2026 MPA GOLF BULLETIN

Updated 8/21/26

GOLF SEASON

July 27	First Practice for Harvest Teams
Aug 3- Aug 16	Hands-off Period (Sport Season Policy)
August 5	First Countable Match for Harvest Teams
August 17	First Practice
August 26	First Match
October 2	Sportsmanship Voting Closes
October 6	Last Playable Date for League Qualifying Tournaments
October 6	Due Date for Individual and Team Tournament Entries (electronic entry)
October 8	Starter's Tee assignments posted on MPA Golf Webpage
October 9	Team & Individual Championships (Class A)
October 10	Team & Individual Championships (Classes B & C) (SAT DATE)
October 25 & 26	New England Competition - Mohegan Sun Golf Club – Baltic CT

League	***Course***	***Date of Qualifier***	***Time of Qualifier***	***League Contact***
Aroostook	Houlton Community Golf Club	September 24	9:00am	Cliff Urquhart/Seth Dorr
East-West	Lakewood Golf Course	September 30	9:00am	Evan Worster
KVAC	Natanis Golf Course	October 6	10:00am	Simon Elias
MVC	Natanis Golf Course	October 5	10:00am	Andrew Haynie
PVC – C	JaTo Golf Course	September 29	10:00am	Rick Sinclair
PVC – B	Hermon Meadows Golf Course	October 1	10:00am	Rick Sinclair
SMAA	Natanis Golf Course	October 5	10:00am	Tim Spear
WMC	Natanis Golf Course	September 28	10:00am	Paul True

There will be girl's qualifying events held on the following dates:

Northern Maine	Hidden Meadow Golf Course	September 30	11:00am	Rick Sinclair
Southern Maine	Willowdale Golf Course	September 30	12:00pm	Tim Spear
Central Maine	Meadows Golf Course	October 2	10:00am	Joe Burnham
Aroostook County	Houlton Country Club	September 21	9:30 AM	Cliff Urquhart / Evan Clark

Teams may play their 1st countable match on the second Wednesday of the preseason allowing teams ample time of the regular season and qualifiers.

*Each coach must complete the NFHS "*Concussion in Sport – What You Need to Know*" video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

*Each coach must complete the NFHS "*A Guide to Heat Acclimatization and Heat Illness Prevention*" video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

*Each coach must complete the NFHS "*Sudden Cardiac Arrest"* video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

*Each coach must complete the NFHS *"Protecting Students from Abuse"* video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

Mandatory Rules Clinics

All members of the golf coaching staff must complete the rules course at the link below prior to the start of the season. It is recommended that the athletes also take the course.

Coaches and athletes are encouraged to download the Rules of Golf App that is available at the same link. Leagues are encouraged to have coaches' meetings or clinics where these rules are discussed.

https://www.usga.org/rules-hub.html

Team Qualifiers/Qualifying Scores:

- Any school that shoots a qualifying score at or below the minimum score listed below in their league qualifier will automatically qualify for the team championship even if they are not in the top 1/3 of teams.

Class A	335
Class B	340
Class C	345

- Any school that shoots a qualifying score in their league qualifier higher then the maximum score listed below will not advance to the team championship even if they finish in the top 1/3 of teams.

Class A	380
Class B	390
Class C	400

CHAMPIONSHIPS

The MPA Golf Committee sponsors individual schoolboy and schoolgirl championships, as well as state team championships, in three classes. In 2026 the schoolgirl individual championship will be an open event to those individuals who have a qualifying score of 100. This qualifying score must come from a league-qualifying event. The names of those qualifying (both team and individual) must be submitted to the MPA no later than Tuesday, October 6, 2026. The schoolboy individual championship and team championships will be open to those individuals and teams that qualify through league qualification events. All play will be governed by *The Rules of Golf* as approved by the USGA, except as modified by Local Rules. The on-site Rules Committee will have the final authority on all rulings. The competition is deemed to be closed when the award ceremony begins.

Unsportsmanlike behavior and/or lack of golf etiquette may lead to disqualification by the tournament committee.

