

Chip Shots December 2017

Hope everyone is having a great school year, coaches that are teaching or working and the ones retired, a great off season. Fall had a lot of up and downs weather wise, like our golf seasons in the spring always do. Here in Detroit Lakes, our CC closed on October 15, then the next week it was in the 70's, but watched our superintendent work until dark one night trying to get his spraying finished before the weather snowed and turned cold. For deer hunters, not sure what you had, but I hunted in northern Minnesota, had a foot of snow by opening day, and ten below the following Thursday, for you hunters hope you enjoyed that time as much as I did with my gang, have had a Gordon hunting shack in the deep woods for 63 years!

Winter sports are all in full swing, that means under 4 months and our 2018 golf season will begin. Good luck to golf coaches that are coaching a winter sport.

If you have not joined the golf coaches association for 2017-2018, please do so and take advantage of the benefits for the entire school year, remember the Coaches Association year runs from August 1 to July 31 and not the calendar year, so make your dues count. The million dollar insurance policy is in effect for the entire school year, and worth joining beginning of year, and your membership pass gets you into most High School and College events all school year long, and you will be on our association email list as a registered coach and receive all our emails during the entire school year, that is how we can get hold of all our coaches. So don't wait until spring golf season, join now if you have not.

Birdie marketing will again offer golf cards as a fund raiser for High Schools golf programs. All Birdie marketing info is online for you on the golf coaches site. Not only teams raise funds, but birdie marketing donates money to our association and also give 8-\$500 checks for a drawing to teams who sell 25 or more cards: Winners in this past years drawing are: Blaine HS/

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Kevin Overaard, Bloomington Jefferson/Matt Elson, Buffalo/Paul Olson, Hastings/Becky Hartung, Irondale/Travis Tollette, Rogers/Dan Bursheim, St. Peter/Neil Doose and White Bear Lake/Craig Nasvik.

Other upcoming 2017 Golf dates:

Coaches On-line rules begins March 12, has to be completed by March 28 with State High School League, this is on your coaches clipboard, go to MSHSL website.

Deadline to complete the Eligibility Verification forms is March 29

Practice can begin March 19, wow this is just under 4 months from this writing of Chip Shots, so good luck organizing and getting ready and during your new season!

Last day to play sections is June 5 and State tournaments are June 12-13 at the same sites, Class A at Pebble Creek GC in Becker, Class AA at Ridges at Sand Creek GC in Jordan and Class AAA at Bunker Hills GC in Coon Rapids. Remember the State banquets are on June 11 at 7pm, coaches honor your teams and players by attending the banquet. We talked with the State High School League about some changes for practice rounds, so it is easier to get to banquets.

I am fortunate that both my wife Diane and myself are retired and have been able to head to Arizona with our kids and grandkids for the winter months, walk, hike and golf a lot, and enjoy seeing sunshine almost everyday. If you need to contact me about anything please do, my mailing address is 24878 North Melissa Drive, Detroit Lakes, Mn. 56501, mail is forwarded to me or email me at bdgorden@dettlakes.k12.mn.us or call my cell anytime 218-234-5509.

Have a great Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Think green and see you on a course in the spring or in sunny Arizona, Golf Coaches Association President Bob Gorden

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