

# GOLF

## STATE TOURNAMENT DATES

Class AA .....	Sept. 28-29
Class A.....	Sept. 29-30
Classes B and C.....	May 14-15

## I - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- (1) The MHSA recognizes golf as an interscholastic high school sport for both boys and girls.
- (2) Any high school student participating in any meets or tournaments in golf must meet all MHSA eligibility requirements, including the award and amateur rules. USGA playing rules will be used for all competitions.

- (3) Participants will wear the following school-approved appropriate golf attire (uniform to include top and bottom garments): shirts will be full-length with finished edges with collars, traditional crewneck, v-neck or mock-turtle neck design. Sleeveless shirts must extend from the base of the neck to the top of the shoulder on each side. Halter tops, spaghetti straps and tank tops will not be permitted. Long pants, shorts and skirts must be worn at the waist and be appropriately sized for the individual. Shorts and skirts must have a minimum five-inch inseam. All skorts (a pair of compression shorts having a flap or panel across the front and back to resemble a skirt) are legal bottom garments. The skort must be appropriately sized for the individual, worn as the manufacturer intended, and the flap or panel must be long enough to cover the compression shorts.

Adornments on clothing or headwear will not advertise drugs or alcohol or contain offensive material as deemed inappropriate by the meet director or tournament manager. Participants must be appropriately attired during play or they will be disqualified.

The meet director has the right to waive the uniform rule due to inclement weather; however, each participant must be dressed appropriately during all competition.

- (4) Golf shall be divided into four classifications: Class AA, Class A, Class B and Class C. Golf for Classes AA and A is in the fall; golf for Classes B and C is in the spring.
- (5) The Montana High School Association Executive Board shall establish the starting date for practice and the first allowable date when any match can be played. No individual shall play in any association golf contest until he/she has a minimum of two (2) days of practice of at least one practice session per day on two (2) different days (no practice permitted on Sunday) prior to the date of the first allowable game.

The initial two (2) practices for each individual must be completed as a comprehensive, regularly scheduled team practice with the full coaching staff.

When determining what constitutes a MHSA practice that satisfies the language above in (5), the following criteria must be applied:

1. Practice must be at least one (1) hour long.
2. At least one full squad (varsity team/J.V. team) and their coaching staff must be present.
3. The athlete must participate in the entire practice.
4. Practice should include the majority of drills and conditioning that are the norm for that team or squad.
5. A practice the day of a competition does not count (unless an athlete is practicing with another squad that does not have a competition that day, i.e. a varsity team member who stays home and practices with the JV team that does not have a competition that day).

6. Warm-ups or walk-throughs with the team prior to a golf date does not constitute a practice.

If a student begins his/her two days of required practices and that period of days is interrupted by sickness, injury or academic ineligibility for a period of two weeks, then the student shall be required to practice an additional one (1) day and to produce a doctor's release.

Athletes participating on teams competing in MHSA post season play, which overlaps the beginning of the next MHSA sanctioned activity starting practice date, may be credited for practices during the overlap period toward meeting the minimum practice requirement of the overlapped activity season.

***If a student transfers to a new school after completing the required days of preseason practices for their sport or activity, the student must complete an additional number of practices (equal to half the # of required practices for that sport or activity) at their new school.***

- (6) The golf season for both boys and girls officially closes with the end of the state tournament for the classification of the school concerned.
- (7) Twelve (12) dates of competition shall be the maximum number per individual golfer excluding association sponsored tournaments. A two-day tournament counts as two days of competition towards the season limitations.
- (8) For an athlete to be eligible to compete in post season competition, he/she must compete in at least two (2) Association-sanctioned meets during the regular MHSA golf season. Only a medical waiver from a certified physician stating that an athlete has sustained an injury preventing him/her from competing until that time will be accepted as a condition to be exempted from this rule. The high school for which the student will participate must file a request with the MHSA Executive Director for consideration of a waiver of this rule.
- (9) There is no stroke limit per hole in all MHSA tournaments.
- (10) The use of any communication devices by participants (i.e. cell phones, walkie-talkies, or headphones) during any golf tournament is prohibited. The timeframe is from being called to teeing off on the first designated hole until that player's signed card is turned into the scoring table. The penalty for the first infraction is the player(s) using such device(s) will incur a two stroke penalty. Any further infraction by the same player(s) will incur immediate disqualification from the tournament, to include the second day if a second infraction occurs on day one of a two-day tournament.
- (11) Players are allowed to use USGA-approved measuring devices during MHSA events. In using these devices, players can share distance information with fellow competitors without violating any USGA or MHSA tournament rules. Sharing distance information is NOT considered giving advice. Legal measuring devices must be USGA-approved and only measure distance. The penalty for the first infraction is the player(s) using such device(s) will incur a two stroke penalty. Any further infraction by the same player(s) will incur immediate disqualification from the tournament, to include the second day if a second infraction occurs on day one of a two-day tournament.
- (12) MHSA Golf Cart Policy for Participants - Except as required by applicable law, participants may not use golf carts in MHSA golf events. The MHSA will evaluate, on a case-by-case basis, any request to use a golf cart in MHSA golf events due to a claimed disability. In order for the MHSA to evaluate such requests, the student must submit medical

