# Y.A.I.A.A. GOLF LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS (AS OF 6/22/17)

The rules of the United States Golf Association shall apply to all tournaments except where such rules are modified to comply with PIAA and YAIAA guidelines or regulations.

#### SCHEDULES:

- A. Schedules will be approved for a one year period with each school competing against all other schools in their respective division with a stroke play format tournament. Matches in August before school begins may start as early as noon. Matches in August once classes begin till September 15 will began at 2:00 pm after that matches will begin at 1:30 pm.
- B. In case of undesirable playing conditions, the host school shall notify all competing schools by noon on the day of the tournament. An exception to the rule is an emergency condition that may develop.
- C. Postponed matches should be played as soon as possible, preferably the day following the scheduled tournament.
- D. To meet the need of 9 events to qualify for Post Season play the leagues will schedule 2 to 3 nine (9) hole exhibitions between two (2) schools that are played at one of the two schools.

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#### **DIVISION CHAMPIONS:**

- A. A champion will be determined in each division at the conclusion of the regulation season. The team with the most accumulated points will be considered the division champion. Three points will be awarded for a win over a competing school. Zero points will be awarded for a loss with a competing school. One point will be awarded for a tie with a competing school-after the tie-breaking rule of using the fifth golfers score and still tied the sixth golfers score are utilized. Standings within the division will be based on the cumulative total of teams beaten in Division Tournaments as compared to losses or ties incurred.
- B. In the event of a tie for first place in a division, all teams in the tie will share in the championship title.
- C. Division Champions will compete for the YAIAA Tournament championship at a site and time determined by the League Golf Chairman winning team to receive medals (7) and will also represent the YAIAA at the District team tournament winner will be determined by the best 4 scores of 6 players.

#### RULES GOVERNING LEAGUE PLAY:

A. A team of six (6) varsity golfers will represent each school. The four (4) best scores from the six (6) will be totaled at the end of the tournament. The total score

of the four (4) lowest individual scores will constitute the school's team score. The lowest team score shall claim victories over all the other competing teams in the tournament. The team with the second lowest four scores shall incur one (1) loss, but shall claim victories over all the other teams in the tournaments, and so on. Using the score of the player with the 5<sup>th</sup> best score shall break ties if still tied than the 6th best score. If a tie remains, the schools involved will be declared a tie.

- B. All six players' scores should be reported to the division representative that will be recording scores for all the league tournaments.
- C. A tournament will consist of all six players completing 18 holes.
  - (1) If it becomes necessary to call play or suspend a tournament before all teams complete a round of 18 holes, a match will be considered complete when all players have completed a minimum of seven (7) common holes. Scores shall count for all common completed holes.
  - (2) Wins, ties, and/or losses will be determined based on the completed holes. (Need minimum of seven (7) common holes)
  - (3) If a division has a tournament of only 9 holes due to weather than when calculating players averages they will use 9 hole increments.
  - (4) If a tournament is called, or suspended, prior to completion rules (18 holes or 7 common holes) the tournament shall be rescheduled and replayed in its entirety on the next available playing date.
- D. The host coach shall make an official report of the tournament results to local newspapers.
- E. Winter rules will be used as defined by the home course.
- F. Players will compete in threesomes or foursomes depending on the preference of the host course.
- G. All players in the league will compete from the same tee markers. If a female is playing for a team the PIAA approximate 85% rule for yardage will be used.
- H. A team must have four (4) completed scores to be considered in team scoring. If a school has less than four (4) completed scores they will lose all matches against the competing schools for that tournament.
- I. Players will be matched (according to team position 1 through 6) with those of equal or corresponding positions from each competing school. In arranging a team line-up for a competing school, the coach is encouraged to place their best available player (according to average) in the number one (1) position, their second best player in the number two (2) position, and so on until the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) best player is paired with the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) best available golfer on opposing teams.
- J. Competing schools are to be ready to play 30 minutes prior to tee off time to receive tournament information and instructions as well as time to reach their tee for the shotgun start.
- K. A ruling committee consisting of the host school, prior host school, and the host school to follow shall be the official rules interpretation committee for the day's tournament. This committee will make all interpretations the day of the tournament! Any time a rules infraction does occur, the player is encouraged to inform his or her playing partners immediately. Where uncertainty or

