

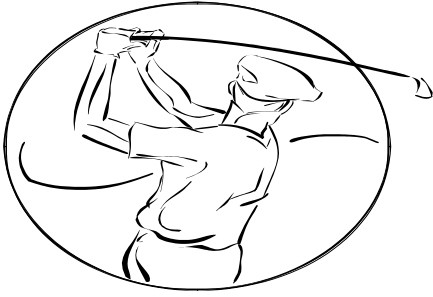
LAKE DALLAS GOLF PROGRAM

Team Rules and Guidelines



Table of Contents

Introduction Letter
Tryout Information
Requirements for Participation
UIL Guidelines for Golf
Practice Schedule and Locations
District and Team Discipline Procedures
Ranking System (Varsity v. Junior Varsity)
Letterman Qualification
And
End of Year Awards



Lake Dallas High School Golf



Welcome, if you are reading this letter then you and/or prospective player are interested in becoming a part of the Falcon Golf Program. It is my pleasure to be the Head Boys and Girls Golf Coach at LDHS and to help our students-athletes become more successful. Please take a moment to read the following so that you can better understand the expectations of the Falcon Golf program.



Mission Statement

The mission of the Lake Dallas Golf program is to develop each player's skills and character through the wonderful game of golf, and accommodate the tremendous growth of golf in the North Texas area by providing the opportunity to participate/compete throughout the entire school year (i.e. fall and spring). This athletic enrichment should add significance to the players' high school experience, and increase pride in our community. The golf season is divided into two, fall and spring, fall is intended to provide those who are committed to golf as their primary activity to stay focused and most importantly continue development for the spring. The spring season is a continuation of this purpose but we begin to hone our talents in order to give our team the best opportunity for success at the district tournament which culminates in April. Due to the success and growth of the golf program we have expanded by adding a JV/developmental golf period in the mornings (1st Period). This allows an enormous opportunity for our student-athletes to develop more quickly and time to gauge their own desire and commitment. The afternoon (5th period) golf period is reserved for those more experienced and/or varsity level players.



Time Management

Before your child makes the commitment to participate with Lake Dallas Golf keep in mind that there're certain requirements and considerations. We are sensitive to the fact that our students may wish to participate in many activities and our coaches do a great job sharing athletes, but certain realities may prevent participation in golf diminish the opportunity to develop their golf skills over the course of the school year.

1. Student-Athletes need to exhibit the ability to stay eligible and academic responsibility is every students priority. Regular failing of classes will not give the player the opportunity to play tournaments which is an essential part of learning to play golf.
2. Student-athletes with the talent to help our team but unable to commit the entire year due to fall and winter sports participation are ALWAYS welcome to play golf in the spring season. The only sports that seriously conflict with golf are baseball, softball, and tennis. If your child's desire to participate in one those activities is stronger than participating in golf then it would be VERY difficult to attempt both.
3. All Players are required to tryout for the golf team to determine their skill level in relation to team needs. (See Tryout Section for details).
4. Players are required to have golf clubs, and make some commitment toward some outside instruction.

If you would like to contact me about any questions regarding future participation, or see our recent progress over the past year, please visit www.ldisd.net and navigate to the LDHS athletic web site and click on golf, or contact me via email at jkysiak@ldisd.net or office phone at 940-497-1427.

Sincerely,
Joe Kysiak
LD Golf Coach



Falcon Golf Tryouts



The following information is to provide all prospective student-athlete and their parent an idea of what try-outs for the golf team at Lake Dallas High School consist. Please understand that our program has grown to a very competitive and successful level so a fairly good dedication to the game of golf will be required by all members. The golf roster is made-up of approximately 12-15 boys and 8-12 girls so tryouts are to fill vacancies on the team or add talent if the coach feels it is warranted.

Tryout process:

- 1.) Evaluation from the 'Prospective Player Sheet' filled out by the player.
- 2.) Hitting balls on the driving range for an overall swing assessment.
- 3.) Short lesson for coachability and athletic assessment.
- 4.) Short game assessment with chipping and putting.
- 5.) Academic history (Coach will investigate past academic performance).
- 6.) If necessary, the player may be required play some of the course for further assessment.
- 7.) And, most importantly availability on the golf roster.

