

MEL Bylaws

ARTICLE THIRTEEN

GOLF

13.1 MEL League Dual Matches

- 13.1.1** Two League duals will be played against each team in the league. One match will be played home, the other away.
- 13.1.2** All boys and girls dual matches will be nine holes.
- 13.1.3** A maximum of 6 golfers may participate in a dual match for a team. The 6 golfers must be determined prior to the start of the match.
- 13.1.4** A minimum of 5 golfers must complete the round with a score in order to qualify as a complete team score in competition.
- 13.1.5** Tee Boxes for the 1st round of dual matches will be the White Tees for the Boys.
- 13.1.6** Tee Boxes for the 2nd round of dual matches will be the Blue Tees for the Boys.
- 13.1.7** Tee Boxes for both rounds of dual matches will be the Red Tees for the Girls.

13.2 MEL League Tournaments

- 13.2.1** The league will host 2 “All League” Tournaments. Sites will be determined each season by the AD in charge of the sport with input from all school sites.
- League Tournament #1 will be scheduled following the first round of dual matches.
 - League Tournament #2 will be scheduled following the second round of dual matches.
- 13.2.2** Boys and Girls MEL League Tournaments will be 18 holes.
- 13.2.3** A maximum of 6 golfers may participate in a League Tournament match per team. The 6 golfers must be determined prior to the start of the match.
- 13.2.4** A minimum of 5 golfers must complete the round with a score in order to qualify as a complete team score in competition.
- 13.2.5** Tee Boxes for the 1st League Tournament will be the White Tees for the Boys.
- 13.2.6** Tee Boxes for the 2nd League Tournament will be the Blue Tees for the Boys.
- 13.2.7** Tee Boxes for both League Tournaments will be the Red Tees for the Girls.

13.3 Match Days and Starting Times

- 13.3.1** Match days will be set on Tuesdays and Thursdays or as determined by the CIF Section
- 13.3.2** The starting time for dual matches will be between 3:00pm and 3:30pm. The league recognizes that the course may alter tee times based on availability.
- 13.3.3** In the event of a canceled match, coaches will attempt to reschedule on a day and course that avoids scheduling during another school's regularly scheduled match. Athletic Directors will be a part of the rescheduling process.
- 13.3.4** League Tournament tee times will be determined based on course availability.
- 13.3.5** It is the HOME Team responsibility to confirm the match. No phone call means the match is on.

13.4 Rules

- 13.4.1** All matches will be played by USGA Rules in addition to the local course rules.
- 13.4.2** If there is a conflict on a rule, play two balls and record both scores and check with the coaches at the end of the round.
- 13.4.3** Rulings will be made by mutual agreement of both coaches. Disputed rulings will be taken to a rules official such as the club Pro or NCGA official.
- 13.4.4** Penalties will be scored in accordance with the specific USGA ruling
- 13.4.5** Winter rules (lift, clean and place) can be used if course conditions permit and as mutually agreed by all coaches.
- 13.4.6** Etiquette, misconduct, or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. The use of abusive language, throwing clubs, or other disruptive behavior could result in disqualification.

13.5 Scoring

- 13.5.1** Stroke play will be used to score matches.
- 13.5.2** The top five players' scores of each team will be used to determine team scores.
- 13.5.3** Players will follow a "Double Par" maximum stroke rule based on the par of each hole:
 - A:** Par 3: After the 6th shot, if the ball does not go in, pick up and card a 6.
 - B:** Par 4: After the 8th shot, if the ball does not go in, pick up and card an 8.
 - C:** Par 5: After the 10th shot, if the ball does not go in, pick up and card a 10.
- 13.5.4** Individual score cards will be used.

13.5.5 Prior to the start of the match, golfers will exchange score cards with a golfer from another school (a marker) and keep an official score for one another. Players should keep their own unofficial score at the bottom of the scorecard to compare at the end of the round.

A: After each hole during the round, the marker should confirm with the player the number of strokes on that hole (including strokes made and penalty strokes) and enter that gross score on the scorecard.

B: Players should make a note on any hole where there is a disagreement in score to review at the end of the match before turning in the scorecard.

13.5.6 A designated scoring table or location will be determined by coaches as players complete their rounds.

13.5.7 The person/committee confirming scores should check for the following items prior to accepting the official scorecard:

A: That the scores are clearly legible.

B: Ask each competitor to check his/her scores by hole with the person keeping their official score.

C: Ask competitors if there are any rules questions of if a second ball was played under rule 13.4.2.

D: Make certain that both the competitor and the marker have signed each scorecard.

13.5.8 Individual scorecards will be signed by both players (the official scorekeeper and the golfer whose score is being kept).

