

# The Coach Approach

Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association

[www.whsgca.com](http://www.whsgca.com)

Volume XXII Issue 2

February / 2009

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## President's Message:

It may not look like it outside but we need to start thinking golf soon. The boys season is not too far away. I am sure some of the golfers are working on their game in indoor practice facilities, hitting nets in their basement or a Wii video games. Whatever it takes.

We have had a few golf related issues that have occurred since the last coach approach. The WIAA have taken action on our two proposals. For that information, see the article below. We also sent a letter to all AD's in the state that have either a boys or girls golf program. This letter has generated some positive and some negative comments. Again, see the article below for that information.

### **We do have a few deadlines approaching soon.**

1) It is that time of the year that we need nominations for our Hall of Fame. If you have knowledge of a retired coach that has done an outstanding job coaching, please fill out the included nomination form with as much information as possible. Any letters of recommendation would also be helpful. We hope all nominations will be for individuals that have gone above and beyond their job. Nominations must be submitted to Bob Mand by February 15.

2) The Girls Academic All State application is also due by Feb. 15. Please honor our young ladies that are good student

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**Bob Mand-Omro**  
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athletes.

Forms can be found on our web site. [www.whsgca.com](http://www.whsgca.com)

I have included the registration forms for the Spring & Summer Clinic. Please make an effort to attend both. Both clinics are in the Dells area. The Spring clinic will be at Trappers Turn Golf Course on March 14 with Jason Manke as our main speaker. We also have a special room rate of \$159.00 per night at the Kalahari Hotel and WaterPark. Bring your family for a weekend of fun while you improve your coaching skills and interact with fellow coaches.

Please email us any questions you'd like answered by the WHSGCA at our Spring Clinic.

### **\* EMAIL YOUR QUESTION\***

The Summer Clinic will again be at Northern Bay on June 23. Both should be worth your time.

We hope all coaches decide to join the Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association. \$30.00 per year is a small price to pay to help support High School Golf. We can help you with your coaching techniques, we can honor your athletes with awards, we can honor your local courses and give you a voice in WIAA concerns. We cannot do this unless you join. Our membership year runs from August 1 - July 31. In order to nominate someone for an award or attend one of the clinics, you must be a member. Please help us recruit any coaches that are not members. We would hope that all non-varsity coaches join as well.

See you in the spring,  
 John

## WIAA Golf Regulations

I received this message from Tom Shafranski of the WIAA.

### Our proposal was:

1. Recommend the maximum number of meets be increased to 16. Of the 16 meets allowed, two must be identified where no members of the teams are dismissed from academic classes in order to play or travel (fall of 2009).

After meeting with the WIAA Sports Advisory committee, this recommendation lost by a vote of 11 to 3. Simply put, the economic conditions had Athletic Directors indicating they wanted no additional contests as they were being directed by their superiors to make significant cuts in budgets. In addition, there were concerns about implementing next year and A.D.s desired Saturday be the focus as a new date for golf meets and tournaments as educational time cannot be lost this way.

Consequently, I went to the Executive staff and asked to have the following amendment approved:

Amendment: Recommend the maximum number of meets be increased to 15. Of the 15 meets allowed, one meet must be scheduled on Saturday. Implement Fall of 2010.

This amendment was unanimously approved by the Executive Staff. It then received approval by a vote of 16-2 by the WIAA Advisory Council and then unanimous approval from the Board of Control this morning.

**Our proposal was:**

2. Recommend that one additional qualifier (both boys and girls in all divisions) advance from the regional tournament to the sectional tournament beginning in the fall of 2009.

This recommendation was unanimously approved by all committees.

I asked Tom why the long delay in implementation for proposal #1. His response was:

The extra year was needed for two reasons:

1. All the other sports were implementing after a year;
2. This allows schools to better understand their financial situations and, hopefully, the economic situation will be improved in 2010.

## Letter to Athletic Directors

Date: December 12, 2008  
To: Wisconsin Athletic Directors  
From: John Lonergan, WHSOCA President  
Re: Two golf related issues

The Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association is asking for your help. We have two issues that concern you and are looking for help in addressing them. They are...

