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Randy Soma  
Assistant Executive Director

GOLF ADVISORY MINUTES  
Meeting: December 6, 2023  
10:30 AM CT Zoom

The Golf Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 10:35 AM CT with the following representatives present via zoom

"B" Coach	Karren Rogers, Miller
"A" Coach	Jacob Sittig, West Central
"AA" Coach	Scott Amundson, SF Lincoln
Athletic Director	Jeff Heisinger, Montrose
Principal/Supt.	Tom Cameron, Lower Brule
Native Am. Rep	Rob Mendoza, Little Wound

SDHSAA Staff members present included Dan Swartos and Randy Soma. Agenda was motioned for approval by Amundson, second by Heisinger; approved unanimously 6-0. Meeting terms and committee terms were reviewed. Soma was selected as the recording secretary.

### Committee action began with review of 2023-24 changes.

#### Review Rule Changes for 2023-24

- Class A – **Change State Qualifying from Region back to a percentage – 55%** Change the percentage of individual state qualifiers to 55% and ties of each region. The team qualifications would remain the same (top 3 teams qualify as a team). Players who are a team that qualifies in the top 3 but are not individually in the top 55% do not count towards the 55%. These players are added on at the end.
- Class A - **Alternate Golfer at the State Meet (6<sup>th</sup> Golfer)** This proposed rule change would allow an alternate golfer at the state for teams that qualify as a team (can be subbed in on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day for any reason). This is team only and the alternate must be declared before the region golf tournament.
- Class A - **Team Waves on Day 1 of the State Tournament** Change to how the pairings are made. Day 1 – Parings are in waves with team off the front and individuals off the back. Day 2 – Same as we do currently. (based on individual results from Day 1)
- All Classes - **SDHSAA Purchase a license for Golf Genius to allow all schools access.** The coaches would like the State to purchase the Golf Genius software giving all schools the ability to have (1) the live scoring option and (2) to provide those unable to attend access to meet information.

## Committee Members Report

### Karren Rogers – B Coaches Representative

- Coaches would like to see more ownership in the tournament and the SDHSAA Director at each host site in regards to coaches and their specific rules when they are not being followed. SDHSAA will give phone numbers of the tournament director and SDHSAA staff member who is working the event and they should contact them when an issue arises.
- Coaches Badges for the State Tournament (Increase from 1 to 2 per school)
- Alternate (5<sup>th</sup> Golfer) at Class B tournament

### Jacob Sittig – A Coaches Representative

- Team Waves for all teams that qualify on the first day
- Coaches Badges for the State Tournament (Increase from 1 to 2 per school)
- Lack of carts for coaches at state tournament and proposal
- Super Regions and different qualifying ways were brought up at the coaches meeting. No clear set way yet.

### Scott Amundson – AA Coaches Representative

- Qualifiers. Different ideas on how this should look. Proposal coming forward. Currently the coaches were surveyed about regions and it was split. 11 schools do not want it to change and 10 schools would like to change.

### Jeff Heisinger – Athletic Director

- Discussion on Markers and their selection. Would like us to visit the handbook on the requirements listed for class “B”.

### Tom Cameron – Principal/Superintendent

- Discussion on Carts and the possibility of coaches using carts.

### Rob Mendoza – Native American Representative

- Discussion on markers and carts.

## Rule Proposals

1. **Class AA Region Qualification Tournaments** – This died for a lack of a motion (No action taken – Discussion only)
2. **State Coaching Badges for Class A/B** – A school is currently issued only one badge for coaches in Class A & B. A school will receive a 2<sup>nd</sup> badge for coaches per gender for the state tournament as long as the following criteria is used and followed.
  - i. Coach must complete all the SDHSAA/NFHS required Coaching Classes
  - ii. Coach must be contracted by the school as a golf coach or as a volunteer golf coach
  - iii. Coach must be listed on the school’s team roster on the SDHSAA web site by posted date in the SDHSAA Golf Handbook.

**Motion by: Amundson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cameron. Motion Carries to approved. 6-0 vote.**

3. **Alternate Golfer at the State Meet (5<sup>th</sup> Golfer) Class B** – This proposed rule change would allow an alternate golfer at the state for teams that qualify as a team (can be subbed in on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day for any reason). This is team only and the alternate must be declared before the region golf tournament.

Rationale – Allows coaches to substitute a player if another player gets sick/injured after Day 1. Also gives coaches freedom to substitute a player in for strategic decisions, especially if their 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> players' scores have been similar throughout the regular season. In the past, this process could have been cumbersome, but live scoring on Golf Genius makes the process of switching out a golfer for another golfer much easier. This would replace the golfer from the first day using the score of the first day. This new golfer would not be able to medal and place as an individual but their team placing would be counted.

**Motion by: Sittig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Amundson. Motion Carries to approved. 6-0 vote**

4. **State Tournament 1<sup>st</sup> Day - Team Waves off the Back (when Applicable)-Class A** – Allow all teams who qualified a score-able team (4 or 5 players) to play in waves on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the State Tournament, even the teams that will tee off the back 9. We will continue to have the teams that qualify out of their regions as a team off the front and those teams that qualify with individuals tee off in teams off the back 9 on the 1<sup>st</sup> day.

Rationale By allowing all qualified teams to play off in waves on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the state tournament it will create a fair balance for all teams being able to compete in the team competition. It also then allows coaches that qualify teams to be able to coach them equally as those teams that go off the front in team waves.

**Motion by: Sittig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Amundson. Motion Carries to approved. 6-0 vote**

5. **Coaches Carts at State Tournament – Class A** – Allow each school to have one golf cart at the state tournament. This would allow one coach the option of having a cart at the state tournament at the cost of the school district. The course would have to order more carts to accomplish this and schools would have to use the carts provided by the course at the price the course would like to rent them at.
- Rationale Having a golf cart makes it easier to get around the golf course and provides greater access to players.

**Motion by: Rodgers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cameron. Motion Carries to approved. 4-2 vote**

**iWanamaker Golf Program (Doyle Heisler)** discussed his golf program/platform. This will also be discussed at the Spring Athletic Directors Conference. It will be free to the schools and association for the entire year. For more information please check out the PDF.



iWanamaker  
Movement.pdf

**Other Items to Bring Forward to the Athletic Directors Conference:**

1. Class AA Regions and/or state qualifiers
2. Carts for coaches in all Classes
3. Marker discussion

Adjourn **Motion by: Rodgers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cameron. Motion Carries to approved. 4-2 vote**