



ARIZONA  
INTERSCHOLASTIC  
ASSOCIATION

OUR STUDENTS, OUR TEAMS . . . OUR FUTURE.

For any high school golf program, the relationship between the local high school and the golf course is vital to the success of the program. While all golf courses have a vested interest in growing the game, they also must balance their financial obligations against giving away free golf and practice time to high schools. Below are some ideas on ways to help both high schools and golf courses.

#### Advertise for the Golf Course

- Most High Schools have a gym or ball field with advertising banners. Offer to print a banner and hang it all year long as free advertisement.

#### Parent & Friends Night

- Ask the course when a good slow time would be that they would like to fill with golfers. Have your players invite their friends and family to the course to play with the team. You have a fun Team/Family event, and the course fills some slow time with paying guests.

#### Run a Fundraiser Tournament

- This is a little bigger task, but golf courses love to run tournaments. Partner up with the school, or other sports programs and raise money for your program while bringing business to the golf course.

#### Volunteer for Tournaments

- Most courses have a tournament or two when they need volunteers, and they usually revolve around a charity or good cause. Offer to have the golf team volunteer for an event, great for coaches that like to involve some community service in their programs.

## Buy Team supplies from Pro Shop

- Have the conversation with the golf shop and let them know your budget. Give them the opportunity to work with their vendors to get you some good deals. Golf balls, shirts, hats, grips. You don't have to buy everything from a course, but at least give them the opportunity.

## Course Clean-up

- Ask the Course if there is a time when the team can go onto the courses and fill divots, repair ball marks, pick up broken tees, straighten/paint course markers. This is a great team building exercise and giving back to the course at the same time.

## **RULES OFFICIATING**

One of the most challenging aspects of High School Golf is the application of the rules. Large events have rules officials roaming the course to help players out with questions and application of the rules, however in regular matches that responsibility is usually left to the host golf coach.

To help alleviate some of the overwhelming complexity of the rules and requiring every golf coach to become a rules "expert", talk to the golf course about officiating your golf matches.

Members of the PGA (Professional Golfers Association) are educated in the rules of golf. Every golf professional has gone through extensive rules training and could easily facilitate being the starter and rules official for each of your golf matches.

PGA professionals also get "Service Credit" for providing such a service. Each PGA Professional must earn credits each year to keep their membership active. Acting as a starter/rule's official in a high school golf match allows them to each credit.

This is a WIN – WIN

High School Golf Programs that get a qualified rules official that can apply the rules consistently and fairly.

Coaches get to Coach.

PGA Pros get to give back to the game and earn service credits as well.