Golf Committee Post Season Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.

I. Welcome and Roll Call: In attendance for the Golf Committee Meeting were: Al Stumpf, Richard Bennett, Steve Skinner, Scott Glossner, Bo Henning, John Knodel, Tom Imparato, David Wunsch, Michael Clarke, Steve Shohfi, and Rich Carroll. Guest- Tony Palombo and Mike Andrusin.

II. Minutes of 2017 were reviewed: no questions

III. Tournament Report

a. Steve Skinner – 123 golfers played under sunny conditions. Due to a large amount of rain the week before, no carts were allowed. This was the first year where players were paired with others from their same group. It was decided that to give everyone equal time on the driving range, next year each golfer will be assigned a time slot. Also, coaches will be asked to e-mail Steve Skinner if they are planning to bring an assistant with them so markers can be assigned accordingly. Team Champion – Christian Brothers for the second straight team title. Jack Wall of Christian Brothers was 4 under par and tied for first place with Arav Patel of East Brunswick through 18 holes, forcing a sudden-death playoff with Wall sinking a birdie putt from three and a half feet to take individual medal honors.

b. Lydia and John Sippola- Girls North- no problems. Stanton Ridge is a great venue and does not charge NJSIAA for use of the course. Stanton Ridge would like to continue to host. Team Champion – Pingry. Holy Angels senior Kelly Sim fired a 6 under par 65 to claim individual honors.

c. Rich Carroll - Girls South- No issues. Some coaches were not happy with Bey-Lea Golf Course complaining that there is no driving range. Al Stumpf will look into other courses.

d. Girl’s site for TOC – The golf course where the TOC was to be held, Watchung Hills, was undergoing some course renovations and contacted us to let us know that they could not guarantee the course would be ready in May. Bo Henning helped us secure Royce Brook Golf Club but we had to move the tournament a week later than usual. The 1:30 start time worked well and Royce Brook was in excellent condition. 68 golfers participated. Team Champion – Pingry. Kelly Sim of Holy Angels won a record third with a 5 under par 67.

IV. Correspondence and proposals

a. Chris Brown – AD – Park Ridge
   i. Winning percentage not a fair indicator for qualifying. The Committee discussed and agreed that the policy we have now seems to be working well and felt we would lose golfers instead of gaining golfers by changing this rule. However, this will be addressed later in the meeting.
   ii. Grant ability to coach students while in game play. Dick Bennett agreed since several students are picking up a golf club for the first time, some coaching is needed as a safety issue. However, if allowed, some coaches might not know what they could or could not say. Mike Clarke asked Al if he could speak with other states to see what they do. Al will check when he goes to the National Federation meeting in Chicago this summer.
   iii. Mandate attendance at the Coaches Clinic. NJSIAA cannot mandate a school to spend money to attend a clinic.

b. Mike Artigliere- Millburn Golf Coach – Teams that move out of Sectional to TOC
   i. Sectional Champion may not be rewarded for winning the Sectional. Scott Glossner made a motion, Dave Wunsch seconded, to award a medal for the best player in each section. Vote taken – motion passed.
ii. Condition of Darlington Golf Course and possibility of rotating the sectional sites. With the problem of finding a course for golf tournaments, the Committee agreed to stay where we are, since it is hard to secure a course for the 10 courses we need within a 2-day period.

c. Jennifer Jones – Montgomery High School Golf Coach – Team qualifications
   i. The NJSIAA might have a new system in place for next year.

d. Michelle Walsh – West Windsor-Plainsboro Golf Coach
   i. Move South Sectional Tournament from Bey Lea.
   ii. Provide food/snacks/drinks at the South Sectional Tournament.
   iii. Concept of qualifying for sectionals based on scores rather than win/losses. Will be discussed later in the meeting.
   iv. Move the girls golf season to the fall. This idea is brought up every year and the Committee agrees that it would not work for many reasons.

e. Tom Connolly – West Windsor-Plainsboro North
   i. Include more awards for sectionals and TOC. We currently give out the same awards for both the girls and boys. This was discussed by the committee a few years ago and the committee felt that too many medals were being given out therefore the number of medals was set at its current quota.
   ii. Process of ranking the teams based on scores to determine eligibility for the sectional tournaments. Discussion later in meeting.
   iii. Considering the idea of qualifying for sectionals based on scores rather than win/losses.
   iv. Move the girls golf season to the fall.

f. Daniel Lafferty – Clearview Regional Golf Coach
   i. Do not remove the 60% rule. Already discussed at length by the Committee.
   ii. Not fair to have the girls and boys TOC on the same day.
   iii. Team prepared for tees set about 6950-7000. On the day of Sectionals, the ball had zero roll and playing close to 7100. Requesting parity amongst the Sectional tournaments as far as yardage is concerned due to the fact that at least 2 other tournaments were set at 6400 yards. The Committee questioned if it is possible to level the playing field. We always try to make it fair for all.

g. Tom Quinn – NVOT Coach
   i. Addendum to qualification for team state sectional tournament. If the Committee is interested in this concept, Al would have to present the proposal to the NJSIAA Program Review Committee for 2 readings, the first in September and the second reading in October. After a lengthy discussion, Dave Wunsch made a motion, Scott Glossner seconded that “Provided a sectional site has less than 85 entries, allow one additional wild card team per site into sectional based on team adjusted scoring average for all matches played prior to cutoff. The wild card team will be the team with the next highest percentage closest to 60%. If 2 teams tie for a wild card spot, ties will be broken based on the team with the lowest adjusted team score. The adjusted average will be based on the 6 best team scores played up to the cut-off.” Vote taken – Motion passed.