disagreement exists, the situation shall be referred to the committee for an official ruling. The committee should invite the coach of the player involved in the rule infraction to be present for the proceedings. If an official ruling cannot be made at that time, the results of the tournament will not be official until the ruling is made and all penalties are applied. Players are advised to hand in a complete scorecard properly signed and attested.

- L. Caddies will not be permitted but non-motorized push or pull carts are permitted where the host facility permits
- M. Coaches shall provide the home coach with a written line-up prior to the start of the tournament. The home coach will prepare the pairings and assign groups for the preparation of scorecards and assignment of the group's starting hole.
- N. Competing golfers will exchange scorecards and keep each other's score. Both players should sign the scorecard.
- O. "NO CARD POLICY" In the event that a player does not finish a hole, he/she will receive a score that is three (3) strokes above par and will receive the same score, three (3) strokes above par for all holes not completed. The player in question needs to have all 18 holes completed for the purpose of tallying an accurate individual average, but his score for that day's tournament remains "X" and cannot count for the team total.
- P. A shotgun format start will be utilized
- Q. Practice prior to a tournament is not allowed to begin prior to one hour before meeting and shall be limited to the areas designated for practice purposes by the local club.
- R. All coaches are responsible for removing all golfers from the course at the first sign of lightning.
- S. The home coach shall organize the tournament.
  - (1) Review any specific course rules with all golfers and coaches.
  - (2) Prepare tournament pairings in advance.
  - (3) Assign coaches to course areas.
  - (4) Prepare a tournament score sheet.
- T. All coaches shall assist with the tournament operation and in tabulating scores at the completion if a tournament. The tournament committee (consisting of the host school, prior host school, and the host school to follow) shall be in charge of tournament operation. Coaches will assist as directed by the host school coach but are reminded they are only to assist in making rulings when so asked by the players, but are to give the players all options available to them and allow the player to choose the one they will use. If Coaches see a rules infraction and it is not brought to the attention of the player by his playing partners, the Coaches are first to bring it to the players attention and if still unresolved they are to bring it to the attention of the tournament's rules committee.
- U. Golfers should be directed to a specific area after completing their 18 holes so in order to not interfere with course operations while scores are being tabulated.
- V. Changing of score card Any player(s) who deliberately changes a score to lower than he/she actually achieved, will be disciplined by their coach in accordance with their school's policy on cheating. In addition, the player(s) will be ineligible

- to participate in their next regularly scheduled competition such as a match, tournament, YAIAA Individual Championships and District III Qualifier, District III Tournament, or PIAA Championships.
- W. YAIAA Dress Code All players must wear slacks or knee-length shorts of a non-jean fabric. Players must wear collared shirts (mock turtleneck is considered a collared shirt). When playing on a course where the dress code is stricter, the club's policy should be enforced.
- X. Conduct of Players A two-stroke penalty shall be assessed for any unsportsmanlike behavior with a second offense, or a flagrant act, leading to immediate removal from the day's tournament and a suspension from the next YAIAA league tournament for conduct unbecoming interscholastic golfers. Such conduct shall include, but not be limited to, club throwing (defined as releasing a club in anger or in a manner to cause harm to any person on the golf course), use of abusive language, acts which damage property or the golf course, use of cell phones including ringing while on the course or other unbecoming conduct as determined by the agreement of the ruling committee. A second offense shall result in a two (2) tournament suspension and repeated offenses will result in expulsion from league play.
- Y. Each team may bring 2 JV players and each team may bring 1 girl who will play 9 holes only.
- Z. Each host school will try to have markers with each group may use coaches to help.
- AA. Range finders may be used but only for distance.
- BB. Permit Coaches to engage in coaching their players during regular season team and stand alone postseason team competition between holes, provided such coaching neither disrupts pace of play nor distract other players.

