
SPORT – BY – SPORT REGULATIONS & POLICIES

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF REGULAR SEASON

Regular Season Format

Each member participating in the Conference's men's and women's golf league may schedule other members at its own discretion during the regular season.

Regular Season Services

1. A publicity release in the fall naming both a Male Golfer of the Month and a Female Golfer of the Month for the months of September and October; also a publicity release in the spring naming both a Male Golfer of the Week and a Female Golfer of the Week are compiled and distributed by the Conference staff.
2. The BIG EAST Conference Men's and Women's Golf Coaches Association hold its official annual meeting each January. These meetings are at the Conference office headquarters in odd years and via conference call in even years. Attendance is mandatory for all head coaches. In extreme situations where the head coach cannot attend, the institution's sport administrator or Director will determine the substitution.

Regular Season Policies & Regulations

Not applicable

Regular Season Awards

1. Men's Player of the Year *
2. Women's Player of the Year *
3. Men's Freshman of the Year *
4. Women's Freshman of the Year *
5. Men's All-Conference Team * (ten (10) members; each team limited to five (5) nominees, which are submitted in rank order by the head coach)
6. Women's All-Conference Team * (ten (10) members; each team limited to five (5) nominees, which are submitted in rank order by the head coach)
7. Men's Coach of the Year * (a vote of all head coaches, with final approval by the Conference staff, determines the award recipient)
8. Women's Coach of the Year * (a vote of all head coaches, with final approval by the Conference staff, determines the award recipient)

* voted after the championship (inclusive of regular season and championship results)

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MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Format

1. 12-team (men), 7-team (women), 54-hole, stroke play championship. Men's teams compete in threesomes; women's teams compete in threesomes/pairs. The event is conducted in four days with each team's five members playing an 18-hole practice round on day one, and one 18-hole round on days two, three and four.

Groups of five are permissible during the practice round. Groups of six are not allowed and coaches are not allowed to play during the practice round.

Team scoring is computed by combining the scores of the four lowest players during each round.

The Committee may make the decision to shorten the championship because of time/weather, consistent with USGA standards (18 or 36 holes).

In the event that no 18-hole round can be completed, the Golf Committee will determine the men's and women's Conference's automatic bid representative. In the event that the Championship(s) (men's and/or women's) are not completed (17 holes or fewer), no champion(s) will be declared.

2. Suspended Play:

The decision to suspend play because of inclement weather is that of the Committee and the Conference staff with input from the course's professional staff. If everyone has not completed a round, every effort will be made to complete that round at the discretion of the Committee.

3. The men's and women's tournament champions earn the Conference automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. In the event of a tie, playoffs (time and weather permitting) will be used for breaking ties for advancement. If a playoff is not possible, the tiebreaking procedures outlined in the NCAA Division I Championship Handbook (Appendix A) will be used.
4. A tournament meeting is conducted for all participating head coaches the day preceding the start of the championships.
5. A social for the twelve (12) participating men's teams and seven (7) participating women's teams is scheduled the evening preceding the start of the championships.

CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Seeding Requirements/Procedures

1. Seeding process will occur on the Tuesday prior to the championships. The Men's & Women's Seeding Committees will be composed of the 4 Sport Committee Members.

Men's Teams:

Conference staff will facilitate a blind draw for ranking the twelve (12) men's teams' first round. Teams will be re-seeded and re-paired for day two/round two and day three/round three based on standings after rounds one and two.

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MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF (continued) CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Seeding Requirements/Procedures (continued)

Women's Teams:

- a. The NCAA/Golfstat rating indexes will be used to determine the seeds of the seven (7) participating women's teams.
- b. The NCAA Seeding/Selection Criteria will be utilized as the secondary mechanism in the seeding process (in no priority order).
 - Head-to-head results
 - Stroke differential
 - Overall won-loss record
 - Strength of schedule
 - Results vs. common opponents
 - Additional considerations
2. Lineups: The head coach must submit his or her lineup according to playing position. The five contestants from each institution must be determined at the technical meeting the day preceding the start of the championships.
3. Substitutions:

Women: No substitutions will be allowed after the conclusion of the technical meeting, without approval of the BIG EAST official and the games committee. The substitute will assume the position of the replaced player.