documentation regarding the exact nature of the disability and how that disability prevents the student from walking during a round. In addition, the student must complete the MHSA Golf Cart Application. An exemption is valid for one calendar year; the medical information and MHSA Golf Cart Application must be submitted each year an exemption is sought.

Please note that requests due to "temporary" injuries or impairments that do not qualify as a "disability" under the ADA will not be granted. A disability protected by the ADA is "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual."

- (13) The MHSA allows parents and spectators to attend regular season and post season golf events. Spectators must be 6-years old and above to attend MHSA golf events. It is appropriate for parents and spectators to respectfully applaud good shots by all players and not just the player they are following. Additionally, we require that parents and spectators adhere to the code of conduct listed on the MHSA website. If any of the guidelines are perceived to be broken by a designated tournament official, the spectator will be removed from the event.

1. Attendance fees (if any) for regular season events will be determined by the host school. All spectators must register and receive the proper credentials which must be worn at all times on the course.

2. Spectators will receive a badge that will be required to be worn at all times on the course. After the fee is paid and the spectator receives a copy of the MHSA Spectator Code of Conduct, they will receive a badge. The host school is responsible for making arrangements to collect fees and distribute badges. The spectator fees will be retained by the host school. ***The following ticket prices as established by the MHSA Executive Board will be used for all state championship tournaments:***

***Admission: Adults \$12.00. Students \$10.00.***

3. MHSA Golf Coaches and host course personnel will be responsible for ensuring all rules are being followed.

For detailed spectator rules see the spectator code of conduct at [www.mhsa.org](http://www.mhsa.org)

- (14) Coaching – Each school may have up to two certified coaches on the course at the same time to give advice to participants representing that school each day of the competition from green to tee provided that:

- a. The coaches must have been approved by their local school district administration, have passed the MHSA Coaches Education Requirements, have completed the MHSA Golf Rules Clinic for the current season and have been a bona fide member of the coaching staff during the entire season.
- b. The coaches are identified by tournament management before the start of the competition each day with credentials / access passes displayed on a lanyard which must be worn and visible at all times.
- c. The coaches shall not give advice to, or ask for advice from, another school's participants.
- d. Authorized coaches are allowed to coach a player up until the player and the player's ball are on the green. If any part of the player's ball is on the actual green, the ball is considered on the green. Once the player arrives at the green (no delay by the player), the coach can have no more communication with the competing player(s) until all players in the group have holed out. When providing advice, a coach must not enter a bunker. Coaches are not to assist or instruct a player regarding any putting on the green. There is to be no delaying of play when providing instruction during the prescribed coaching time.

- e. The advice shall be given in a private manner and does not unduly delay play.
- f. Motorized carts will be allowed for coaches if the golf course allows.

#### ***Penalties***

First Offense - Two strokes will be added to the player's score for that day. The penalty would be added to the team score if that player's score was not counted for the day.

Second Offense – Two additional strokes will be added to that player's score for the day and the penalty would be added to the team score if that player's score was not counted for the day. The second offense also results in coaching privileges being suspended for the remainder of the event for all coaches from that school. Tournament managers will report these violations to the MHSA office.

- (15) No caddies may be used. Automotive transportation can only be used if the golfer is approved by the MHSA Executive Director by meeting the criteria of the MHSA Cart Policy. Pull carts are legal.

- (16) No school is required to take part in any contests or athletic events, but once entered, teams are obligated to participate in a contest or athletic event to its normal conclusion unless the contest is terminated by mutual consent of the school officials involved due to unusual weather or game conditions, or situations which could be hazardous to participants or spectators. Any coach is prohibited from unilaterally refusing to play.

