve as the rules committee. Players must seek rulings from rules officials, not coaches.

### **Cellular Phones, Electronic Devices & Range Finders**

- The use of cell phones, tablets, or other communication devices by is prohibited during the regular season and tournament play **except for the use as a rangefinder or official scorekeeping. No cell phone for general use may occur until the player's round is completed and the scorecard is submitted to the official scorer. Use of a cell phone for unauthorized purpose(s) will result in a code of conduct violation.**
  - The penalty for violation of this rule: 1<sup>st</sup> offense – warning; 2<sup>nd</sup> offense - 2 stroke penalty; 3<sup>rd</sup> - offense disqualification.
- Golfers may use their phones in/around the clubhouse once their round is complete and they have submitted their scorecard to the scoring officials. Spectators should refrain from speaking on their cell phones on the course when play near them is occurring. In the event of an emergency or suspension of play, it is permissible for a golfers and spectators to use their cell phones on the course.
- In response to USGA Rule 4.3a(4) the IGHSAU shall expand its local rule banning cell phones to include restrictions on all portable audio and video devices that players might watch or listen to during play.

## Breaking Ties for State

- Team Competition
  - The combined score of the 5th golfer for both days will be compared. If still tied, the combined score of the 6th golfer for both days will be compared. If a team does not have a 5th or 6th golfer to compare scores and the other team does, the team without the 5th and/or 6th golfer automatically loses the tiebreaker. If teams are still tied after that, they tie for that team place (for all non-champion positions). If multiple teams are tied for the championship after comparing 5th and 6th golfers scores, the coach will name four players who will play in a hole-by-hole playoff. All four scores count. Teams will play until the tie is broken. Teams may not change out their four golfers once the playoff has begun.
- Medalist Competition
  - A tie for State Medalist shall be determined by sudden death playoff with the pre-determined playoff holes. For individual play, ties beyond first place will be determined by a card back starting with the number one handicap hole. All players participating in the state tournaments, whether they qualified as a medalist or advanced through team competition, are eligible for medalist honors.

## Awards

Team trophies will be awarded to all participating teams. Medals will be given to the champion and runner-up team members and the top 10 individual finishers (and ties for 10<sup>th</sup>). Each state qualifier will receive a qualifier medal, which will be given to their coach at the completion of the tournament. The Awards Ceremony will be held Day 2 after scores are totaled.

## Player Regulations

- Motorized carts and caddies are prohibited. Use of non-motorized pull or push carts are allowed throughout the entire season. Requests for use of a motorized golf cart during postseason competition must be due to a disability and will be evaluated by the IGHSAU on a case-by-case basis. **Transitory illnesses and injuries (actual or expected duration of six months or less) do not qualify under the ADA as a disability and thus would not qualify for use of a motorized cart.** Athletic directors must submit the request for golf cart use and documentation from the golfer's physician stating the disability and the extent to which it prevents the golfer from walking during competition. Upon receipt of the request, the IGHSAU will notify the school in writing of approval or declination
- Coaching Tee to the Green – School-appointed, certified golf coaches are allowed to coach their golfer up until the golfer and golfer's ball are on the green. **Coaches may not assist or instruct a player regarding any putting on the green.** If any part of the golfer's ball is on the actual green, the ball is considered on the green. Once the golfer arrives at the green (no delay by the golfer) with her golf ball on the green, the coach can have no more communication with her until all golfers in the group have holed out.
- Spectators must remain on the cart path or in the rough and must stay **adjacent** to the golfers at all times.
- No practice putting is allowed on the course, including the putting green, after competition has begun.
- Any rule violation on the course should be called by a player. The rule violation should be brought to the attention of the entire threesome/foursome before the alleged violator has COMPLETED THE HOLE ON WHICH THE VIOLATION OCCURRED AND LEFT THE GREEN. After a rule violation has been declared, the Rules Committee shall be consulted immediately. The Rules Committee shall then hear the violation as soon as possible.

- Decorum. If a player is guilty of unsporting conduct or demeanor, her coach and a rules committee member shall be notified. If the player is guilty of a subsequent offense, the rules committee may disqualify the violator.
- Alcohol or tobacco products are NOT permitted on the course or in student accessible areas of the facilities.
- USGA Rules are followed unless published in the IGHS AU Manual.
- The ball will be played down during the tournament series, with the tournament manager retaining the right to invoke a local rule pick, place and clean if course conditions warrant.
- Continuous putting shall be employed whenever possible.
- Coaches may not leave the grounds during the competition. Any coach not present during the tournament may result in disqualification of the entire team.

### **Greens Fees**

The IGHS AU pays green fees of State participants.

### **Weather**

State Tournament – If eighteen holes are played on the first day and it is impossible to play the second day due to rain; the first eighteen holes will determine the champion. Likewise, if the first day is rained out but weather permits eighteen holes to be completed on the second day, the second day eighteen holes will determine a winner.

To ensure teams play a complete 18-hole tournament, Day 1 scores will be carried over to Day 2 of the State Tournament if the entire field has completed at least 12 holes (IGHS AU discretion may be used). Every effort must be made to complete 18 holes on Day 1 of the tournament. Day 2 will commence with teams completing Day 1's round by re-starting where the golfers' balls were marked when play was suspended on Day 1. Tee assignments for Day 1 will be carried over to Day 2 if teams are completing Day 1's round on Day 2. If both days are rained out, then the tournament will be rescheduled by the IGHS AU, and participating schools will be notified accordingly. When the tournament is rescheduled, competition will be eighteen holes.

### **Scorekeepers**

Scorekeepers will NOT be used at the State Tournament.

### **State Tournament Travel Expense:**

The IGHS AU will reimburse State qualifying schools for travel expenses at the rates of 44¢ per mile one way for individual qualifier(s) and \$1.25 per mile one way per team.

### **State Tournament Course Practice Rounds**

Practice rounds are permitted anytime at State Tournament courses, prior to the first day of the State Tournament. The IGHS AU does not govern loss of school time for Regional and State Tournament site practices, as this is a local school administration decision. Arrangements must be made with the course concerning time and regulations governing play. **Any discounted rate offered by the course are for girls' high school golf teams and their school-appointed coaches ONLY. Family and friends accompanying the golfers for practice rounds will not receive discounted rates.**