13.6 MEL League Champion

13.6.1 The league champion will be determined by using the following system:

A: A dual-meet win will be scored as such

- Win = 1-0 league record
- Loss = 0-1 league record

B: The first league tournament will be scored as such

- 1st place: 5-0 record
- 2nd place: 4-1 record
- 3rd place: 3-2 record
- 4th place: 2-3 record
- 5th place: 1-4 record
- 6th place: 0-5 record

13.6 MEL League Champion (continued)

C: The second league tournament will be scored as such

- 1st place: 10-0 record
- 2nd place: 8-2 record
- 3rd place: 6-4 record
- 4th place: 4-6 record
- 5th place: 2-8 record
- 6th place: 0-10 record

13.6.2 The team with the best record will receive the MEL Championship Banner

13.6.3 In the event of a tied record, both teams will be awarded an MEL Championship Banner

13.7 CIF Playoff Qualifier:

13.7.1 The MEL Tournament #2 will be held the week prior to the Sac-Joaquin Divisional Tournament.

13.7.2 Results from the MEL Tournament #2 will be used to determine playoff eligibility for teams and individuals.

13.7.3 The number of teams competing in the League will determine the number of teams and individuals that qualify for the Section Tournament as stated in CIF Section Bylaws: 2300.3 - G (for girls) and 2300.4 (for boys)

- If 8 or 7 teams in the league field golf teams - You can qualify 3 teams and 6 individuals
- If 6 or 5 teams in the league field golf teams - You can qualify 2 teams and 6 individuals
- If 4 teams in the league field golf teams - You qualify 1 team and 6 individuals
- If 3, 2 or 1 teams in the league field golf teams - You qualify 1 team and 3 individuals

13.7.4 In the event of a team or individual tie in the MEL Tournament #2, a tie will be broken using the following:

A. Back 9 individual or team score - Team score would only use the 5 qualified scorers that created the tie

B. Front 9 individual or team score - Team score would only use the 5 qualified scorers that created the tie

C. Individual or Team score on a single hole (starting with the #1 handicap hole and moving forward until the tie is broken) - Team score would only use the 5 qualified scorers that created the tie

13.8 ATTIRE

13.8.1 Proper golf attire is strongly recommended. The host course will have final say on what attire is required. The following are recommended golf attire:

- Collared golf shirts
- Golf pants, shorts or skirts (avoid jeans)
- Golf shoes (soft spikes only)
- Sweaters, jackets, vests or long sleeves (based on weather conditions)

13.9 Technology on Course

13.9.1 Cell Phones - Participants shall not have or use cell phones in any Sac-Joaquin Section qualifying tournament. The use of wireless handheld devices (cell phones, smart phones) on the golf course is prohibited by players. Talking on cell phones are prohibited. It is recommended that cell phones, electronic devices, communicators or other instruments are not taken on the course during competition. If they are necessary, they should be placed on silent mode at all Times.

A: PENALTY: First violation is a general penalty or 2 strokes; subsequent violations will result in disqualification.

13.9.2 Distance Measuring Devices - Players may obtain distance information by the use of a distance-measuring device that measures distance only. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance measuring device to gauge or measure other condition that might affect their play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 4.3a(1).

A: THE DEVICE USED MAY NOT BE A CELL PHONE. Any questions about such devices should be resolved before the start of a stipulated round.

B: PENALTY: First violation is a general penalty or 2 strokes; subsequent violations will result in disqualification.

C: Players CAN and are encouraged to share yardage information with all members of their group if some individuals do not have a measuring device.

13.10 Advice

13.10.1 Participants are reminded of NCGA Rule 10.2 (Advice and Definitions) of "The Rules of Golf" which specifically prohibits players from receiving any counsel or suggestions from anyone (including their coach, other players, spectators, etc.) that could influence them in choosing a club, making a stroke or deciding how to play during a hole or round.

A: Information on the Rules of Golf and Local Rules for league duals or the MEL Tournament are not considered to be advice.

B: Sharing of distances is not considered advice.

13.10.2 The team matches will be conducted as an Individual Competition. All players are considered as Individuals. Within this format, a concurrent team competition will be held. Team members are considered as Individuals and cannot give or receive any counsel or suggestions from anyone (including their coach, other players, spectators, etc.) that could influence them in determining their play, the choice of a club or the method of making a stroke.

A: PENALTY: First violation is a general penalty or 2 strokes; subsequent violations will result in disqualification.

13.11 Spectators

13.11.1 Spectators at dual matches and/or League Tournaments are permitted at the discretion of each course.

13.11.2 Spectators will:

A: Be courteous to all contestants and other spectators.

B: Respect the golfer's preparation and be quiet and still during that time.

C: All spectators must remain at a distance of 30 yards from athletes at all times and are not to walk on the fairways. They should remain on or as close to the cart path as possible.

D: Spectators may help locate a ball for a golfer, however, they must still follow distance directions listed above to do so.

E. Do not communicate with the golfers. Spectators are reminded of Rule 10.2 (Advice) of "The Rules of Golf" which specifically prohibits golfers from receiving any counsel or suggestion from anyone that could influence them in choosing a club, making a stroke or deciding how to play during a hole or round.

F. Spectators cannot provide distance information

G: It is recommended that cell phones, electronic devices, communicators or other instruments are not taken on the course during the competition. If they are necessary, they should be placed on silent mode at all times.

H: No smoking, vaping or alcohol consumption anywhere on the golf Course.

I: Spectators will follow instructions from either coach (associated with their school or the other school(s) in the match.

J: Spectator Penalty: Any spectator who is in violation of the rules above will be asked to leave the course and will not be permitted back for matches in the future. (It will be the responsibility of the school site who's spectator it is to enforce this in future matches).

K: If a spectator is removed for communicating advice to a golfer, that golfer may be assessed a penalty according to Bylaw 13.11.2

13.12 ALL League Awards

All-League players, for MEL Sports, will be selected by a process approved by the Board of Managers (BOM) and conducted by the Athletic Director in charge of each sport.

Last Revision: August 28, 2025