

## Lincoln High Golf

**Practice:** Monday-Thursday. Fridays are meetings. See the practice schedule for times and locations. All are subject to change. Please check your email regularly for updates from our team website. [www.lhs-boys-golf.posterous.com](http://www.lhs-boys-golf.posterous.com)

**Matches:** Most matches are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tournaments are usually on Mondays. If there are any changes, I will notify you through the website (email).

### **Expectations of Players:**

1. When coaches or others are speaking, pay attention. Don't engage in conversation or stare off in space. Stay focused. During Friday meetings: we are there for a golf meeting, not to do homework. You are here to learn. This cannot be accomplished if you are not paying attention to instructions. When on the range, and in a stall, discontinue your conversations, and focus on your swing.
2. Be on time to all golf related events (practices, matches, tournaments, volunteer work). Tardiness is not accepted. If you are late to the suburban for away matches or tournaments, you will be left behind, and may cause us to forfeit the match. If you are tardy to practice, without a note or prior communication with me, you will be given extra tasks (cleaning clubs, raking bunkers, sanding divots, etc.).
3. Home matches: All players attend, even if you are not playing in the match. Those not playing will either work on the range, or play in front or behind the match, or play the back nine, depending on course traffic. Those playing, must be on time. We do not take a school vehicle to home matches. If anyone is to miss a match, you must inform me at least 24 hours before the match (unless an emergency, then asap). I need enough time to find a replacement for you, if you are playing.
4. Away matches and tournaments: All players playing in the match or tournament must be on time to the suburban. I plan our departure times enough in advance to get you to the location so you can warm up before we start. Team members not playing in away matches and tournaments will have the day off.
5. STUDY, STUDY, STUDY!!! Strive for academic excellence in the same manner I expect you to strive for athletic excellence. Class work comes first, but you should budget your time, so that you can still participate with your team. Use your time in Athletic Study Hall wisely! Don't waste it by talking with friends.

**6. Priorities (as I see them related to high school golf)**

- a. Family**
- b. School**
- c. Golf**
- d. Everything Else**

From now until the end of your season GOLF IS YOUR NUMBER ONE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY.

**7. Be a better person than you are a golfer.**

**8. Suspensions: Will be dealt with following the district suspension policy.**

**9. Cheating:**

If a player is found cheating (illegal play, doctoring scores, etc.), the player will be put on a 2-week probation. After the 2 weeks, the player may return to the team, and will be placed at the bottom of the rankings, and will have to work his or her way back up in challenge match practices. If the same player cheats again, he or she will be removed from the team for the season.

**Expectations at Practices and Matches:**

We are guests at any golf course. Our home course, Brookside C.C., is extremely generous in allowing us to use their facilities for no cost. We must adhere to their, and all courses', policies regarding dress code, course conduct, and behavior, or we will be asked to leave and have to find a new place for our home course.

- 1. Appropriate golf apparel is mandatory. Girls: No tank tops, short shorts, etc. Proper length shorts (bermudas or capris), and/or skorts are mandatory. Your shirt should have a collar, but can be a mock-neck style golf shirt as well. Boys: Shirts must have collars, or be a mock-neck. No cargo shorts. Shirts must always be tucked in (no matter the course). No jeans!!!
- 2. No foul language. This can, and will, result in penalty strokes during competition and during challenge matches.
- 3. No throwing of clubs or hitting your bag, trees, or ground with a club. This will result in a disqualification during a match and I will tell you to pick up your clubs, apologize to the coaching staff on both sides, and walk in.
- 4. No electronic devices can be used during a match at any time. They MUST be off during a competition, not on silent, or vibrate. During practice, you must leave them in your bag, or in your car. If I see you on your phone during practice, you will be

dropped down in rankings and will have to work your way back up. I will also give you a job to do, such as, rake bunkers, fill divots with seed/sand, repair pitch marks on greens, etc.

5. Encourage each other! Teach others when you have the opportunity!
6. Learn from your mistakes and those of others.
7. If you are injured, you are still required to be at practice. You will learn a lot by watching. If you are sick, stay home and get healthy. You must clearly communicate to me if you cannot be present.
8. You must be in school in order to participate on any given day. No school = no golf.
9. If you miss practice the day before a match, you will not be considered for playing in that match.
10. At a home match, we, and the opponent, only get 3 stalls on the range to warm up. I recommend that three of you warm up chipping while the other three are on the range. Switch with enough time to get everyone a chance to warm up. Make sure everyone warms up putting before we begin the match.
11. We are ambassadors for the game of golf. If we are playing a team of a lesser quality, we do not make fun of them. We help everyone, even opponents, look for golf balls. Pay attention to all shots so we don't have slow play, or lost balls.
12. Keep track of your opponents, don't ever let them out of sight. Know how many times your opponent has hit the ball. Keep track of your own as well. Use bead counters or other devices to help you stay on top of scores.
13. Know the rules of golf. We will cover as much of the rules as possible during our Friday meetings, and at practices, as the situations come up. Take notes, if necessary, to help you remember the rules. Remember, you are your own referee. When in doubt, follow Rule 3-3.
14. Remember: Negative thoughts equal positive strokes (higher score). Positive thoughts equal negative strokes (lower score). If you hit a bad shot, don't get down. Think positively and hit a good shot the next time.
15. Pace of play: It is imperative that we keep up with the proper pace of play. 9 holes should take no longer than 2 hours and 15 minutes. This means you need to take no more than one practice swing. You must walk fast to your next shot, keeping in mind not to walk in front of others hitting. Be ready to go at all times. Do not day dream! Do not spend more time in conversations, and talking about everything else, than you spend in thinking about your golf game. Stay focused!

16. Congratulate your opponents after EVERY match. At a tournament, personally thank the coach of the host team, and shake his or her hand, for putting on the tournament. These are a lot of work, and I know how much it means to be thanked for all that work.
17. Spectators at matches/tournaments: Spectators must remain at least 30 yards away from players. They may work as forecaddies for the players (ahead of players) to assist in locating golf balls after being hit. They may not communicate with players. At no time, may a spectator help with distances or club selection for players. Spectators must stay on cart paths (if available), unless they are showing a player where the ball landed. After the player is aware of the location of the ball, the spectator must move at least 30 yards away. Spectators are not to be on fairways or greens at any time. Spectators may keep score, but it is not the official score. The players must keep score, which is the official score for their opponent. Spectators are not to discuss their score with the players. If a spectator has a concern of a player not keeping score properly, the spectator is to contact me or an official to determine if we need to have someone keep score for that group.
18. Photography and Conclusion of Matches: Anyone taking photos of players must not take a photo in the back swing of any shot. This can distract the player, causing them to make a bad shot. After a first warning, the spectator will be asked to leave the course. At the conclusion of a match, please wait until the coach releases the team to converse with the players. The first group of players become spectators for the second group, and they both are spectators for the last group. At the conclusion of the match, wait for the two teams to add up scores, determine winner, shake hands, and conclude our team huddle, before engaging in conversations with the team.