

CHIP SHOTS MARCH 2017

As you read this publication our season is soon to begin, March 20 is first official practice day. Hope your having a great school year and are as excited as I am to begin another High School golf season. Winter has been really nice as far as I can see from sunny Arizona. How about that weather in middle of February? Read earlier that first course opening was February 18! Wow, history was made, a new record. Will we have an early start to our golf season? Sure hope so!

Always JOIN the golf coaches association early in the school year, we use registered coaches email for correspondence during the entire school year, plus the insurance covers you from July 1 - June 30 yearly, and the other benefits can be used the entire school year. So never just join for the golf season, take advantage of being a member the entire school year, if you haven't join please do so.

State rankings will again be run by Barry Wallin Rosemount High School for girls, and Brian Johnson Eagen High School for boys. PLEASE enter weekly scores on line for you team and players, so all golfers can be recognized if deserving during our 2017 season. It is an easy on line weekly procedure to enter scores for the rankings. If every team enters their players and team scores we would have a very accurate weekly ranking, and players who deserve to get the all state award at end of season would do so for each class, boys and girls.

Academic awards, again Steve Heslop from Pequot Lakes will handle this. This info will be on line on our coaches website, with the due date May 26. These awards are presented at the banquets on June 12 during the state tournaments, if player is not in attendance they will be mailed to the coaches. COACHES remember to honor your players if deserving by filling out these forms for Steve on line and on time.

State tournament banquets will be chaired by Rich Aulie Crosby for class A, Mike Frankenfield Shattuck for class AA, and

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Tim Kallevig Park Center for class AAA. When you have a team or player qualify for the State tournament, make sure you attend the banquet, very nice for them to be honored at these events. This information is also on our Coaches Association web site.

The Birdie Marketing Golf Card is the only golf card the Coaches Association endorses. This golf card give back to the coaches and your association. Each year we draw 8 teams who have sold at least 25 cards and they get a check for \$500 for their program. Winners in 2016 were, Becky Hartung Hastings, Jessica LeBanc Pierz, Scott Baldwin Zimmerman, Eric Petterson Bloomington Kennedy, Andy Lahoud St. Francis, Steve Hanson Cambridge, Bil Huhner Litchfield and Brian Hoffman Monticello. The info for selling these cards is on our coaches website, was also emailed to all registered coaches. Also, Jeff Tollette who handles this card, will sell you team bags, balls, etc at his cost if your selling cards, just contact Jeff at 763-753-6988.

** Gopher Golf Clinic on March 25 9am-1:30pm at Bierman Athletic Building on University of Minnesota Campus

2017 Dates:

Practice start up date is Monday March 20

First contest date is March 30, and last day to hold a section qualifier is June 7

Coaches on line rules begins March 13 and due completed March 28 this year, earlier than last year to be completed

State tournament banquets Monday June 12, tournament play June 13-14 at same sites A Pebble Creek GC in Becker, AA Ridges at Sand Creek GC in Jordan and AAA Bunker Hills GC in Coon Rapids

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So as you start another golf season, have fun teaching this great game to your players and good luck, or should I say play well. Your players will be able to enjoy this great game for a lifetime, so have fun teaching them and remind them golf is suppose to be fun, and have a great 2017 High School season and hope to see you on a course somewhere.

Arnold Palmer said it best, "Golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated. It satisfies the soul and frustrates the intellect. It is at the same time rewarding and maddening, it is without a doubt the greatest game man kind has ever invented"

THINK GREEN, Bob Gorden President Golf Coaches
Association