

East Troy High School Golf

Introduction: Welcome to the 2024 boys golf season. The purpose of this informational outline is to make sure athletes and parents are aware of the expectations and procedures of the golf season. It is the expectation that both the athletes and their parents read through the following and sign the acknowledgement at the end of the packet.

Philosophy: First, there must be full understanding that golfers are athletes. Since golf team members are athletes there are certain expectations or attitudes that must be incorporated into one's attitude. These include:

- The desire to improve
- A competitive spirit
- A team mentality with Individual Needs
- Positive attitude

The goal of the golf team will be to constantly strive for improvement in order to put the most competitive team on the course.

Equipment: Each athlete is responsible for their own set of clubs (14 max). The school will provide a carry/stand bag for varsity and JV athletes. Players on varsity and JV are required to use the school bags to promote team spirit. Golf shoes (soft spikes) are highly recommended. Golf courses are treacherous environments that include wet grass, steep hills, and too often woods or tall grass areas. Golf shoes help keep feet dry and provide better traction during strokes and while walking. Other equipment commonly found in bags include: ball cleaner, towel, Band-Aids, golf glove, tees, balls, ball markers, and head covers.

Practice: Practices will be structured to improve all aspects of the game and will oftentimes be data driven in order to determine improvement. By having more focused practice procedures, the athletes and coaches will be able to evaluate improvement in much greater detail. Practices will include putting, chipping, and pitching drills, utilizing a driving range with various practice facilities, and playing holes at the golf course. Video analysis of swings, rules quizzes, basic golf vocabulary, proper club selection, and safety instruction will also be incorporated into practice.

Conditioning: Athletes are required to carry their own clubs during both practice and matches in between swinging the club several hundred times. A round of 18 holes requires walking at least four miles up and down hills. Therefore, conditioning needs to be a part of a golf athlete's preparation.

Attire: Proper attire is required at all times. Match attire includes a collared shirt (school logo) and khaki pants. This is non-negotiable. Boy's golf is a spring sport and along with this comes cold, wet weather. Be prepared for the weather by checking before we leave for a match or practice. The school does have full rain/wind suits for match days. Matches are rarely canceled due to rain only. Extra school labeled clothing will also be offered for sale.

Transportation: Transportation to golf matches and the driving range will be provided by the school. Either a bus or a suburban will be utilized. Transportation from the school to Alpine Valley Golf Course for practice will be the responsibility of the students. Oftentimes, younger athletes will ride with older athletes to the course. Coaches will help coordinate rides to Alpine. Please drive responsibly.

Communication: Communication is very important for coaches, athletes, and parents. I set up a golf team website that is linked off of my home page on the high school website. Included in the website is a schedule of practices and matches. A link to contact either coach is also included. Please feel free to contact us. Any cancellation of practice or a match will be directly related to the athletes, announced during school, and/or announced on the team website.

Attendance: Attendance at practices is mandatory. You are expected to be at all scheduled practices and meetings. Excused absences would include family emergencies, family vacations, unavoidable school conflicts, and other unusual circumstances. It is the athlete's responsibility to notify Coach Manske or Coach Weis of an absence prior to the absence. Athletes with three unexcused absences will be removed from the team.

Matches: Matches are the heart of the golf team experience. Conference matches include other teams from the conference and will be stroke play. Five team members will compete and the top four scores will count towards the team total. Various other invitational golf matches are scheduled during the season. These usually are Varsity matches and are often during the school day or on Saturday. Athletes will be chosen for Varsity based on stroke average from qualifying and competitive rounds, attitude, and practice participation.

Classwork: Unfortunately, athletes on Varsity will miss a considerable amount of school (see schedule). It is the responsibility of the athlete to obtain any school work prior to the match. If an athlete is falling behind in school work they will be temporarily removed from Varsity.

Behavior: Golf is a gentleman's sport. Respect of the team, competitors, golf course, coaches, and yourselves is of utmost importance. The coaches will not tolerate any behavior not supportive of a 1st class team.

Letter Policy and Awards: Any athlete that participates in four (4) varsity competitions will receive a letter for the season. Awards of team captain, most valuable player, and most improved player may be given at the end of the season. The awards will be at the coach's discretion.

Safety: Safety on the golf course is very important. Golf balls are hit at very high rates of speed and must be respected. Golf balls also do not always go in the player's intended direction. Too often I have seen athletes and spectators standing in a direct path of an errant shot. Pay attention to where you are hitting and where you are standing. Be aware of people swinging clubs. One more thing... golf carts must be respected. When riding or driving a golf cart be aware of the hazards.

Golf Resources: Golf apps, USGA website, V1...

Booster Club: The all sports booster club continually contributes time and money to school athletics including the purchase of awards, equipment, and displays. The booster club also provides scholarships to student athletes. It is highly encouraged for parents to join or support booster club activities. Currently it is \$5 to join for the year or \$50 for a lifetime membership.

Please detach this page from the packet and return to Coach Manske before the end of the first week of practice.

I have read all the materials included in the 2024 Golf Packet and I agree that I can abide by these regulations.

(Athlete Signature)

Date: _____

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

Date: _____

(Parent/Guardian Phone Number)

(Parent/Guardian E-mail)