- 1) Coaches that play during contests as opposed to coaching
- 2) Deserving athletes are not being honored for All-State Honors

Last year, the WIAA approved a new policy that allows coaches to coach athletes everywhere on the course other than the putting greens and bunkers. It has been a positive move that the majority of coaches have taken advantage of. We feel all coaches should be on the course coaching their athletes, assisting with pace of play and helping with rule issues. This obviously is not the case. We have some coaches that simply drop off their athletes and "play the back nine." We are sure this is not a good practice for the public to see.

Tom Shafranski of the WIAA does not feel that WIAA can dictate what coaches can and cannot do. We feel you as Athletic Directors can. Make a conference By-Law that prohibits coaches from playing golf during competition. We need this policy at all levels. Please talk about this at your next conference AD's meeting.

The second item relates to our athletes not being recognized for All State Honors simply because a coach does not join the association. I have received several phone calls from parents questioning why their son or daughter did not make the All State Teams. In most cases, it is because the coach is not a member and did not nominate that athlete. The coaches association is the only organization that honors our golfers across the state. Please require your coaching staff to become a member of their professional organization. We hope you can find \$30.00 within your budget for the coaches membership. We have many other benefits (clinics, Academic All State Honors, newsletters, etc) for the coaches if they join. See our web site for the membership form.

Thank you for your past and future support of high school golf. Please contact me if you have concerns or questions.

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We have had some question and concerns with this letter. I would like to explain a few items:

As you know, last year a new WIAA rule allows coaches to assist athletes almost anytime and any place on the course. Many coaches have taken advantage of this rule. As discussed at our general membership meeting, for the good of the sport, we hope all coaches take advantage of it. We are not all swing coaches but we can help with the mental aspect of the game. No matter the ability of our golfers, they are still high school aged athletes. Each coach can make the decision what is best for them and their team, help or not help.

The board also has the belief that coaches on the course can help monitor pace of play, assist with rule infractions, help with lost balls and just supervision of the golf course. As you are aware of, players need to learn how to act on a golf course and how to take care of a course. The golf courses we have the privilege to play on belong to others. In many cases, we play these courses with no charge or greatly reduce rates. We cannot afford to lose that privilege.

The board also feels that the perception of the public is important. We are seeing more and more spectators at our events. I do not see to many basketball coaches in another gym playing a game of one on one during their games. They are in the gym with their athletes. Some yell, some do not.

We are not suggesting to any coach how to coach. They can stay away from their players if they so choose. We do feel that the above listed items are the responsibilities of all coaches, not just the host coach. We also feel that this should be for all levels of play, varsity, junior varsity and freshman. Obviously the lower levels need as much assistance as possible.

One other point, I have been to many WIAA state tournaments. Coaches cannot play. If not all, the vast majority of the coaches walk along. Why wait until the players most important event of the season to begin walking with them and observing them? Get them use to that environment during the season.

Lastly, we cannot make this policy. The WIAA will not. The Athletic Directors may or may not. It will be up to them to decide what is best for their conference.

I hope that explains a few things for the boards perspective. Please contact me if you have any other concerns. If you have not, please join the association. See our web site @ [www.whsgca.com](http://www.whsgca.com).

## Spring Clinic Information

### **Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association**

*Spring Clinic 2009*

*Trappers Turn golf Course - Wisconsin Dells*

This years Spring Clinic will be at the beautiful Trappers Turn Golf Course. The Club House is a great facility for our clinic. I am sure the food will be good too. We are hoping that the Dells area will attract many of the coaches since it is centrally located and it has many "fun" activities for you and family.

Our featured speaker is Jason Manke, PGA golf professional. Jason's diverse experience in the golf industry includes serving as a featured instructor at the Earl Woods National Youth Golf Academy, developing curriculum for the First Tee Program, and serving as an academy instructor at the PGA Tour TPC at Sawgrass. More locally, Jason instructed at the Golf

Foundation of Wisconsin, Chenequa Country Club and the Oaks Golf Course. We feel his past experiences with working with youth will make for a very informative clinic for high school coaches.

We also have a special room rate at the Kalahari Hotel and Water Park. The price of \$159.00 will include the room and water park passes for your family. This rate is good for Friday and Saturday night. Bring your family for a weekend of fun.

Go to [www.trappersturn.com](http://www.trappersturn.com) for more information on Trappers Turn and Kalahari.