If a school fails to complete contests or athletic events that they have entered, the violating school would be subject to penalties as deemed appropriate and necessary by the Executive Director.

No school is required to take part in any match or tournament, but when once entered under the plan outlined, schools shall carry out their part of the program in fairness to all other schools represented. Any team taking part in season play is automatically entered into the first tournament held in that district or in that division. That team shall not be allowed to withdraw from playing in such tournament with the specific approval of the Executive Director. The penalty for violation shall be as outlined under Penalties, Article VIII, Section (2).

- (17) The MHSA prohibits any use and/or possession of tobacco, alcohol or other mood altering drugs during competition. Violation will cause the coach or participant to be disqualified from further participation in that event.

- (18) Hair devices made of soft material or unadorned hair devices, such as bobby pins, barrettes, or hair clips, no longer than two inches, may be worn to control a player's hair. Hair adornments made of soft material and no more than two inches wide may be worn.

- (19) Match Play – Schools will be allowed to participate in a match play format similar to the "Ryder Cup" format for a dual meet.

The following types of match play will be allowed:

- Four-Ball - In four-ball, each member of a two-man team plays his own ball, so four balls are in play on every hole. Each team counts the lowest of its two scores on each hole, and the team whose player has the lowest score wins the hole. If the low scores are tied, the hole is halved.
- Singles - In singles, each match features one player from each team. The player with the lower score on each hole wins that hole. If their scores are tied, the hole is halved.

#### ***Scoring***

- Mixing the 3 formats within the same dual would be allowed.

- Concession Exception - Unlike stroke play, players don't have to complete each hole in match play. If a player concedes a stroke – almost always a putt – to his opponent, the opponent picks up his ball, takes the score he would have made on the next stroke and moves on to the next hole.
- Each match is worth one point, with matches ending in a draw worth ½ point to each side.

MHSA Rules and Regulations that must be followed:

- Boys and Girls must always compete separately
- Results will not be used for seeding purposes in the post season.

