

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE
HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS



NEWS RELEASE

NFHS Offering Two New Coach Education Courses

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tim Flannery

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (February 13, 2012) — The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) is offering two new online coach education courses – *Creating a Safe and Respectful Environment* and *Fundamentals of Coaching Golf*. The courses are now available on the NFHS Coach Education Web site at www.nfhslearn.com.

Creating a Safe and Respectful Environment, which is now available for only \$20, provides education for coaches on the critically important topics of inappropriate relationships, hazing, bullying and cyber-bullying, and the appropriate use of technology when interacting with players and the public. The course provides examples of court cases involving these issues and suggests appropriate actions that coaches should take when these types of issues arise.

Tim Flannery, CMAA, NFHS Director of Coach Education, said the course will assist interscholastic coaches in fulfilling their role and in taking responsibility for their actions.

“This course is about getting the coach’s attention and saying ‘You will be held responsible for inappropriate actions and for not taking appropriate steps when these situations occur,’” he said. “Many individuals who accept a coaching job are ignorant of the laws and policies by which they are required to abide. This course will assist athletic programs by providing standardized training for coaches, which will result in a permanent record that can be accessed and verified by the school.”

The second new course, *Fundamentals of Coaching Golf*, was developed for the NFHS by the Professional Golfers’ Association (PGA) and provides interscholastic coaches education in coaching the basic skills of the game. Todd Anderson, one of the top PGA professionals in the United States, is the on-screen instructor for the course.

Flannery said that the course is the first step in the education of individuals wanting to coach golf at any level. The course connects interscholastic coaches to their local PGA professional who can provide the school a highly trained golf instructor to assist in the development of the players.

“It is an excellent tool for teaching the basic skills of the game and is not meant to be everything you should know about golf. The course contains great resources that can be printed and used by the coach in practice.”

Fundamentals of Coaching Golf is available for \$50.

Since its launch in 2007, the NFHS Coach Education Program has expanded to 25 courses, three of which are available for free. More than 220,000 people have taken the *Fundamentals of Coaching* course, which is one of the two NFHS core courses, along with *First Aid for Coaches*. There are also 13 sport-specific courses and seven elective courses available.

All NFHS Coach Education courses are available at www.nfhslearn.com.

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This press release was written by Alex Swenson, an intern in the NFHS Publications/Communications Department. He is a student at Franklin (Indiana) College and is majoring in broadcast journalism and public relations.

About the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)

The NFHS, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the national leadership organization for high school sports and performing arts activities. Since 1920, the NFHS has led the development of education-based interscholastic sports and performing arts activities that help students succeed in their lives. The NFHS sets direction for the future by building awareness and support, improving the participation experience, establishing consistent standards and rules for competition, and helping those who oversee high school sports and activities. The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level. Through its 50 member state associations and the District of Columbia, the NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 11 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.6 million in high school sports. As the recognized national authority on interscholastic activity programs, the NFHS conducts national meetings; sanctions interstate events; offers online publications and services for high school coaches and officials; sponsors professional organizations for high school coaches, officials, speech and debate coaches, and music adjudicators; serves as the national source for interscholastic coach training; and serves as a national information resource of interscholastic athletics and activities. For more information, visit the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org.

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