## **Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association 2009 Spring Clinic**

Saturday, March 14, 2009  
Trappers Turn Golf Course  
Wisconsin Dells

For information and directions to Trappers Turn, go to: [www.trappersturn.com](http://www.trappersturn.com)

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 7:30 - 8:00   | Registration  |
| 8:00 - 8:30   | WIAA Rules Presentation (this will satisfy our rules requirement)   |
| 8:30 - 9:00   | Tom Shafransky - WIAA Update  |
| 9:00 - 10:00  | Jason Manke - Golf Lesson Plans, Corrective Teaching Techniques   |
| 10:00 - 10:15 | Break   |
| 10:15 - 11:30 | Jason Manke - Course Management, Mental Game Skills, Specialty Shots<br>Bunker Shots, Shots Around Green, Scoring Shots (wedges) 100 yds & in                                       |
| 11:30 - 12:30 | Lunch   |
| 12:30 - 2:30  | WSGC Rules: 2009 Rules Update, Questions from Email Blast<br><b><i><u>PLEASE EMAIL US YOUR RULES QUESTIONS OR SITUATIONS!!!</u></i></b><br><b><i><u>EMAIL YOUR QUESTION</u></i></b> |

### **Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Your entry must include:

\$30.00 Fee (includes clinic fee and lunch)

(Make checks payable to the Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association)

Send Registration by March 6th to:      Spring Golf Clinic  
C/O Mark Johnson  
P.O. Box 193  
LaValle, WI 53941

Summer Clinic at Northern Bay

## Summer Clinic 2009

The Wisconsin High School Golf Coach Association's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Summer Golf Meeting, Clinic and Tournament are going to be held on Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009. This year's clinic will be held at the beautiful Northern Bay Golf Course near Wisconsin Dells.

Northern Bay #3 pits you against the 16th at Augusta on Sunday to win the Masters. Northern Bay #10 will have you believing you are in Ponte Vedra, Florida standing on the tee of the famous island green at the TPC at Sawgrass; a Par 3, 146 yards, with nothing but water between you and the green. Just when you think you're home free, you step up to the 18th, the famous finishing hole at Arnie's course, the Bay Hill Club. This is probably the finest finishing hole in all of golf. This isn't a golf course you want to play... It's a golf course you NEED to play! [www.northernbayresort.com](http://www.northernbayresort.com)

***Each Registered Coach will receive a gift!***

*Entries to this event are limited to the first 120 members of the WHSGCA who complete and return this form by March 31, 2009. The summer clinic fills up quickly, so get your registration in today.*

### Registration Form

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Handicap or Average 18 Score \_\_\_\_\_

**Cost: \_\_\_\_\_ \$125.00 18 holes riding**- Make checks payable to: **Wisconsin High School Golf Coach Association**- ***You must have your association dues paid to Mark Johnson (membership chair) prior to registration***Send Registration to: **Summer Golf Clinic****C/O Garth Gerstenberger  
N1181 Clear Lake Road.  
Tomahawk, WI. 54487**

player 1 \_\_\_\_\_

player 2 \_\_\_\_\_

player 3 \_\_\_\_\_

player 4 \_\_\_\_\_

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wisconsin High School  
Golf Coach Association  
Meeting, Clinic and Tournament

Tuesday, June 23<sup>th</sup> 2009

## Northern Bay

### Program

|                 |                           |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 8:30 - 9:00     | Registration              |
| 9:00 - 11:00    | Annual Meeting            |
| 11:00 - 12:00   | PGA Clinic                |
| 12:00 - 12:45   | Box Lunch and Range Balls |
| 12:45 - shotgun | Golf Tournament           |

### Entry Fee

\$125.00 18 holes with cart included.

Includes: clinic, gift, breakfast, lunch, 18 holes, and event prizes.

### Reservations

Entries to this event are limited to the first 120 active members of the WHSGCA

who complete and return the entry blank with payment on or before March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**WHSGCA Membership Form**

Complete this application or go to [www.whsgca.com](http://www.whsgca.com) for the online form.

Send your money and application to:

WHSGCA C/O Mark Johnson - Membership Chair

P.O. Box 193

LaValle, WI 53941

The cost is #30.00 for regular members and \$20.00 for retire members.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Coaching Duties: Boys \_\_\_ Girls \_\_\_ Retired \_\_\_ Years in coaching \_\_\_\_\_

Conference \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address (School) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address are required so that we can communicate with you via e-mail.



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