## II – GENERAL RULES FOR POST SEASON GOLF MEETS

- (1) Four state golf meets will be held — one for Class AA, one for Class A, one for Class B and one for Class C. The Class B & C meets will be held one week prior to the state track and field meets and the Class AA & A meets will be held in the fall.
- (2) For Classes AA, A and B, schools may enter up to five individuals to constitute their team. The four individual boys with the low score each day will determine the boys' team score and the four individual girls with the low score each day will determine the girls' team score. A school may choose to enter only four boys or four girls.
- (3) For Class C, schools may enter up to four individuals to constitute their team. The three individual boys with the low score each day will determine the boys' team score and the three individual girls with the low score each day will determine the girls' team score. A school may choose to enter only three boys or three girls.
- (4) Tie breaking procedure:
  - A. The hole or holes to be used for the individual and team competitions will be selected by the tournament manager or committee.
  - B. If a competitor is involved in both playoffs, the competitor will play in each playoff separately. The playoff for the individual competition is not to be played concurrently with the team competition. The playoff for the individual competition will occur first, if a competitor is involved in both playoffs.
  - C. A tie for the individual competition (for first place only) shall be decided immediately by a hole-by-hole playoff. Procedure for breaking individual ties:
    1. All competitors tied for first place, individual competition, will play together. The order of play will be determined by lot.
    2. All players tying for low score for the hole will complete a second hole or subsequent holes until a competitor wins. A player will not continue in the playoff unless the low score of the hole is obtained.
    3. A first place individual competitor will be determined. All other competitors involved in the playoff will be tied for second, regardless of what hole they were eliminated from the playoff.
  - D. A tie for team competition (for first place only at divisional and state tournaments) shall be decided immediately with a hole-by-hole playoff. At divisional tournaments, a team tie must be broken if the tie determines which teams will advance to state. Trophies will be awarded per General Rules for Awards (6). Procedure for breaking team ties:
    1. In Classes AA, A and B, each team in the playoff will be represented by five players on the team. The four best scores of the players in the playoff will be used for the team score.
    2. In Class C, each team in the playoff will be represented by four players on the team. The three best scores of the players in the playoff will be used for the team score.
    3. All teams tied for first place, team competition, will play together (See Divisional exceptions in Sections IV and IV). The order of play will be determined by lot.
    4. On the first hole, the team will determine their own order of play. The order of play thereafter will be individual stroke play.
    5. When balls are in play, the ball farthest from the hole shall be played first. If two or more balls are equidistant from the hole, the ball to be played first should be decided by lot. Balls belonging to the same team may not be played in the order the team considers best.
    6. The competitor with the lowest score at a hole shall have the honor at the next teeing ground. The competitor with the second lowest score shall play next and so on. If two or more competitors have the same score at a hole, they shall play from the next teeing ground in the order as at the previous teeing ground. The order at the next teeing ground may not be played in the order the team considers best.
    7. All teams tying for low score for the hole will complete a second hole or subsequent holes until a team wins. A team will not continue in the playoff unless the low score for the hole is obtained and a first place team will be determined. The remaining teams involved in the playoff will be tied for second, regardless of what hole they were eliminated from the playoff.
- (5) Golfers for the same team may be allowed to play in the same group on the second day of the state tournament. In a foursome or a five-some, only two golfers from the same team may be in that group.
- (6) The host club pro or their designee will be the sole judge on rule interpretations. Situations brought to the judge will not include team or individual names so the ruling can be as objective as possible.
- (7) The meet manager shall appoint a person(s), as designated per classification, to walk with each group (scorers) to verify scores of every individual in the group. It is recommended that scorers not be students or student-athletes. Each school must designate 2 markers for post-season tournaments. The marker can be a relative, administrator or spectator as designated by the school.
- (8) After completion of the round, the competitor should check his/her score for each hole and settle any doubtful points with the tournament committee. He/she shall ensure that the marker has signed the card, countersign the card, and return it to the committee as soon as possible. The scorecard shall be considered returned when it is placed in the card box.
- (9) Each state meet shall consist of 36 holes of medal play per player.
- (10) Because of injury, illness or other emergency situations, one boy or one girl, who was named as an alternate before the start of competition, may be used as a substitute before the round begins either day of competition. The substitute will not be eligible for an individual award. The player for whom the substitute played will not be eligible for an individual award. Their scores shall count toward team scores. Once a player has been replaced, he/she is no longer eligible to return to competition.
- (11) Disqualification:
  - A. The committee may impose a penalty for unsporting behavior (i.e. use of inappropriate language, club throwing, or other disruptive behavior). Penalty for unsporting conduct, two strokes, for repeated or a serious breach of player conduct, disqualification.

B. A player disqualified under the Rules of Golf of the United States Golf Association will be permitted to play in subsequent rounds of the tournament. The player's score shall be eligible for the team score in subsequent rounds. The player will not be eligible for the individual competition.

C. A player will not be permitted to play in subsequent rounds of the tournament or have a score eligible for the team score if the player is disqualified for player misconduct.

- (12) The state tournament golf course shall not be made available for practice purposes for any tournament team member during the days when the tournament is in progress (other than the practice round and the use of practice facilities) or at any time during the seven-day period immediately preceding the opening of the tournament, except when the site is a team's home course. Regular season and/or post-season tournaments scheduled during the seven-day period preceding the state tournament on the site are allowed.

### III - CLASS AA GOLF PROGRAM

- (1) Seventeen (17) schools comprising sixteen (16) teams are classified as Class AA. The schools are aligned in two divisions as follows:

Belgrade	Butte
Billings Senior	Flathead (Kalispell)
Billings Skyview	Glacier (Kalispell)
Billings West	Helena
Bozeman	Helena Capital
Gallatin (Bozeman)	Missoula Big Sky
*Great Falls/MSDB	Missoula Hellgate
Great Falls CMR	Missoula Sentinel
*Cooperative Sponsorship	

- (2) Each AA school choosing to participate in their state golf meet will be required to share proportionately the cost of the tournament at the rate of \$100.00 per school.

- (3) At the Class AA State Golf Tournament, a practice round will be allowed on the tournament course the day before the state tournament begins (See Section II-General Rules for Post Season Golf Meets, item (12) for all other rules and exceptions in regard to the state tournament practice round.)

- (4) A shotgun start must be used, on both days, at the Class AA State Golf Tournament.

- (5) Rules for Class AA Divisional golf meets:

A. Each AA School will be represented at their respective Eastern or Western Divisional Golf Tournament. It will be a two-day, 36-hole tournament. After competition, the top four (4) teams, consisting of five (5) golfers on each team, will qualify for the State AA Golf Tournament. In addition to the qualifying teams, each Division will qualify the top ten (10) individual finishers plus ties, outside of those that have already qualified on a top four (4) teams. A total of thirty (30) boys plus ties and thirty (30) girls plus ties from each Division will qualify for the State AA Golf Tournament.