The MPA Golf Committee and/or MPA Rules Committee on site reserves the right to alter any of the conditions, provisions, and/or schedules herein. The decision of the Golf Committee and/or Rules Committee in any matter is final.

Coaches and spectator carts are authorized in advance and are intended for those with an obvious disability or inability to walk. There is a fee per cart payable to Natanis GC, however, approval to ride must be obtained by the tournament director prior to the paying. The fee is $25 per cart. Cart rules must be observed or the privilege of riding may be revoked.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Schools must pay a $35 greens fee for each golfer representing the school each day of play in the tournaments. Checks must be made payable to Natanis Golf Course. Payment of greens/fees must be made prior to registering for the tournament. The greens fee for practice rounds will be $25.
2. There is a fee to use the driving range - $25/bushel of balls, $7/large bucket of balls, $4/small bucket of balls.
3. All tournaments will have a minimum of 18 holes of stroke play.
4. Teams or individuals must be accompanied by their school's regular season coach as documented on the annual eligibility roster. In 2026 a team will consist of the coach and the 6 players that qualify as a team and any individual that qualifies as an individual. In an emergency, a school administrator may contact the committee chair prior to playing and appoint a substitute coach. One coaching badge will be issued to the MPA eligible coaches or the school's appointee for each team.
5. Coaches can approach and talk to their players during matches only after a group has holed out and is walking to the next tee. Coaching at any other time is prohibited. Coaches are not to function as rules interpreters. Coaches need to be present immediately in need of emergencies.
6. Caddies may not be used in any of the MPA tournaments. Parents and spectators may follow players around the course but must observe the rules and etiquette of golf including refraining from giving advice or coaching in any way, in person or using electronic communication devices. (They must not be closer than fifty (50) feet from the players.)
7. Teams or individuals seeking to practice at the sites of the tournaments must pay greens fees for practice rounds, must reserve tee times in advance, and must have a responsible adult accompanying each group. The greens fee for practice rounds is $25. Checks must be payable to Natanis Golf Course.
8. The MPA representatives will be responsible for the administration of the tournament and will monitor the competitions. However, the resident Golf Professional Rules Official will make all rules interpretations and judgments.
9. Coaches are expected to provide all student participants with instructions in appropriate golf play etiquette and golf rules. This may be accomplished, for example, by requiring athletes to view a video such as the "USGA Spirit of the Game" or similar instructions provided by the local pro. Athletes and coaches are required to wear appropriate attire. Jeans and t-shirts are prohibited, hats must be worn with the visor forward, and shirts must be tucked in.
10. At the discretion of the tournament director, players will be grouped in threesomes or foursomes with priority being given to providing consistency within the tournament.
11. Shotgun starts will be used in tournament play.
12. Golfers will be able to use global positioning system (GPS) devices in the tournaments in accordance with USGA rules. **Golfers may use cellphones, including those that have a GPS app, while competing in the championship**. If this becomes an issue with integrity of the game. IT IS NOT TO BE USED AS A COMMUNICATION DEVICE BETWEEN OTHER PLAYERS OR COACHES. FIRST there will be a warning, SECOND a disqualification.
13. Online scoring will be utilized in all championships.

EJECTION RULE

In all team and individual sports (varsity or sub-varsity), ejection or disqualification from a game, meet, or match for unsportsmanlike behavior of any form, by a coach or a player shall result in the

suspension of that player or coach. The coach or player ejected from a contest must sit out all contests at all levels until the coach or athlete completes the ejection penalty by sitting out the next game at the level from which he/she was ejected. This rule applies to a game, meet, or match suspended before completion as well as a completed contest. This penalty may not be served by sitting out an exhibition, subvarsity, or other competition.

A suspended coach may not be present at the game site. Not being physically present at the site means the disqualified coach is not to be present in the locker room, on the sidelines, in the stands, or site area before, during, or after the game/meet.

