Section One
Girls Golf Booklet
2026

Sports Chairperson
Denise Kiernan
North Salem HS

Email dkiernan@northsalemschools.org

Committee Members
Conf 1 AD Mike Arias, Sleepy Hollow HS
Conf 2 AD Joe Sigillo, Nyack HS
Conf 3 AD Denise Kiernan, North Salem HS

League Representatives
League A TBA
League B TBA
League C Rich Savage, Rye
League D Mike Chiacchia, Wappingers
League E Mitch Shapiro. Edgemont

Coaches Association
President, Vice Pres, Secretary, Treasurer TBD

IMPORTANT DATES
First Practice permitted March 9, 2026
First Scrimmage/Game None required number of practices/training
Last Day to Play May 13, 2026
Verification Period: May 14, 2026
Seeding Meeting: N/A
Maximum Number of Contests 16

Coaches Meetings
Pre-Season - Tuesday, March 3rd 4:00pm Virtual
**Zoom link will be sent out in advance.

Section One Tournament			
Round	**Date**	**Location**	**Class**
First Round Team and Individuals	**May 18th, 2026**	**The Links Unionvale 9:00am**	All
Finals Individual Champs	**May 27th, 2026**	**Whippoorwill 11:00am**	All

NYSPHSAA Girls Golf Championships

ELIGIBILITY 26. Representation Rule:

Minimum Number of Contests To be eligible for sectional, intersectional or state competition, a team must have completed in ***six (6)*** school scheduled contests which occurred on ***six (6)*** different dates during the season.

Team/Individual and Individual Sports: An individual must also have represented their school in ***six (6)*** scheduled contests during the season to be eligible. These required contests must occur on ***six (6)*** different dates and must be conducted prior to the conclusion of the team's regular schedule.

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GOLF STANDARDS

1. ***Number of Players***: 6 players for all matches. Tri-matches – 6 players. The number of coaches and extra players will be confirmed by calling the host school before the match date.

2. ***Length of Match***: Regular matches are 9 holes. All players must complete the same 5 holes in medal play for an official match. If a league match is incomplete, coaches MUST reschedule the match.

3. ***Dress Code***: Players and coaches must be appropriately dressed. Blue jeans and collarless shirts are not acceptable. Players should be presentable anywhere on the club grounds. Hats must be worn with the brim in front. Improper dress may lead to exclusion or disqualification. Shorts or skirts may be worn for matches. They must be knee length, and in accordance with the dress code of the host course. Denim shorts or cut-off jeans are prohibited. It is the responsibility of the visiting coach to contact the home coach to verify the dress code of the host course.

4. ***Rules:*** USGA Rules – Local rules in play must be noted before the start of the match.

5. ***Scoring:*** Matches will be based upon stroke play. The low 5-woman team score (aggregate score) for each competing team shall determine the winner. In the event of a tie, the 6th score from each team shall be added and the best 6 player aggregate score will determine the winner. In the event that the match is still tied, the match will remain a tie.

6. If the match is to determine the team championship, a sudden victory playoff format will take place. All 6 players from each team will be required to complete an extra hole determined by the head pro of the course. The low 5-woman team aggregate score on the extra hole shall determine the champion.

7. If weather, lack of daylight or course conditions do not permit a playoff, a match of cards for the 5 woman team will determine the winner. The team with the lowest 5 woman score for the #1 handicap hole wins the match. If a tie remains after a match of card for the #1 handicap hole, then the lowest 5 woman score for the #2 handicap hole wins the match, etc. until a winner is determined.

8. Should a team only have 4 eligible players, that team cannot win the match. If a team has only 5 players, they cannot win the match if the low 5 woman team aggregate is tied. It is recommended that if a competing team has less than 6 players, coaches arrange pairings so each group has a mix of players from each school. All scores played in matches between competing schools shall count toward a player's average used to determine sectional seeding and entrance into the Sectional Qualifying Tournaments.

9. Girls will play from the red tee area in all matches and qualifying tournaments.

10. Players must carry their own bag (no designee shall carry a player's clubs for them). Exception to this rule requires Conference or Sectional approval.

