



2025-26 NJSIAA GIRLS GOLF TOURNAMENT

NJSIAA reserves the right to adjust, change or cancel dates, times, and locations for all NJSIAA State tournaments. Member schools will not be eligible to participate in any NJSIAA Tournaments if it has violated the NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Policies, or Procedures. Any student-athlete who transfers after the competition start date will not be eligible for this tournament (Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.K. 5).

Schools entering the tournament will not be granted a change of date/time due to any conflicts with school trips, proms, banquets, SATs, unless agreed upon by both schools. The NJSIAA will make every effort to accommodate schools that have a conflict with their graduation.

Schools that are disqualified from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded but prior to the bracket being final, then the bracket will be reseeded and the next ranked school who entered the tournament will be included. If a school is disqualified from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded and after the bracket is final, then the bracket will not be reseeded, and no additional school will be included. If a school is disqualified from state tournament competition during the state tournament, then the school will be removed from the tournament immediately and their last opponent will advance in their place.

Schools participating in any NJSIAA tournament are responsible for the actions and behaviors of their spectators. Schools are required to provide adequate staff security to ensure there is proper oversight of their spectators. In addition, schools are financially responsible for any damages to the property or premises caused by their student-athletes, staff, or spectators (spectators include, but are not limited to, cheerleaders, marching band participants, students, and other fans).

NJSIAA requires Certified Athletic Trainers at all its tournament events. The ATC must document all injuries on an injury report form. This form must be available to the NJSIAA upon request.

Member schools not willing or able to comply with these tournament regulations and any relevant procedures found in the Operating Procedures Handbook should not enter the tournament. Member schools are encouraged to review these tournament regulations with the school administration. Coaches must have a copy of these regulations as well as a copy of the Rule Modifications (if any) for this tournament available at all contests. Copies of these documents are available on the NJSIAA website.

NJSIAA Girls Golf Tournament Staff

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New for This Year's State Tournament

- There will be no more paper entries.
- Please review the new classifications for Public and Non-Public schools on the NJSIAA Girls Golf website.
- All teams must use the I-Wanamaker scoring system to qualify for the State Tournament.
- Coaches must still report their match scores to NJ.com – won and loss records will still be used by the conferences for their Conference/County/Division Championships.

- **There will be no Sectional Event for the Non- Public Schools- The Non-Public Schools will compete for a Group Championship at the State Championship Event.**

Girls Golf Important Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Dates</u>	
First Practice:	March 9, 2026	
First Scrimmage:	No restrictions	
Opening Day:	March 9, 2026	
Tournament Entry Forms Open:	April 24, 2026	
Cutoff:	April 29, 2026	
Entry Form Closes (by 12:00 pm):	April 30, 2026	
Regular Season Competition Ends:	June 14, 2026	
Post-Season Committee Meeting:	TBA	
<u>Sectional Championships</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>
North A	May 5, 2026	Stanton Ridge CC
North B	May 4, 2026	Great Gorge Golf Course
South A	May 5, 2026	McCullough's Emerald Golf
<u>South B</u>	<u>May 4, 2026</u>	<u>Rutgers University Golf Course</u>
<u>State Championships (Team & Ind.)</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>
State Championships (Team & Ind.)	May 12, 2026	Raritan Valley Country Club

To Qualify

1. Teams must be competing on a varsity interscholastic basis.
2. Sixty percent (60%) of games played on or before the cutoff date must be against New Jersey schools.
3. Teams must have played a minimum of six (6) separate I-Wanamaker rounds played from opening day to the cutoff date.
4. Both Teams and Individuals must have an I-Wanamaker Ranking consisting of the 6 best rounds played from opening day to the cutoff date. A round is designated as a single 9 -hole match; 18- hole tournaments count as two separate 9 hole rounds. Tri or quad matches will only count as a single 9 -hole round for the I-Wanamaker rankings.
5. The twelve (12) teams with the best IWR ranking score total in each of the Four sections – North A, North B, South A and South B will qualify for that Public School Sectional Championship Tournament.
6. Individual golfers from public and non-public schools that did not qualify for the team tournament are still eligible for the individual tournament if they are among the top fifty (50) golfers according to their I - Wanamaker ranking.
7. Individual golfers that attend a member school that does not sponsor a golf team may enter, All coaches must sign up to I-Wanamaker and submit 9 hole scores to I-Wanamaker, These individual golfer's six (6) best I-Wanamaker scores must be played on a regulation(9-hole) course, on or before the cutoff date. All scorecards must be verified and signed by the course's golf pro and/or the school's Director of Athletics.
The NJSIAA reserves the right to adjust the 6 match minimum if needed.
8. A regulation course is defined as a course that has no more than 3 par 3's per nine holes and is USGA rated.
9. Matches completed after the cutoff date will not count even if they were started before the cutoff date.
10. Any player with two (2) or more disqualifications in the current season, prior to the start of the tournament, will be ineligible to compete in the state tournament.
11. Any varsity team accumulating three (3) or more player or coach disqualifications prior to the start of the tournament will not be permitted to participate in the state tournament. Seeded teams will forfeit their right to compete if a disqualification limit is reached prior to the start of the tournament for the team.