The Falcon Golf Team holds tryouts **3** times throughout the year.

1. **Pre-Summer Tryouts (mid-May):** This is our MAIN tryout because it's designed to discover those individuals in 8th grade, and possibly under-classmen who have a desire to focus primarily on golf. Players who make the team are expected to use the summer months improving their game and have only made the team for the fall season.
2. **Early Fall Tryouts (late August):** This tryout is for those students who couldn't participate in the previous "pre-summer" tryout for whatever reason. This allows the team to finalize our fall season roster. Those who make the team during these first two tryout sessions will be enrolled in 1st or 8th Period Golf and receive PE credit.
 - ❖ *Fall season gives the player an invaluable opportunity to practice, develop, and gain tournament experience but it must be understood that the fall season is also a semester long assessment (tryout). Players who do not exhibit improved skills and academic responsibility will be cut for the spring season.*
 - ❖ *Move-in or New Students will be offered immediate tryouts.*
3. **Early Spring Tryouts (mid-December or early January):** This particular tryout is the most difficult because I will only be looking at players who can make an immediate impact or fill a very limited number of roster spots. Some significant experience or future commitment to playing golf long-term should be expected at this tryout.

Tryouts are held after school at local golf facilities and last approximately 30 min to 1 hour depending on the circumstances. Please contact Coach Kysiak (jkysiak@ldisd.net) or 940-497-1427 for specific dates and times.

Keep in mind tryouts are meant to find and build talent in order to foster an attitude for long-term development and success. Those who do not make the team will better understand where their skills are in terms of what it will take should they desire to tryout again.

Documents and Requirements for Participation

All the following forms must be completed and returned to the Head Coach or Athletic Department before any participation of golf athletic activities. These forms are required by the University Interscholastic League (UIL), Lake Dallas ISD, and/or Lake Dallas Golf Team.

Athletic Participation Packet (downloadable from High School Athletic Main Page).

- Physical performed by a qualified physician or medical professional.
- Medical Information and Emergency Contact form.
- Steroid Use Policy Form required by the University Inter-scholastic League.
- Rules Acknowledgement Form.

Travel Permission Form for Lake Dallas Golf Team (form attached at back of this packet).

Previous Athletic Participation (PAP) Form (downloadable from official UIL web site).

- This form is only required by student-athletes that were enrolled in another district in the previous school year. Players can NOT participate in varsity competition until this form is completed and approved.



No Pass, No Play!

The following are the basics for maintaining and regaining academic eligibility

- ✓ Student failing any class at six-weeks will be ineligible beginning the next Friday at Noon.
- ✓ An ineligible must be passing EVERY class to regain eligibility at the next grading period (i.e. 3-Wks or 6-Wks).
- ✓ Student who regains eligibility will not become eligible until the next Friday at Noon.

The following are selections from of the official UIL Golf Plan pertaining to rules for competition and practices.

- **Number of Meets.** No student representing a participant school shall participate in more than eight (8) tournaments during the school year, excluding one 36-hole maximum district tournament, the regional tournament and the state tournament. Each tournament a school team enters counts as one tournament for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee. Tournaments which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a tournament for participants, provided there is no loss of school time.
- **School Week Limitation.** No student representing a participant school shall participate in more than one tournament per school week (the first instructional day of the week through the last school day of the week). Exceptions: the regional and state tournament, and district varsity tournaments postponed by weather or public disaster, may also be scheduled during the school week. Schools shall not enter invitational golf tournaments scheduled on more than one school day per any one tournament.

Lake Dallas Golf Practice Schedule

- **Rule of 8:** UIL limit per week is 8 hours not including class time (8:20 – 3:45)
- All practices are **weather permitting** with respect to UIL and District guidelines.
Do not ASSUME.....
 - ...that if rain is falling or in the forecast that we will not have practice.
 -that if it is cold outside then we will not have practice.*Note: Text messages may be sent to student at last minute depending on circumstances.*
- All 5th Period practices are **mandatory till 5:00 p.m.** unless excused by Coach Kysiak.
- Appropriate attire is required at all practices **"NO DENIM"** at any practice!