Men: A player may be substituted before the first tee time of his team of the first round of the championship, if the head coach notifies the BIG EAST official and games committee before the first tee time. The substitute must assume the position of the replaced player.

Championship Policies & Regulations

1. USGA rules apply.
2. The Conference Men's & Women's Golf Committee and a Conference sport administration staff representative are responsible for interpretation of the rules. On-site professional staff will act in an advisory capacity.
3. The Conference staff will contract and utilize an individual or group from the USGA/rules governing body to handle course set-up and officiating during the championships. The host institution coaching staff will assist and act as a liaison in course set-up.
4. Local course rules are distributed at the beginning of the championships.
5. Cart and Caddies - Women: One cart may be used by each competing institution as long as the use of carts does not negatively impact the course or student-athlete experience. Only an institutional representative (a non-athlete) may drive or ride in the assigned golf cart for that institution during a tournament round. Only two people may ride in the cart at one time. Participants may not use caddies, golf carts or motorized pull carts during the championship rounds. The only exception to this policy would be if the participant is permanently disabled. A written request must be submitted to the appropriate games committee with accompanying medical statements requesting the use of a cart.

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MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF (continued) CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Policies & Regulations (continued)

Cart and Caddies - Men: Golf carts, pull carts or caddies may not be used by participants in the tournament including the practice round. The use of carts by players, spectators and other personnel must be approved by the golf committee. The only exception to this policy would be if the participant is permanently disabled. A written request must be submitted to the golf committee with accompanying medical statements requesting the use of a golf cart or pull cart.

6. Equipment: Electronic communication devices (e.g., cell phones, PDA's, etc.) may be used to follow live scoring and to text coach to coach from the same institution during competition. Exception: Talking on one of these devices is only permitted off the golf course. Coaches may monitor live scoring of the event they are presently coaching. Earphones are not permitted to be used when monitoring live scoring.

Equipment – Women Only: Distance-measuring devices are allowed by players and coaches during practice and competition as long as they conform to USGA specifications. The committee may adopt the note under Rule 14-3 allowing approved distance-measuring devices. If so adopted, it will be noted on Notice to Players. For penalties see Rules page 21 in NCAA handbook.

7. Thunder and Lightning Safety Policy: The Conference has adopted as policy NCAA Guideline 1D for Lightning Safety. You may find the policy online at:
http://www.lightningsafety.com/nlsi_pls/Sports_Medicine_Handbook_lightning.pdf
8. Contestants must wear uniforms of the same color during competition and practice rounds. Walking or Bermuda shorts are permitted provided they are "normal" team attire and are of the same color. Players may wear slacks or shorts at the individual's discretion, provided they are of the same color and are considered the team uniform. If a student-athlete wears headgear during practice or competition, it must display only an institutional, Conference, or NCAA logo, or no logo at all. A manufacturer's logo may appear on the side or back of the item as long as it conforms to NCAA Bylaw 12.5.5.
9. Fans may not display signs or banners deemed as being offensive or inappropriate to particular institutions, players or coaches in the facility. These banners should be identified and removed by security personnel.

Championship Awards, Gifts & Services

1. The men's and women's championship teams receive a trophy and individual awards.
2. The men's and women's runner-up teams receive a trophy.
3. The men's and women's individual champions (lowest cumulative score) receive an award.
4. The men's and women's individual runners-up (2nd lowest cumulative score) receive an award.
5. A press release previewing the tournament field is distributed a week prior to the Championships.
6. Each Men's and Women's Golf student-athlete competing in the championships receives a gift from the Conference office, which is shipped to each head coach after the Golf Championships.