Entry Procedure – THIS YEAR- PLEASE READ

1. Players must enter scores using the I- Wanamaker NJSIAA Golf app on their cell phone.
2. All coaches and golfers MUST be registered for their school in the appropriate Classification Section via the NJSIAA Golf app.
3. Coaches will manage their roster throughout the season.
4. All events(matches) must be created and configured on <https://iwanamaker.com>.
5. All events must be scored live on the NJSIAA Golf app. Event Mangers(coaches) can override scores during or after the event.
6. All scores must be recorded by golfers during or at the conclusion of the event.
7. All players must electronically sign their scorecards upon the conclusion of their round.
8. If your team has entered and qualified for the tournament, you do not have to fill out an individual entry form.
9. DO NOT ENTER IF YOUR TEAM IS NOT ABLE OR WILLING TO COMPLY WITH ALL THE TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS.
10. The Executive Committee of the NJSIAA has ruled that member schools failing to comply with all entry requirements may be excluded from the tournament.

Entry Fee- rate below are the new fees for 2026

- Team Entry: \$200.00, Payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Girls Golf Tournament).
- Individual Entry: \$25.00 per individual, Payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Girls Golf Tournament).
- Forward all entry fees to the NJSIAA, 1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, New Jersey 08691
- DO NOT use certified mail

Tournament Seeding

1. The NJSIAA Girls Golf Committee will use the team's six (6) best average I- Wanamaker scores at the cut-off date to seed all teams.
2. The twelve Public Schools (12) teams in each Public-School section will be seeded by their I- Wanamaker Rankings.
3. Non – Public Schools- The top 8 teams based on their IWS Ranking will automatically qualify for the State Group Championship (May 13) Round. There will be NO non-public Sectional Championship.
4. The individual tournament pairings will be established by their I- Wanamaker Rankings

Tournament Advancement to the State Championship. (Round 2)

1. The top two (2) teams from each PUBLIC-SCHOOL section with the lowest total scores will advance to the state group championships. Total of 8 Public Schools.
2. Non – Public Schools- The top 8 teams based on their IWS Ranking will automatically qualify for the State Group Championship (May 13) Round. There will be NO non-public Sectional Championship.
3. The top fifty (50) individuals in the state based on the I- Wanamaker Rankings will automatically qualify for the State Championships. An individual that is in the top fifty (50) and on a team that qualified will count as one of the fifty (50) individual spots available.
4. If two (2) or more teams are tied for the Sectional Championships or Runners-up. The first tie breaker will be the score of the teams fifth player. If the score is still tied a sudden death tie-breaker play-off will take place to determine the Sectional Champion or qualifier.
 - a. In a play-off, (4) players will be selected at the discretion of the coach.
 - b. If a tie is not broken on the first playoff hole, the tied teams remaining will move on to the second playoff hole, and so on until the Team Champion, Runner-up or qualifiers are determined.
5. If two (2) or more players are tied for the lowest score there will be a sudden victory playoff following any Team playoff.
6. If there is a tie for 1st place between two (2) or more players for the Sectional Championship individual tournament, we will use a sudden-victory one-hole play-off to determine the Sectional Champion. If the tie is not broken on the first playoff hole, the players will move on to the second playoff hole, and so on until the tie is broken.
7. If there is a tie for 1st place between two (2) or more players for the individual State tournament, we will use a sudden-victory one-hole play-off to determine the State Champion.
 - a. If the tie is not broken on the first playoff hole, the remaining players will move on to the second playoff hole, and so on until the tie is broken.