11. Use of pushcarts is allowed only if permitted by the host course.

12. Use of a GPS or Rangefinder (without slope or wind adjustment capabilities) is permitted.

13. A coach or school representative must accompany and remain with the team for matches as well as qualifying for Championship Tournaments.

14. The use of alcohol, tobacco or non-prescription drugs is not permitted at any time during a golf match. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification of the individual player.

INDIVIDUAL SCORING ENTRY

We will continue to use a collaborative Google spreadsheet to record individuals' scores throughout the season in an attempt to make the sectional qualifications more transparent. **Please enter your scores from each match played no later than the Friday of that week.**

Instructions:

1. Go to 2026 Girls Golf Scoring Record.
2. If not already logged into a google account through your web browser, you will be asked to enter your username and password. Your username is the email that you provided when setting up your account.
3. There are four main sections to this spreadsheet:
    - Individual Team Pages
    - Sectional Rankings Page
    - In Progress Rankings Page
    - Intra-League Standings Page

INDIVIDUAL TEAM PAGES - ENTERING GOLFER'S SCORES

Each team has a dedicated sheet within the spreadsheet. These "tabs" can be found along the bottom of the screen, listed in alphabetical order. If you don't see your team sheet, use the left and right arrows on the bottom row to scroll through the list.

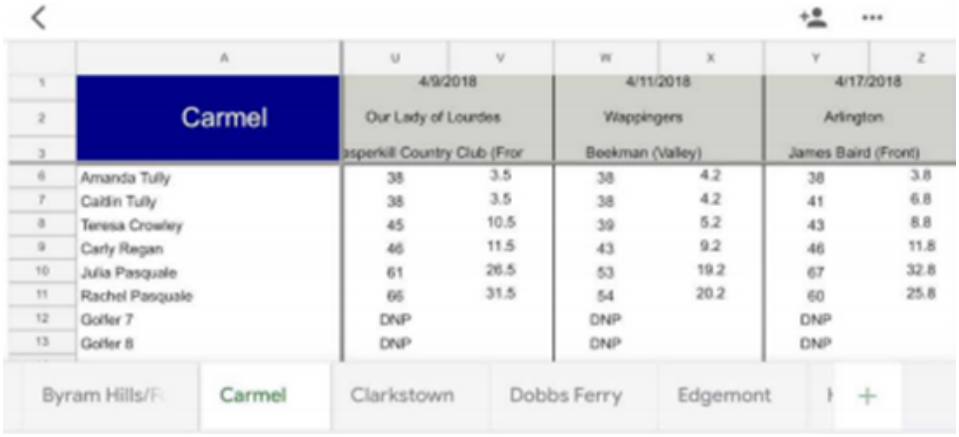
Only the coach of the team and Mitch Shapiro (Edgemont) have rights to edit a team page, but all other coaches are able to view the sheet.

To enter scores for a match:

1. Enter the date of the match in the top row of a column.
2. Use the drop-down menu (by clicking the triangle) to select an opponent.
3. Use the drop-down menu (by clicking the triangle) to select a course. The course rating will automatically populate the cell.
4. Enter a score for each golfer who competed in the match. **If a golfer picked-up their ball at any point in the match, enter a score of '999' for that round.** This will ensure that this score will be counted as the first dropped score, as our rules stipulate. Golfer's scores will automatically be converted into a differential (*score - course rating*).

Once a golfer has two scores entered an "In Progress Differential" will be calculated for them. Once a golfer has met the minimum number of matches for sectional qualification (6) a "75% Differential" will be calculated for them - this is the statistic that is used to determine sectional seedings and qualification.

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	A	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1		4/9/2018		4/11/2018		4/17/2018	
2	Carmel	Our Lady of Lourdes		Wappingers		Arlington	
3		sperkill Country Club (Fror		Beekman (Valley)		James Baird (Front)	
6	Amanda Tully	38	3.5	38	4.2	38	3.8
7	Caitlin Tully	38	3.5	38	4.2	41	6.8
8	Teresa Crowley	45	10.5	39	5.2	43	8.8
9	Carly Regan	46	11.5	43	9.2	46	11.8
10	Julia Pasquale	61	26.5	53	19.2	67	32.8
11	Rachel Pasquale	66	31.5	54	20.2	60	25.8
12	Golfer 7	DNP		DNP		DNP	
13	Golfer 8	DNP		DNP		DNP	