Prior to their return to the sideline any coach ejected from a game must complete the NFHS *"Teaching and Modeling Behavior"* video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

Prior to their return to play any player ejected from a game must complete the NFHS *"Sportsmanship"* video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

Any coach or player ejected from the last game, meet, or contest of a sports season shall serve a one game suspension in the opening countable game, meet, or contest in the next varsity sport in which he/she participates. The coach/athlete may participate fully in the preseason prior to serving the one game suspension.

This policy will not prevent standing committees from imposing more restrictive disciplinary action. (Effective Date: 1996-97 Winter Sport Season; Revised 2008, 2009)

TEAM & INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (Friday/Saturday, October 9-10, 2026)

Classes A, B & C Team -- Natanis Golf Course, Vassalboro.
Coaches will register teams in the Natanis clubhouse.
Class A registration will be from 9:30- 10:30 on Friday, October 10. Class B registration will be from 8:30-9:30 on Saturday, October 10, and Class C will be from 9:30- 10:30 on Saturday, October 10.
Teams will be assigned practice time on the driving range (there is a charge for driving range).

Course Assignments:

Friday, October 9	Class A	Tomahawk	11:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 10	Class B	Tomahawk	10:00 a.m.
	Class C	Arrowhead	11:00 a.m.

1. A team's entry into the team championships will be attained through competition in its league. For each three or a fraction over multiples of three teams, in a class in a league, one team will qualify for the team championships. (Example: A league with 10 schools – 4 A and 6 B – would qualify two A schools and two B schools). Leagues that do not have a minimum of three schools in a classification (A, B, or C) must combine their qualifier with another league in that class so that there is a minimum of three schools in that class. Any league accommodating a non-league school shall not have any of its schools displaced. One qualifier from the non-league teams shall be allowed to qualify.

   Schools that join another league's qualifying tournament under this provision must join the closest league qualifier in that school's classification. Schools that may be members of more than one league – MAY PLAY IN ONLY ONE LEAGUE QUALIFIER. Schools must declare to each league which qualifier they will compete in before the golf season commences. Schools are asked to participate in their league's qualifier even if their golfers will not qualify. This allows another representative from the league to qualify for the tournament.
   *League Qualifiers are administered by leagues. It is recommended that each League Qualifier designate a "Rules Interpreter" for that tournament to manage rules interpretations.

2. Ties for the last qualifying spot in the team tournament must be resolved by the league. It is recommended that the tie breaking procedure be the same as the MPA uses to break ties. Teams must shoot below the maximum score to qualify for the team championships.
3. A maximum of six players from each school will be allowed to participate in the team championships. A golf team may be composed of any combination of six boys and/or girls. If girls are playing on the team, the course will be sloped, and the girls will play from the ladies' tees.
4. The team score is the gross score of the best four scores of the six-member team. In the event of a tie for first place in team competition, there will be a sudden victory playoff between the schools tied. Each coach will select two players to participate in the tiebreaker. The playoff will be held on a hole(s) determined by the committee and the school that scores the best individual score will win.
5. Schoolboy and schoolgirl individuals qualify based on the total number of schools in the competition. Each league may qualify 1.5 times the number of teams that compete in the league qualifier. If there were 10 schools, the best 1.5 individual scores (15 players), regardless if they qualified for the team championship, would qualify irrespective of the school affiliation or the class of the school. All individual qualifiers must obtain a score of 90 (for boys) and 100 (for girls) or lower. Individuals who represent schools without teams must qualify at the nearest individual league championship.
6. Qualifying scores will be determined at a minimum eighteen-hole league-qualifying event. Leagues that have girls competing on a boys' team should ensure that those girls have an equal chance of qualifying for the girls' championships as those girls who are competing only in the girls' qualifier.
7. Individual golfers from schools that do not have golf teams may qualify at a league tournament for the individual championships only if they have been attached to another school's team by a cooperative agreement.
8. No league substitutions for individual qualifiers who withdraw will be allowed.
9. In the individual Boy's and Girl's tournaments, ties for first, second and tenth places will stand. Medals will be given to the top ten finishers.
10. The tournament director will match the better players together within the same class. (Players from the same school will not be placed in the same group.) The girls will be considered one class.
11. Individuals must be accompanied by their regular season coach. In an emergency, a school may designate in writing another certified coach to accompany an individual qualifier. There will be a $100 fine for any school that fails to have a certified coach present with individual athletes.
12. Girls Individuals will be determined with a champion in Class A, Class B and Class C.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The safety of athletes *(participants)*, spectators, coaches/directors, school personnel, and all others present at an athletic contest must be the primary concern to the contest officials and building administrators.