Monday: Lake Park G.C. (weather permitting)

- **1st Period:** Dawn (6:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.) until bus pick-up at 8:45am.
- **5th Period:** Take roll then leave for practice until completed (times may vary).

Tuesday: Lake Park G.C. (weather permitting)

- **1st Period:** Dawn (6:30am-7:30am) until bus pick-up at 8:45am
- **5th Period:** Take roll then leave for practice until completed (times may vary).

Wednesday: Variety Day

- **1st Period:** **Oakmont Country Club** (if available), **Lake Park,** or **Lake Dallas High School**
- **5th Period:** *One of the following will apply.*
 - 1) **Lake Park Golf Course** in Lewisville.
 - 2) Practice at **high school campus** using the drop-down nets in Gym (start and end times vary).
 - 3) Class instruction or other athletic related activity.

Thursday: Oakmont Country Club (weather permitting)

All players must be in proper golf attire i.e NO cargo pants/shorts or denim. **Anyone not in proper attire at this facility be asked to wait in the parking lot until a parent picks them up or brings them proper clothes.**

- **1st Period:** Dawn (6:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.) until bus pick-up at 8:45am.
- **5th Period:** Take roll then leave for practice until completed. **EXPECT** practice to run until 6:00 p.m.

Friday: NO practice or Club Day

- No regular practices will be scheduled on Friday. 1st period students will have classroom or other athletic oriented educational instruction.
- **Club Day** refers to 5th period students, with memberships, scheduled lessons, or other golf related activity to leave immediately after taking roll on a voluntarily basis.
- Occasionally a "make-up" practice will be scheduled if weather cancelled a regularly scheduled practice that week.

Wednesday and Friday: These are preferred days to miss any practice due to tutorials or other necessary absences. Please if at ALL possible do not miss more than 1 day of practice per week. In fact, attendance at practice plays a significant role when the coach must make decisions about what players play in what tournaments.

Discipline Procedures

District Policy on Practice and Tournament Participation

Any student-athlete who participates in an official UIL athletic activity during school hours is expected to fully take part in all scheduled activities. Those student-athletes who fail to “attend” or “take part” in **two (2)** regularly scheduled practices/off-season workouts during authorized UIL practice time, and/or fails to attend **one (1)** in-season contest, without prior notification to their coach, will be subject to removal from that particular athletic period and possible dismissal from the team.

Communication to the coach is expected at least 24 hours prior to absence or be designated EXCUSED absence through the attendance office at Lake Dallas High School. Dismissal will be at head coach’s discretion with notification to Athletic Director.

District Policy on Athlete Behavior

Any athlete whose actions or behavior, whether on campus or off campus, reflect poorly on Lake Dallas ISD or their respective teams, shall be disciplined at the head coach's discretion. The head coach shall determine whether the athlete's actions require consequences, including but not limited to suspension or removal from the team.

Team Policy for Suspension

As per the district policy, the coach has the authority to suspend any player at any time for behavior that does not represent Lake Dallas High School in an appropriate manner. Suspensions can be for a few days, weeks, months and in extreme cases the remainder of the season. Any suspension includes all team related functions. Parents, and Athletic Director, will always be notified once the decision has been made to suspend a player. The following is a list of infractions but is not limited to these.

- Disqualification from a tournament due to serious breach of etiquette or intentional cheating.
- Consistent tardiness and/or absence from practices or tournament (see top of page).
- Destruction of school or course property.
- Serious insubordination of any kind with coach, teacher (classroom), course employee or patron.
- Repeated violations of dress code.
- Players who drive their own vehicle to practice that are consistently late to practice are subject to a discipline referral to the principal for “unauthorized leaving of campus”, plus will face team suspension.