#### AWARDS:

The YAIAA shall provide appropriate awards for all division winners. The YAIAA award is an engraved plate to be placed on the school's championship plaque. The YAIAA will also supply 7 team medals for the team championship team and gold, silver and bronze medals to both the boys and girls individual winners.

## YAIAA INDIVIDUAL GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP AND DISTRICT III QUALIFIER:

During the season, the YAIAA will conduct an 18-hole medal play tournament. The top performers in this event will be the YAIAA representatives in the District III Tournament. The number of entries for our league in the District event will be determined by the number of teams in the league multiplied by a player quota figure. This figure could vary from year to year. Expenses for this event will be paid by the YAIAA.

Each Division will receive number of qualifiers using the formula of 3 golfers per team per division. This event is designed to recognize quality players as individuals and is not intended to provide competitive experience for others. Players must have played at least three (3) of the division tournaments to the date of the pairings meeting to qualify as

an entrant. In unusual circumstances, the coaches, as a body, would decide on the eligibility of a player to qualify as an entrant for the tournament.

Briarwood Golf Club is the annual site of the YAIAA Individual Golf Championship and District Qualifier. Medals will be presented to the top three finishers in both tournaments. The cost of the medals that go to the top three golfers in boys and girls as well as the 7 medals for the team Champion will be assumed by the YAIAA. This tournament will simultaneously serve as the qualifier for the District III tournament. The number of qualifiers will be determined by the PIAA (The YAIAA receives 17 AAA Qualifiers and 6 AA Qualifiers using the District formula of 1.1 per school). The girls will qualify for the District III Tournament based on each girl's ability to shoot a score of 104 or below on the day of the YAIAA Individual Golf Championship. Also, for a girls team to qualify for District Team Competition they will need an average score of 400 from 4 girls.

The teams will also try to provide markers for all groups.

#### PIAA DISTRICT III TOURNAMENT:

Players who have been determined as qualifiers by the scores in the YAIAA Individual Golf Championships will represent the YAIAA in the District III Golf Tournament.

## PIAA DISTRICT III TEAM GOLF TOURNAMENT:

District III will sponsor a "Team Championship." Each league may send one representative to compete in the District III AAA and AA Team Tournament. Our league's Division winners will play against one another at a site and time to be determined by the YAIAA League Chairperson.

Approved divisions for 2017-2018 and 2018-2019

Division 1 Division 2 Division 3 Central York Dover Bermudian Springs Dallastown Eastern York Delone Catholic New Oxford Gettysburg Fairfielld Northeastern Kennard Dale Hanover Red Lion Susquehannock York Catholic Spring Grove West York York Tech South Western York Suburban

# Exhibition schedule:

Bermudian Springs - New Oxford, Dover, Gettysburg Central York - Susquehannock, York Suburban Dallastown - Susquehannock, York Catholic Delone Catholic - South Western, Spring Grove, West York Dover - Bermudian Springs, Hanover Eastern York - Red Lion, York Tech
Fairfield - New Oxford, South Western, Gettysburg
Gettysburg - Bermudian Springs, Fairfield
Hanover - Spring Grove, Dover, West York
Kennard Dale - Northeastern, York Tech
New Oxford - Bermudian Springs, Fairfield
Northeastern - Lennard Dale, York Tech
Red Lion - Eastern York, York Catholic
South Western - Delone Catholic, Fairfield
Spring Grove - Delone Catholic, Hanover
Susquehannock - Central York, Dallastown
West York - Delone Catholic, Hanover
York Catholic - Dallastown, Red Lion, York Suburban
York Tech - Northeastern, Eastern York, Kennard Dale