



MHSAA Golf Tournament Coaching Policies

During the MHSAA tournament **one school designated coach** with proper lanyard ID will be allowed to coach players from his/her school team during play. The coaching period will be anytime during play except when the coach's player has physically reached the green, at which time coaching is no longer allowed.

While players are conducting tee shots, it is recommended that coaching and/or communication with players in a group be kept to a minimum. Coaching shall not slow pace of play. Coaches shall exhibit good sportsmanship, monitor sportsmanship of players, keep spectators at a reasonable distance and keep pace of play moving. Violation of conduct expectations shall result in the loss of coaching privileges.

- Coaches may not call rules violations or assess penalties, but are encouraged to remind players and rules officials of possible rules violations or penalties when they occur, and/ or assist in preventing any such rules violation.
- Coaches may not be physically on the green to perform duties such as reading or lining up putts, or tending the pin and coaches may not rake bunkers or carry a player's clubs. Coaches should keep a reasonable distance from the green while players putt.

Additional clarifications:

- Coaches should be on the course helping facilitate pace of play and keeping galleries at reasonable distance.
- Coaches **may** "intervene" with their own players and other players when advising or reminding a player to consult USGA rules and be pro-active in matters of rules compliance. When doing so, coaches should not pose as a rules official, or as a member of the rules committee.
- Coaches **may** communicate to a player he/she can request a rules official and assist in summoning a rules official for the player.
- Coaches **may** monitor sportsmanship and report unsportsmanlike behavior to tournament management.
- Coaches **may not** assess penalties to players.
- Coaches **may not** give rules interpretations; only remind players of options and the need to follow rules.
- Coaches **may not** use carts to transfer players or spectators. Exception: Transport of players to safety in bad weather/lightning situations or between holes as directed by tournament manager.