B. Team Tie Breaker: To break any team ties, compare the best individual score on each team. The lowest score between those two individual scores wins the tie. If those two individuals are tied, use the same process with the next best individual score to break the tie. Continue this process until the tie is broken. If all four places are tied, use the process with the fifth individual on each team. If the process using the 5th individual on each team does not break the tie a one hole playoff on a hole as determined by course management, will be used to break the tie. The playoff will be a head-to-head competition starting with each team's #1 players. If they play the hole to a tie, the #2's will play and so on until the tie is broken.

If the playoffs should go through all five players without the tie being broken, head-to-head competition will start again with the #1's. Play will continue in this manner until the tie is broken.

- C. Individual Tie Breaker for selecting the top ten (10) individual finishers not aligned with a State Team Qualifier: If there is a tie with the 10<sup>th</sup> place finisher to qualify for the State Tournament, each of those individuals will qualify for the State Tournament.

### IV - CLASS A GOLF PROGRAM

- (1) **Twenty-four (24) schools comprising twenty-four (24) teams** are classified as Class A. The schools are aligned in four divisions as follows:

**WESTERN DIVISION**  
Southwest Conference  
 Beaverhead Co. (Dillon)  
 Butte Central  
 Corvallis  
 Frenchtown  
 Hamilton  
 Stevensville

**EASTERN DIVISION**  
Northeast Conference  
 Custer Co. (Miles City)  
 Dawson Co. (Glendive)  
 Fergus (Lewistown)  
 Havre  
 Sidney

Northwest Conference  
**Bigfork**  
 Browning  
 Columbia Falls  
 Libby  
 Polson  
 Ronan  
 Whitefish

Southeast Conference  
 Billings Central  
**East Helena**  
 Hardin  
 Laurel  
 Lockwood (Billings)  
 Park (Livingston)

- (2) Each Class A school choosing to participate in their state golf meet will be required to share proportionately the cost of the tournament at a maximum rate of \$40/participant which includes the practice round and club fees. This rate would guarantee the tournament be played on a Friday/Saturday with a practice round on Thursday. A maximum rate of \$30/participant which includes the practice round and club fees will be used if the state tournament is played on a Monday-Friday.

- (3) State Tournament Exceptions for Class A: If two 18-hole courses are being used for the State Tournament competition, one course will be designated as the boys' course and one will be designated as the girls' course.

- (4) A shotgun start must be used, on both days, at the Class A State Golf Tournament.

- (5) Rules for Class A Divisional golf meets:

A. Each division will hold a one day 18-hole qualifying tournament. The top four (4) teams from each Division meet will qualify for the state meet. In addition to the qualifying teams, each Division will qualify the top eight (8) individual finishers plus ties, outside of those that have already qualified on a top four (4) teams. A total of twenty-eight (28) boys plus ties and twenty-eight (28) girls plus ties from each Division will qualify for the State A Golf Tournament. Four individuals who qualify as individual participants can be considered a team. See section D in this section for the tie breaking process.

B. Each of the Class A divisions will determine the host site for their respective tournament.

C. Tie breaking process for first place ties at divisional tournaments:

- Individual Tie – first place only – hole by hole playoff starting with hole #1 or a hole determined by course management.

2. Team Ties – first and if the tie determines which teams advance to state – hole by hole playoff starting with hole #10 or a hole determined by course management. At divisionals, if teams are tied and it determines state qualifiers, they will play together.
  3. If a competitor is involved in both playoffs, the individual playoff will be played first.
  4. All other tie breaking rules/criteria will be followed in accordance with MHSA rules found in Section II – General Rules for Post Season Golf Meets.
- D. Tie breaker for places second through fifteenth. All individual ties that occur in places second through fifteenth will be broken by comparing scorecards using the following format:
1. The cards will be reviewed and compared by the golf pro. The golfers' accumulative score for holes 10 through 18 will be the first criteria used. The golfer with the lowest score on these holes will be given the higher place. If there is still a tie, we will use the scorecard starting at the eighteenth hole and working back. The lower score on a given hole will determine the higher place.
  2. Individual ties will be broken in an order on the highest to lowest place. For example, if there are two ties, one for third place and a tie for sixth place, the tie for third will be broken first.
- E. The meet manager must receive entries two business days prior to the beginning of the tournament. Entries received after that date will not be accepted for participation in the meet.
- F. Because of injury, illness or other emergency situations, each boys' and each girls' team may be entitled to one substitute to be named before the start of competition.