h. Matthew Millichap – Madison High School Boys Golf Coach
   i. Breaking ties in tournaments. After discussion of several possibilities, Scott Glossner made the following motion seconded by Dick Bennett:

In State Tournament competition (Sectionals, Group Championship and TOC) the individual tie-breaking procedure will be as follows:

Ties for first place will be a sudden death playoff starting on the hole determined by the committee. All other places that are tied will be determined by a match of cards using the following:

1. Winner of the last 9 holes (holes 10-18 regardless of where a player started).
2. If still tied, the winner of last 6 holes (holes 13 – 18)
3. If still tied, the winner of the last 3 holes (holes 16-18)
In State Tournament competition (Sectionals, Group Championship and TOC) the Team tie breaking procedure will be as follows:

Ties for first place will be the aggregate low four player total, determined by a sudden death playoff starting on the hole determined by the committee. All other places that are tied will be determined by a match of cards using the following:

1. The four player aggregate total of the last 9 holes (holes 10-18 regardless of where a player started).
2. IF still tied, the winner of the four player aggregate total of the last 6 holes (holes 13 – 18)
3. IF still tied, the winner of the four player aggregate total of the last 3 holes (holes 16-18)
4. IF still tied, the winner of the four player aggregate total of the 18th hole score.
5. IF still tied a match of cards for the four player aggregate total beginning with hole #1.

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Yes – 10, No 1,  Abstain – 2   Motion is approved

ii. Felt the conditions were far from ideal at Hopewell Valley with the unmowed rough. The Committee agreed that considering the amount of rain the previous week, the course was in great shape and Hopewell staff did all they could to get it ready for us.

iii. Splitting the season.

i. Mike Clarke – Pittsgrove High School
   i. 18-hole match for Sectional qualifiers vs. 9-hole match? The regular season, played after school, only 9 holes can get played before it gets dark.

j. Lydia and John Siipola – Girl’s North Section 1 Directors
   i. The first proposal involves preserving the history of the NJSIAA Girl’s Golf Tournament of Champions, along with the history of the North and South Sectionals. The Siipolas are presently updating the history from 2000-2017.
   ii. Creating an equal competitive playing field for girl’s golf. It is a 10-year initiative to create more girl’s teams and afford young women the same opportunity as young men.
   iii. Revisiting their 2015 proposal stabilizing the sites for the sectionals and TOC by entering into agreements with private country clubs 3 years in advance to secure the best sites, similar to the PGA awarding championships to clubs in advance. Some members of the committee felt that if we had a course we were happy with and could lock it in we should take advantage of it. Al Stumpf and Dick Bennett will continue to look at securing courses for a rotational championship site.
   iv. Al Stumpf will look into reviving a Girls Golf Subcommittee to look at the unique issues related to the girl’s golf program in NJ. He will research the history of this subcommittee and its membership. This will be done during the Summer of 2018, he will send out his findings and recommendation to the golf committee when completed.
   v. Creating a 3 Section for girl’s golf- after the subcommittee is formed it would explore this possibility. Factors that need to be looked at are the numbers in each section, geographical location of schools in each section, availability of a course for the new section, a Sectional Director for the Section and increased costs to run a tournament for the new section.
   vi. Compelling schools to form girls golf teams and compelling schools to have an equal number of boys and girls competing on CO-ED teams. Al Stumpf spoke with the NJSIAA Attorney Steve Goodell about this. Mr. Goodell stated that the NJSIAA cannot compel our member schools to form girls teams- that is strictly a local Board of Education budget matter. He also informed Al Stumpf that the NJSIAA cannot compel member schools to set quotas on the make-up of their teams. It was also stated that in NJ the NJSIAA does not have CO ED teams, but we do allow girls to play on Boys teams.
V. Items for discussion.
   a. Courses all seem good for next year, except for Fox Hollow, N 1&2 Group 4 site. A replacement course is being looked into by that site’s director. Request letters will be sent in July for 2019.
   b. Cost of tournament and greens fees charged. We cannot raise tournament fees.
   c. New sectional directors needed for next year? We are not sure if Fred Rolando will be available next year.
   d. Any vouchers not submitted yet need to be done asap. Because of finances, anyone requesting an assistant at their site needs NJSIAA approval prior to the start of the tournament.
   e. New rules for 2019 season.
      i. Tony Palumbo announced that a Golf Coaches Clinic will be held on October 30, 2018. It will go over the 38 rule changes, skill building, junior golf opportunities, and much more. Registration information can be found on the NJSIAA website.

VI. Regulations for 2019
   a. All dates and times will be reviewed
      i. Sectionals May 13 & 14, 2019
      ii. Boys TOC – May 20, 2019
      iii. Girls TOC – TBD based on the Course. NJSIAA is looking to move the date back to a date prior to Memorial Day Weekend if possible.
   b. Boys and girl’s regulations will be reviewed by Directors for updates and changes.
   c. Steve Skinner shared a Proposal “Maximum Score” Form of Stroke Play (USGA Rules 2019)

The NJSIAA recognizes that there is a wide range of skill among Teams throughout the state.
For Duel, Tri- or Quad Matches – NOT TO BE USED IN STATE SECTIONALS OR TOC TOURNAMENT

Coaches may institute a maximum score for players competing in a match on a Match by Match basis under the directives listed below:
1. On the day of the Match, prior to the first group teeing off, all coaches must mutually agree to allow players to use a “maximum score” during the play of that match.
2. A player’s score is capped at 10 strokes for any hole of play.
3. Any capped score will be noted on the score card by a double circle.
4. Individual rounds containing a capped score/s are not eligible for sectional or TOC qualification.
5. Teams may count rounds containing capped scores to determine a Teams total aggregate score and Match winner.
6. All matches played will count toward Team records.

VII. Adjournment – Approximately 1:30 pm