TO: NEW JERSEY HIGH SCHOOL Girls GOLF COACHES

RE: New Qualifying System for Girl’s teams State Tournament

DATE: February 2020

Over the past three years, the NJSIAA has been using an adjusted score formula for qualifying the 50 top individual girls in the state for the Tournament of Champions competition. We have found that there is a very strong correlation in how the young ladies are ranked going into the tournament and how they finish.

The system of course and slope ratings, which every course has, takes in to account the varying difficulty of each course as well as which tee box is used and allows us to compare apples to apples so to speak.

Based on the success of using adjusted scores to identify our individual golfers, we would like to implement the same system to identify the 12 most qualified teams from each of the three sections. In the past, a winning percentage of 60 percent was the minimum criteria for a team to qualify. The 60 percent winning percentage will no longer be used as a team qualifier for the Girls Sectional Championship. The 12 teams with the best adjusted team scoring average in each of the three sections, North, Central and South, will qualify for that Sectional Championship Tournament.

Schools must play in at least 6 matches prior to the cut-off date. The NJSIAA Girls Golf Committee will use the best average adjusted 4 team scores prior to the cut – off date to determine which teams advance to the sectional. The reason for using only 4 scores is so coaches can feel free to change their line-up based on who they are playing on a particular day.
Prior to the golf season, we encourage all coaches to become familiar with this reporting and statewide ranking system. You can do so by simply emailing Shawn Bennett at sirbennett68@gmail.com.

Shawn has prepared an easy to follow tutorial that provides a very thorough step-by-step score posting process. By investing just a few minutes to learn the system, coaches will be able to get a feel for the full advantages of this system and why the NJSIAA has adopted it as the fair way to qualify teams for the girl’s state tournament.

Please find below a brief summary of the benefits of this adjusted score reporting and ranking system:

• fair consideration of scores posted from different courses and tees of varying difficulty throughout the state.
• reporting of all scores for the complete season
• ease of score reporting from any online device
• convenient access to online results
• ability of coaches to view and verify posted scores for all teams and players in the state and section.
• ability of players to view rankings throughout the season
** most importantly, since won/lost record is not part of the equation, teams will not be afraid to seek out better competition because a loss will not jeopardize their ability to make the state tournament

Dick Bennett       Al Stumpf
Girls Tournament Director       NJSIAA Golf Director