1. When an interscholastic contest has been scheduled and dangerous playing conditions exist, or severe weather is anticipated, the following should be considered:
   a. Prior to beginning an athletic contest, when severe weather is anticipated, the head contest official and the principals of each school, or their designees, will meet to review the suspension and/or postponement procedures. This would include any playing rule book coverage.
   b. The host school administrator will be responsible for informing contest officials, visiting school administrators and, if applicable, the individual responsible for public address announcements of designated shelter areas.
   c. When lightning is observed near a contest conducted outdoors, play should be suspended.

d. If any other life-threatening condition occurs, play should be suspended immediately, and predetermined directions to safe locations will be announced.

2. When a suspension of a contest occurs, the following should be considered:
   a. If the suspension is forty-five minutes or greater, resuming later should be considered.
   b. Play shall not be resumed until **30 minutes** after the last flash of lightning.
   c. When weather conditions are no longer a threat to the safety of participants, spectators, or contest officials, administrators from all schools involved will meet with the head contest official to determine if play will continue.
   d. If play is to be resumed, contestants will be given at least a fifteen-minute warm-up period prior to competition.
3. If evacuation is necessary, the following should be considered:
   a. If lightning is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators should evacuate to available safe structures or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced and displayed on placards at all athletic venues.
   b. All personnel, athletes and spectators should be clearly informed of available safe structures or shelters in the event a thunderstorm approaches. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced. The person in authority must be aware of the amount of time it takes to get to each structure and the number of people each structure can safely hold. For large events, time needed for evacuation is increased and there must be a method (i.e., announcement over loudspeaker) for communicating the need for evacuation and directing both athletes and spectators to the appropriate safe shelters.
   c. The most ideal structure is a fully enclosed, substantial building with plumbing, electrical wiring, and telephone service, which aids in grounding the structure. A fully enclosed automobile with a hard metal roof and rolled up windows is also a reasonable choice. School buses are an excellent lightning shelter that can be utilized for large groups of people. However, it is important to avoid contact with any metal while inside the vehicle.

      Avoid using shower facilities for safe shelter and do not use showers or plumbing facilities during a thunderstorm as the current from a local lightning strike can enter the building via the plumbing pipelines or electrical connections. It is also considered unsafe to stand near utilities, use corded telephones or headsets during a thunderstorm, due to the danger of electrical current traveling through the telephone line. Cellular and cordless telephones are considered safe and can be used to summon help during a thunderstorm.
      When caught in a thunderstorm without availability or time to reach safe structures, you can minimize the risk of lightning-related injury by following a few basic guidelines:

      - Avoid being the highest object. Seek a thick grove of small trees or bushes surrounded by taller trees or a dry ditch.
      - Avoid contact with anything that would be attractive to lightning. Stay away from freestanding trees, poles, antennas, towers, bleachers, baseball dugouts, metal fences, standing pools of water, and golf carts.
      - Crouch down with legs together, the weight on the balls of the feet, arms wrapped around knees, and head down with ears covered.

NEW ENGLAND COMPETITION

The New England Competition will be held on Sunday & Monday, October 25 & 26, 2026, at Mohegan Sun Golf Club in Baltic, Connecticut. Practice rounds may be played prior to the championship (there is a fee for the practice round). More information may be found on the New determined.