Byram Hills/F | Carmel | Clarkstown | Dobbs Ferry | Edgemont | +

Example of Individual Team Page:
Sectional Rankings Page

INDIVIDUAL TEAM PAGES - ENTERING GOLFER'S SCORES continued

The "Sectional Rankings" tab on the bottom of the screen will bring you to a sorted list of all golfers with six qualifying rounds completed, ranked by their "75% Differential."
Remember: The top 30 golfers in the Section at the conclusion of the regular season will be invited to play in the first round of the Sectional Tournament

In Progress Rankings Page
In order to gain a greater perspective as to how a golfer compares to the field throughout the season (i.e. prior to all golfers having six qualifying rounds complete) we have introduced an "In Progress Ranking" sheet. This sheet will bring you to a sorted list of all golfers with at least two qualifying rounds, ranked by their "In Progress Differential."

Note: This ranking is not an official sectional ranking and will include golfers on the list that have not qualified for sectional qualification based on the number of rounds they have completed.

Intra-League Standings Page
In order to keep track of intra-league team standings and determine each league's team entrant into the sectional tournament, the home team coach for each intra-league match will add a win for the winning team, a loss for the losing team or no contest (to indicate that fewer than 5 golfers from each team participated in the match) on the Intra-League Standings page.

GIRLS PLAYING ON BOYS TEAMS

Girls playing on a boys' team during the 2025 regular season have the ability to declare themselves eligible to qualify for the girls' sectional championship. The process is as follows:

1. **The Girls' Golf Championship Declaration must be submitted to the Section One Girls' Golf co-chair (Denise Kiernan) prior to their first match.**
2. The coach will submit the following information, for every match played, **on a weekly basis** to the Section One Girls Chair-Denise Kiernan.

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Weekly Summary of Golf Match Info

Send at the end of every week to mmurphy@carmelschools.org

Golfer's Name	School	Coach

Match Date	Opponent	Course	Tees Played	Yardage Played	Rating Played	Player's Score
				Red Tee Yardage		Adjusted Rating
						0
				Yardage Difference		Adjusted Score
				0		0

A digital form, similar to the one seen above, will be provided to the coaches by the Section One Girls' Golf Chair-Denise Kiernan

3. The scores, played on the white blue and blue tees, will then be converted using the USGA Women's Rating Adjustment which can be found here on the USGA website. Once converted, these scores will be added to the 2026 Girls Golf Scoring Record.

*****Important Note*****

In order for a score to be used in qualifying, the golfer must complete every hole and record their score on that hole. If a player picks up their ball on any hole before completing the hole, that score cannot be used to qualify for the sectional championship. See COACHING AND GOLF MATCH GUIDELINES below.

COACHING AND GOLF MATCH GUIDELINES

1. No team shall bring any extra players or coaches without the knowledge and consent of the Home Team.

2. Matches should be confirmed in advance to avoid conflicts.

3. The Home Team coach shall act as the referee for the day.

4. For scoring purposes, only 1 score may be used for an individual golfer per match, regardless of the number of opponents. 1 match = 1 score. Scores from tri matches will not count as two separate matches for individual scores.

5. On the day of a match, a player may not practice or play on any of the holes that will be used in competition.

6. No metal spikes allowed.

7. Any player picking up her golf ball and not completing a hole shall be given a score of 10 for that hole. The score of 10 is then circles on the score card indicating that the golfer has picked up her ball on that hole. Her score for that match will count as one of the "dropped" scores in determining her differential average.

8. Coaching players during a match is permitted by all coaches present up to and including **May 14th.** After that point, coaching players during a match is not permitted by any coaches present; this includes the Sectional Tournament. Players from the same team may assist each other during the play of an official team match.

9. **Players should use Rule 3 – 3, Doubt as to Procedure, to avoid disqualification in stroke play.**

10. Subject to approval of both schools, match dates may be altered as conditions permit due to postponements, availability of courses, etc. League matches have priority in scheduling.

11. Every effort should be made to play matches when scheduled. If postponement seems likely, the responsibility for communication shall be on the Home Team. A 1:00 p.m. deadline is recommended as the latest time for notifying the visiting team of a cancellation. The Home Team determines inclement weather.