- b. Once the sectional champion is determined, the remaining places will be determined by using the USGA method for determining the breaking of ties. (back nine, then back 6 etc)
8. In the event an individual qualifies as part of a team, and as an individual, the individual playoff will be decided first, and then the team playoffs will start..

Tournament Rules & Information

1. All current USGA golf rules along with any NJSIAA golf rule modifications will govern all tournament games.
2. A team will consist of five (5) players with its four (4) best scores counting towards the team score.
3. Any member of the team may compete on the day of the State Group or T of C (Substitute rule).
4. The Tournament will be conducted with eighteen (18) hole play.
5. Each team and/or individual must be accompanied by their school's head golf coach. No individual will be allowed to compete unless their golf coach is present for the entire eighteen-hole round of golf.
6. All coaches/certified faculty members must be properly certified and appointed by the Board of Education/Heads of Schools. Tournament Directors will disqualify any contestant who is accompanied by someone in a coaching/supervisory capacity who is not appointed by the school district.
7. Any member school withdrawing from competition after having officially entered the tournament may be barred from participating in the NJSIAA tournament the next school year unless truly extraordinary circumstances were present.
8. Participation by an ineligible player in any game during the regular season results in forfeiture of said game. If such forfeit(s) would have caused the school's failure to qualify for the tournament or if an ineligible player participates in a tournament game, said SCHOOL will be disqualified from the tournament immediately and the next ranked will advance in their place.
9. For the sectional championships, the Sectional directors will designate tee-off times and inform qualifiers, accordingly, including the dress code for their course.
10. For the state championships, the tournament director will designate tee-off times and inform qualifiers, accordingly, including the dress code for their course.
11. For the State Championships, the Tournament Director will designate pairings and tee-off times and distribute them to coaches before the start of the State Championship.
12. A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If during a stipulated round, a player uses a device designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his/her play (e.g., gradient, slope, slope assist, wind speed, temperature, weather, etc.) the player is in breach of U.S.G.A. Rule 14-3 for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used or turned off.
13. Distance is public knowledge, and a distance measuring device is not part of a player's equipment, therefore the device may be shared during the match.
14. Cell phones may only be used on the course to report scores to the I – Wanamaker app; therefore, they are NOT to be used as a distance-measuring device for this competition. Misuse of cell phones on the course may lead to the player being disqualified from the competition.
15. Failure to be present at the start of the event due to transportation problems, misunderstanding of instructions, tournament regulations, other similar excuses, injury, or illness will result in disqualification.
16. No spectators are allowed on the course at any time during the match. Any spectator found on the course will cause the player and/or team to be disqualified from the tournament.
17. The NJSIAA only recognizes nine (9) holes as an interscholastic match. However, if playing in a match that consists of 18 holes, holes 1-9 and holes 10-18 must be entered as two separate scores.
18. In a Tri, Quad, or multiple teams meet, scores can only be used one time for each 9- hole round.
19. No caddies or electric carts are to be used by players. Supervising coaches will be provided with electric carts at Sectionals and state finals when available.
20. Locker rooms will not be available; golfers must come dressed to play.
21. Coaches must check-in at least one-half (½) hour prior to the school's tee-off time.
22. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players in the clubhouse and on the course.
23. As guests of the course, it is imperative that all divots be replaced, all ball marks on the green be repaired and all footprints in the bunkers be smoothed.
24. Student-athletes who presently are caddies are eligible provided they are not employed or have not previously been employed as assistant pros.
25. Coaches are instructed not to bring students who are not participating to the tournament.

26. Coaches are to act as advisors (see 2024 Rules Modifications on the golf website). Coaches are not to make rulings; all rulings are to be made by the course pro first, Tournament Director or contact Steve Skinner, rules interpreter.
27. Dress code - no jeans, tank tops, or similar wear permitted. Girls must wear regular golf attire including a team shirt. This will be noted on the directors' pairings for the state groups and state championships. Shorts are permitted based on local course regulations. Collared shirts must be worn.

Tournament Weather Interruption

If an 18-hole shotgun start cannot finish, use the following to settle the tournament Results. This is to be used if everyone in the tournament has completed a minimum of 10 holes and an alternative day to complete the tournament is not available.