#### V - CLASS B GOLF PROGRAM

- (1) **Forty-Four (44)** schools comprising of **Forty-one (41)** teams are classified as Class B. The schools are aligned in three divisions as follows:

<u><b>Northern</b></u>	<u><b>Southeast</b></u>	<u><b>Western</b></u>
<b>Chinook</b>	Baker	Anaconda
Choteau	Colstrip	Arlee
Conrad	Columbus	Broadwater (Townsend)
Cut Bank	<b>Ennis</b>	<b>Darby</b>
Fairfield	Huntley Project	Florence-Carlton
<b>Fairview</b>	(Worden)	Jefferson (Boulder)
Glasgow	Lame Deer	Lincoln Co. (Eureka)
*Harlem/	Lodge Grass	Loyola Sacred
Turner	<b>Lone Peak</b>	Heart (Missoula)
Malta	<b>(Big Sky)</b>	Manhattan
Poplar	<b>Park City</b>	Plains
Rocky Boy	Red Lodge	Powell Co. (Deer Lodge)
Shelby	Roundup	<b>Superior</b>
Wolf Point	Shepherd	Thompson Falls
	Sweet Grass Co.	Three Forks
	(Big Timber)	*Whitehall/Harrison/
		Willow Creek

\*Cooperative Sponsorship

#### (4) Rules for Class B Divisional golf meets

- A. Each division will hold a one day eighteen-hole qualifying tournament. The top four (4) teams from each division will qualify for the state tournament. A practice round may be held.
- B. In addition to the top four (4) teams that qualify, the top fifteen participants with the lowest score will also qualify. Included in the top fifteen participants with the lowest score may be members of the qualifying teams. Four individuals who qualify as individual participants cannot be considered a team. All ties will be broken at the divisional tournaments and only the top fifteen individuals will go to the state tournament. In the event of a tie for fifteenth place, all individuals tied for fifteenth will advance to the state tournament. See section D in this section for the tie breaking process.
- C. Each of the Class B Divisions will determine the host site for their divisional tournament.
- D. Tie breaking process for first place ties at divisional tournaments:
  1. Individual Tie – first place only – hole by hole playoff starting with hole #1 or a hole determined by course management.
  2. Team Ties – first and if the tie determines which teams advance to state – hole by hole playoff starting with hole #10 or a hole determined by course management. At divisionals, if teams are tied and it determines state qualifiers, they will play together.
  3. If a competitor is involved in both playoffs, the individual playoff will be played first.
  4. All other tie breaking rules/criteria will be followed in accordance with MHSA rules found in Section II – General Rules for Post Season Golf Meets.

#### E. Tie breaker for places second through fifteenth:

1. The cards will be reviewed and compared by the golf pro. The golfers' accumulative score for holes 10 through 18 will be the first criteria used. The golfer with the lowest score on these holes will be given the higher place. If there is still a tie, we will use the scorecard starting at the eighteenth hole and working back. The lower score on a given hole will determine the higher place.
2. Individual ties will be broken in an order on the highest to lowest place. For example, if there are two ties, one for third place and a tie for sixth place, the tie for third will be broken first.

F. The meet manager must receive entries two business days prior to the beginning of the tournament. Entries received after that date will not be accepted for participation in the meet.

G. Because of injury, illness or other emergency situations, each boys' and each girls' team may be entitled to one substitute to be named before the start of competition.

- (2) Each B school choosing to participate in their State Golf Meet will be required to share proportionately the cost of the tournament at a maximum rate of \$40 per participant, which includes the practice round and club fees, and this rate would guarantee the tournament be played on Friday/Saturday with a practice round on Thursday. A maximum rate of \$30 per participant, which includes the practice round and club fees, would be used if the state tournament would be played on a Monday-Friday.
- (3) **A shotgun start will be used for the practice round and the first day of competition, but tee times will be used for the final day at the Class B State Golf Tournament.**

## VI - CLASS C GOLF PROGRAM

- (1) **Forty-Four (44)** schools comprising **forty (40)** teams are classified as Class C. The schools are aligned in **Two** divisions as follows:

### Western Division

\*Belt  
Box Elder  
Cascade  
Centerville  
Denton  
Fort Benton  
Gardiner  
Great Falls Central  
\*\*Harlowton/Ryegate  
Heart Butte  
Highwood  
Hobson  
Judith Gap  
Lima  
Manhattan Christian  
Saint Regis  
Seeley-Swan  
Sunburst (North Toole Co.)  
Valier  
White Sulphur Springs

\*Girls Only

\*\*Cooperative Sponsorship

### Eastern Division

Absarokee  
Bainville  
Brockton  
Culbertson  
\*Frazer  
**Forsyth**  
Hays-Lodgepole  
Hinsdale  
\*\*Lambert/Richey  
\*\*Medicine Lake/Froid  
Plenty Coups  
Plentywood  
Powder River Co. (Broadus)  
Rapelje  
Saco  
Savage  
Scobey  
\*\*Westby/Grenora  
**Winifred**  
Whitewater  
Wibaux

- (2) Each C school choosing to participate in their State Golf Meet will be required to share proportionately the cost of the tournament at a maximum rate of \$40 per participant, which includes the practice round and club fees, and this rate would guarantee the tournament be played on Friday/Saturday with a practice round on Thursday. A maximum rate of \$30 per participant, which includes the practice round and club fees, would be used if the state tournament would be played on a Monday-Friday.
- (3) A shotgun start will be used for the practice round and the first day of competition, but tee times will be used for the final day at the Class C State Golf Tournament.
- (4) During regular season events, a post season qualifying scores can be shot during a meet with markers present. Markers should walk or ride with each group from tee to green. Automatic Regular Season Qualifying scores for the State C meets must occur on a regulation golf course [on a 9-hole course (minimum of a par 35) or on an 18-hole course (minimum of a par 70)] and will be 85 for Boys and 100 for Girls.

### (5) Rules for Class C Divisional Golf Meets

- A. Each division will hold a one day eighteen-hole qualifying tournament. Each team can enter up to 4 boys and 4 girls at the divisional tournament. Pre-Qualified athletes must be entered into the Divisional Tournament and will count towards the number of participants allowed (4). If a school has athletes with regular season qualifying scores, they must be entered into the divisional tournament. If a team or individuals choose not to compete at the divisional tournament, they can still compete as individuals and a team (if 3 or 4 are qualified) at the state tournament. The maximum participants at the State Tournament for each team is four (4). The top **four (4)** teams from each division will qualify for the state tournament. A practice round may be held.
- B. In addition to the top **four (4)** teams that qualify, the top **twenty** participants with the lowest score will also qualify. Included in the top **twenty** participants with the lowest score may be members of the qualifying teams. Four individuals who qualify as individual participants cannot be considered a team. All ties will be broken at the divisional tournaments and only the top **twenty** individuals will go to

the state tournament. In the event of a tie for **twentieth** place, all individuals tied for **twentieth** will advance to the state tournament. See section D in this section for the tie breaking process.

- C. Each of the Class C Divisions will determine the host site for their divisional tournament.
- D. Tie breaking process for first place ties at divisional tournaments:
1. Individual Tie – first place only – hole by hole playoff starting with hole #1 or a hole determined by course management.
  2. Team Ties – first and if the tie determines which teams advance to state – hole by hole playoff starting with hole #10 or a hole determined by course management. At divisionals, if teams are tied and it determines state qualifiers, they will play together.
  3. If a competitor is involved in both playoffs, the individual playoff will be played first.
  4. All other tie breaking rules/criteria will be followed in accordance with MHSA rules found in Section II – General Rules for Post Season Golf Meets.
- E. Tie breaker for places second through **twentieth**:
1. The cards will be reviewed and compared by the golf pro. The golfers' accumulative score for holes 10 through 18 will be the first criteria used. The golfer with the lowest score on these holes will be given the higher place. If there is still a tie, we will use the scorecard starting at the eighteenth hole and working back. The lower score on a given hole will determine the higher place.
  2. Individual ties will be broken in an order on the highest to lowest place. For example, if there are two ties, one for third place and a tie for sixth place, the tie for third will be broken first.
- F. The meet manager must receive entries two business days prior to the beginning of the tournament. Entries received after that date will not be accepted for participation in the meet.
- G. Because of injury, illness or other emergency situations, each boys' and each girls' team may be entitled to one substitute to be named before the start of competition.