12. Every coach is responsible for the conduct and dress of their team. All players are guests and regular members of the host course must be treated with the utmost respect. All course regulations and rules must be strictly followed. Coaches should be present at the finishing holes for proper supervision of the teams at the completion of the match.

13. Scorecards should be signed by players at the conclusion of the round. Score sheets should be reviewed and agreed upon by both coaches before leaving the course.

14. No practice/alternate scores will be counted in the player's individual record.

15. Only 9-hole scores can be used in computing the differential score.

SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

1. Sectional coaches or an approved representative of the coach will meet to select the qualifiers for the Sectional Championship. Coaches must submit an **Individual Scoring Sheet** for each player (located on the last page).
2. Recommended criteria for selection will be an individual's best 75% differential average. A player must have completed a MINIMUM of 6 matches to be eligible for a Sectional Tournament.
3. All-league awards will be allotted as per the Section One All League formula used in all sports. All Conference honors will be granted to any player advancing to Round II of the Section I Open. All section honors will be granted to the top 15 players in the Section I Open.

TOURNAMENT MARKER GUIDELINES

1. Introduce yourself to the competitors. Ask for the brand name of the golf ball they are playing and stress that it may be marked for identification.
2. Move the players off the green at the end of each hole. Announce the score of each player and review any discrepancies before starting the next hole. Record the scores on your scorecard.
3. Try to fore caddy on holes with difficult landing areas to help speed up play.
4. **Markers may not make rulings**. Be familiar with Rule 3, Section 3, and encourage the competitor to use this rule when they are in doubt as to their procedure.
5. Assist in looking for lost balls.
6. Do not lift a ball or mark its position.
7. Do not attend the flagstick.
8. Encourage that divots be replaced, ball marks fixed and traps raked.
9. Encourage play to keep moving, especially if a group falls a hole behind.
10. Handle unsportsmanlike conduct immediately with a verbal warning. If the conduct persists, tell the competitors you will be reporting the facts to the Golf Committee. Make a note on paper what was demonstrated by the competitors, the time and place.

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QUALIFICATION FOR THE SECTION ONE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The following criteria will be used to evaluate a player to qualify for the Section I Open:
The Sectional Finals will be held over two days. The top 40 female golfers in Section I, based on the 75% differential of all matches played, will qualify for the first round of Sectional Finals (no alternates).

I. **Course Differential Rating** (based on Course Rating and Slope)
The following formula will be used to determine a player's differential for each round played.

(Attested Score – Course Rating for Holes Played) x 113 / Slope Rating for Holes Played

The top 75% differentials (using the above formula) will be used to calculate the player's average differential for qualification to the Sectional Tournament. Below is a summary of matches played and the number of matches that would have to count toward qualification (75%).

Matches	75%	Matches	75%
6	5	12	9
7	5	13	10
8	6	14	11
9	7	15	11
10	8	16	12
11	8		

Example:

Holes	Score	Course Rating	Slope Rating	Differential Rating
9	39	36.3	118	2.58
9	43	35.2	122	7.22
9	41	36.8	118	4.02
9	46	32.9	132	11.21
9	40	33.8	128	5.47
9	50	36.4	130	11.82**
54	259			6.10

** drop highest (75% rule)

30.5 divided by 5 = 6.10 Differential Rating Average

The differential rating average shall determine a player's ranking at the Conference seeding meetings.

a. Only 9-hole match scores can be used in the calculation of a player's differential average. Practice and/or alternate scores cannot be used in this calculation. Only 1 score may be used for an individual golfer per match, regardless of the number of opponents. All nine hole scores played in matches between competing schools shall count toward a player's "differential" average.
b. Schools can only play 16 matches. Tri-matches can only be used once in the qualification procedure for qualification procedure for sectional play.
c. More than one match a day is permitted provided the match is not played on the same 9 holes.
d. Alternate scores only count for girls if the match is contested by an opponent.

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A player who is disqualified for quitting, picking up, and in general failing to complete a match will have that match count as a played match, and may elect to drop that match as one of the "drop" scores. Any player disqualified for failing to complete a hole or picking up shall have that round counted as one of the "drop" scores.