1. Team Champion
 - a. Total holes used to calculate the "over par" will be the fewest number of holes completed by any player in the tournament field.
 - b. A sum of the aggregate total "over par" (note bogies = +1, birdies = -1, etc.) for the fewest total number of holes completed by all players in the tournament field.
2. Team Tie Breaker -
 - a. Match of Cards. This is the aggregate team total over-par beginning with each team member's starting hole. If tied after starting hole, move to the next hole, and so on until a champion is determined. The team with the lowest total over-par is the winner.
 - b. If still a tie: Beginning with each player's starting hole, sum the over par total adding one hole's aggregate total over par to the next hole's aggregate total until a champion is determined. (i.e., 1st compare starting hole, if tied add players 2nd hole total over-par to first holes over par, continue adding one aggregate over-par hole at a time until a champion is determined)
3. Individual Champion –
 - a. Total holes used to calculate the "over par" will be the fewest holes completed by a player in the tournament field. The individual champion will be the individual having the lowest over/under par total.
 - b. Sum of the aggregate total "over par" (note bogey's = +1, birdies = -1, etc.) only for the fewest total number of holes by all Players in the field.
4. Individual Tie Breaker.
 - a. Sum the over-par total for the same holes played by all tied players. The Player that has the lowest over-par total for those holes played by both will be declared the champion.
 - b. If still tied beginning with the lowest handicap hole for tied players. Match the over-par score one hole at a time until a winner is determined. The player who has the lowest score relative to par is the winner.

Awards

State Sectional Champions:

Team Trophy and five (5) certificates for the 1st place team in each section.

Medals to the first-place finisher and top five (5) Individuals in each section.

All ties for 5th place individuals will receive a bronze medal.

State Championship Match

Team Trophy and five (5) certificates for the Public A, Public B and Non-Public 1st place teams.

1st place team.

Team Trophy to 1st Place team overall – State Champion

Individual Trophy to the overall 1st place finisher.

Medals to the overall remaining seven (7) places.

Tournament Schedule-

North A State Sectional Championships
Date: May 5, 2026 -
Course: Stanton Ridge Golf Club, (908-534-1234)- 25 Club House Drive, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889
Tee Time: 9:00am (Shotgun Start)
Meet Director: Brian Quirk
Phone: (201) 739-7959
E-mail: bquirk@rpsnj.us
Course Notes: Practice rounds – players or coaches can call the Pro Shop (908) 534-1234 to arrange practice rounds. Parents may not play

North B State Sectional Championship
Date: May 4, 2026 - (Rain Date: TBD)
Course: Great Gorge Golf, (973-864-6700), 414 County Rd. 517, Vernon, NJ 07462
Tee Time: 10:00 am
Meet Director: Rich Smith
Phone: (201) 220-0601
E-mail: rmith@rpsnj.us
Course Notes: Practice rounds – TBD

South A State Sectional Championship
Date: May 5, 2026 - (Rain Date: TBD)
Course: McCullough's Emerald Golf (609) 926-3900 - 3016 Ocean Heights Ave, Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234
Tee Time: 9:00am (Shotgun Start)
Meet Director: Rich Carroll
Phone: (609) 209-5027
E-mail: carrollr@middletownk12.org
Course Notes: Call the course to set up practice rounds.

South B State Sectional Championship
Date: May 4, 2026 - (Rain Date: TBD)
Course: Rutgers University Golf Course (848) 445-2637 – 777 Hoes Lane West, Piscataway, NJ 08854
Tee Time: 8:30 am – Shotgun start
Meet Director: Jen Jones
Phone: 215- 534-9249
E-mail: njcentraljerseygolfsection@gmail.com
Course Notes: Call Pro Shop

State Group Championships & Tournament of Champions
Date: May 12, 2026 (Rain Date: TBD)
Course: Raritan Valley Country Club, 747 NJ 28, Bridgewater, NJ 08807 - (908) 722-2000
Tee Time: 11:00 am (Shotgun Start)
Meet Director: Richard Bennett
Phone: (201) 661-0354
E-mail: rbennettgolf@gmail.com
Course Notes: Call pro shop to walk the course after 5pm on Sunday, May 11, 2025