NEW ENGLAND QUALIFIER:

Saturday October 17, 2026 10:00 am Girls: Natanis Golf Course Boys: Prouts Neck (Scarborough)

1. Invitations to the top 10 individuals in each class from the State Championship (plus ties) will play in qualifier
2. The State Individual Champion from each class automatically qualifies for the NE Championship.
3. With three automatic exemptions issued, the remaining 27 individuals across all three classes will compete for the final 9 (boys)/9 (girls) spots at New England's.
4. Should there be a tie for the 12th spot (boys) and 12th spot (girls), a playoff will ensue to determine the last qualifying spot.
5. A "committee" of tournament administrators who are on-site will make decisions regarding any playoff implications
6. A participant's tee gift and/or keepsake will be given to each player.
7. If for any reason the New England Qualifier is cancelled, we will revert to the previous MPA Qualifier rule for the NE Championship.
8. There is no entry cost for the event to the golfer or school.

GOLF CLASSIFICATION

CLASS A 650+	CLASS B 400-649	CLASS C 0-399
1. Lewiston, 1,655	1. Fryeburg, 663	1. Houlton/Greater Houlton, 382/23
2. Thornton, 1,287	2. Cony, 647	2. Maranacook, 369
3. Portland, 1,146	3. Freeport, 629	3. Orono, 365
4. Edward Little, 1,136	4. Morse, 629	4. Lisbon, 362
5. Sanford, 1,075	5. Nokomis, 614	5. Bucksport, 358
6. Bangor, 1,069	6. Gray-New Gloucester, 591	6. Central, 311
7. Bonny Eagle, 1,034	7. Gardiner, 583	7. Washington, 306
8. Deering*, 1,033	8. Yarmouth, 562	8. Mattanawcook, 294
9. Oxford Hills, 1,021	9. Hermon, 556	9. Mt. View, 288
10. South Portland, 990	10. Lincoln, 555	10. Berwick, 278
11. Noble, 940	11. Leavitt, 552	11. Dexter, 273
12. Windham, 935	12. Medomak Valley, 552	12. Maine Central, 268
13. Scarborough, 911	13. Old Town, 536	13. George Stevens, 254
14. Massabesic, 870	14. Erskine, 533	14. Waynflete, 254
15. Gorham, 813	15. Lawrence, 528	15. Fort Kent/Madawaska, 251/115
16. Hampden, 749	16. Ellsworth, 522	16. Sumner, 238
17. Mt. Ararat, 738	17. Cape Elizabeth, 511	17. Calais, 228
18. Camden Hills, 737	18. John Bapst 508	18. Dirigo, 228
19. Brunswick, 717	19. York, 503	19. Winthrop, 226
20. Messalonskee, 713	20. Lake Region, 500	20. Mt. Abram, 213
21. Westbrook, 704	21. Oceanside, 498	21. Narraguagus, 209
22. Kennebunk, 701	22. Poland, 493	22. Old Orchard, 203
23. Skowhegan, 696	23. Winslow/Waterville, 367/484	23. Gould Acad., 194
24. Falmouth, 695	24. Mt. Desert, 476	24. Kents Hill, 193
25. Mt. Blue, 694	25. Belfast, 471	25. Monmouth/Hall-Dale, 188/251
26. Brewer, 693	26. Presque Isle, 456	26. Machias, 168
27. Biddeford, 689	27. Foxcroft, 431	27. Madison, 167
28. Marshwood, 665	28. Caribou, 422	28. Buckfield, 149
29. Greely^, 613	29. Mountain Valley, 415	29. Fort Fairfield, 149
30. Cheverus^, 388	30. Spruce Mountain, 407	30. North Yarmouth, 140
	31. Wells, 400	31. Woodland, 140
	32. Oak Hill^, 389	32. Hodgdon, 138
		33. Penobscot Valley, 129
		34. Searsport*, 120
		35. Central Aroostook, 108
		36. S. Aroostook/Katahdin, 108/74
		37. Bangor Christian, 105
		38. Shead, 83
		39. Ashland, 63
		40. Valley, 63
		41. Jonesport-Beals, 60
		42. Rangeley, 49
		43. Forest Hills, 49
		44. Greenville, 38