POST SEASON AWARDS

All League: Section One Formula (below)
All Conference: players that qualify for round two of the Section I Open
All Section: low 15 players in the Section I Open

All League Awards

This individual award is chosen by the coaches within each league. Each school within the league has the ability to nominate athletes for this award. The number of awards available for each league is obtained using the following formula:

Leagues of 4 or 5:	(Double the number of starters) *baseline*
In leagues of 6:	(Double the number of starters x 1.75) ÷ 1.5
In leagues of 7:	(Double the number of starters x 2) ÷ 1.5
In leagues of 8:	(Double the number of starters x 2.25) ÷ 1.5
In leagues of 9:	(Double the number of starters x 2.5) ÷ 1.5
In leagues of 10:	(Double the number of starters x 2.75) ÷ 1.5

NOTE:

- *In the event that a league decreases in size after leagues have been approved (example: dropped team), the all league allocation shall be determined by the league size at the completion of the season.*
  - *If a league drops below the established baseline after leagues have been approved, the following formula will be utilized - (Double the number of starters x 1.25) ÷ 1.5.*
- *If a coach/rep is not present at the All League Selection Meeting, appropriate All League selections will be reserved for that school.*
- *Sample Breakdown: Soccer league of 6 teams with 26 All League awards to distribute. 1st place – 8, 2nd place – 6, 3rd place – 5, 4th place – 4, 5th place – 2, 6th place – 1.*
- ***Basic Concepts of Athletic Alignment** Section V, Article F – Schools declaring an independent team would not qualify for post-season awards.*

TOURNAMENT GLOSSARY

1. **Summer Rules** - Play the ball as it lies.
2. **Winter Rules** - A ball lying on your own fairway or the collar of the green, may be marked, lifted and cleaned without penalty and placed within 12 inches of where it originally played, not nearer the hole, and so as to preserve as nearly as possible the stance required to play the original lie. After the ball has been placed and the marker removed, the ball is in play.
3. **Embedded Ball** - Anywhere through the green, a ball which is embedded in its own pitch mark in the ground, except in a hazard, may be lifted without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to the spot where it plays but not nearer the hole.

4. **Score Card** - After completion of the round, the competitor should check her score for each hole and settle any doubtful points with the Committee. She shall ensure that the marker has signed the card, countersign the card herself and return it to the Committee.
5. **Doubt As To Procedure** - In stroke play only, when, during the play of a hole, a competitor is doubtful of her rights or procedure, she may, without penalty, play a second ball. After the situation that caused the doubt has arisen, the competitor should, before taking further action, announce to her marker or a fellow competitor, her decision to invoke this rule and the ball with which she will score if the Rules will permit. The competitor shall report the facts to the Committee before returning her scorecard unless she scores the same with both golf balls; if she fails to do so, she shall be disqualified. If the Rules allow the procedure selected in advance by the competitor, the score with the ball selected shall be her score for the hole. If the competitor fails to announce in advance her decision to invoke the Rule or her selection, the score with the original ball, or, if the original ball is not one of the balls not being played, the first ball put into play shall count if the rules allow the procedure adopted for such ball.

FINALS PROTEST PROCEDURE

1. A player lodging a protest will immediately notify the marker for her group that she intends to file a protest and indicate the reason for the protest.
2. The marker will make a notation of the infraction and notify a member of the Rules Committee as soon as possible.
3. The referee will evaluate the rules infraction with the Rules Committee and determine a ruling.
4. The Rules Committee will make the final decision in all protests. The Rules Committee will be selected by the Sports Chairperson prior to the start of the match. It will consist of three or five Committee Members.
5. Representatives of the schools involved will not vote on any final decision.

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Leagues 2026				
League A	**League B**	**League C**	**League D**	**League E**
Clarkstown North Rockland Suffern Nyack East Ramapo	Pearl River Tappan Zee Albertus Magnus Nanuet	Rye Ursuline Harrison Bronxville Pelham	Yorktown Wappingers Arlington Lakeland/Panas Carmel	Scarsdale Edgemont Byram Hills Horace Greeley Briarcliff/Fox Lane

Developing teams should schedule one match, at a minimum, with each team in their respective leagues. Other teams should continue to schedule two matches with each remaining team in the league. Please adjust your schedules accordingly.