Team Policy for Dismissal

1. **Chronic Ineligibility:** Any player who is academically ineligible for two consecutive UIL grading periods (6 weeks) will have three week period to regain eligibility or he/she will be dismissed from the team.
2. **Destruction or Theft of Property:** Any player who intentionally destroys, damages, or steals property at any golf facilities or event will face immediate dismissal. In serious cases criminal or civil charges could be applied by the golf course or other individual.
3. **Out-of-Town Policy:** Player(s) outside of hotel room (emergency not withstanding) beyond curfew, or any behavior the coach deems to be egregiously inappropriate will result in the parent being notified to come retrieve the player. If, parent does not or cannot retrieve the offending player(s) then Lake Dallas Golf Team will forfeit the tournament and the entire team will travel back immediately. Player(s) who violated this policy will thus be immediately dismissed from the team, and if warranted face additional discipline procedures outlined by the districts official "code of conduct" policy.
4. **Senior Rule:** Any player who is NOT a top-8 ranked player by their senior year will be dismissed from the team. This rule is in place in order to maximize roster space for players who can contribute to the varsity team, as well as create more opportunities for underclassmen to develop.
5. **Recidivism:** Player who’ve been repeatedly suspended, chronically insubordinate, and/or present significant disruptions to team chemistry may be dismissed from the team. The coach, in conjunction with the Athletic Director, will make this decision in the best interest of Lake Dallas Golf Program.

Roster Determination and Rankings

Every player that makes the team and upholds all obligations set forth in this guideline will remain on the roster for at least one season. Membership on the team does NOT require a student to be enrolled in the golf athletic period (i.e. 1st or 5th period) however their preparation or practice must be monitored. At the end of the school year the coach will evaluate the roster, hold discussions with players, and determine whether a player is exempt from tryouts, will be required to tryout again to remain on the roster, or dismissed from the team. All first year players WILL be enrolled in the JV class (1st period) for a minimum of one semester and will remain in JV class a maximum of two years, or until promoted to varsity class. Any player who has not developed sufficiently enough to be promoted to the varsity class by end of their 2nd season MAY be released from the team (see Senior Rule).

Enrollment in the golf athletic period gives the player an opportunity to practice on a regular basis in order to improve his/her skill level. Those who are willing to make a significant commitment to improve their overall game will have the opportunity to earn varsity level spots. Opportunities to improve throughout the year come in the form of high school tournaments, practices, lessons and participation in junior golf tournaments outside of high school. Therefore, school practices and tournaments become an invaluable opportunity to enhance the player's development.

Positions on the golf team will be earned and not given to any player. In high school and collegiate golf the **Top 5 players (qualified or ranked) are considered varsity.** This top 5 can change at any given time throughout the season. The top 10 players (ranked or qualified) will represent Lake Dallas at the District Tournament in April. Players that qualify for a top 5 spot at any given time will play the upcoming varsity tournament, unless ineligible or the coach exercises his own discretion. All other players will play primarily junior varsity and developmental level tournaments. Below is how rankings are established.

- **Initial rank (beginning of fall) is set by the coach and based on a combination of factors; last year's ending rank, summer tournament participation/results/development, and overall assessment of player's skills throughout the first few weeks of school.**
- **Afterwards, a Qualifier System and/or Challenge System will be used to determine ranking position (*Explained on next page*).**
- **Ineligible players do not lose their rank but, in most cases, the next ranked eligible player would replace that ineligible player in any upcoming tournaments.**
- **Tournament scores are the most important scores and are always a part of any ongoing Qualifier or Challenge in process.**
- **End of year rank is solely determined by varsity tournament averages, and this final rank determines our Most Valuable Player (MVP) award.**

NOTE: The head coach is NOT necessarily bound by the ranking. Below are some examples when the coach may, in rare circumstance, disregard the rankings.

- A qualified player is not putting forth the effort and preparation due to his/her secured ranking.
- A player who offers more consistency, and/or coach feels the player's experience and understanding of the Rules of Golf will not be detrimental to the team.
- As a reward to a deserving player with an opportunity to play in a special tournament.

Qualifiers and Challenges

The primary methods for determining rank are known as “Qualifiers” or “Challenges”. These are designed to have the players compete against each other in order to create a competitive atmosphere that is designed to produce the most successful team as possible. It can’t be stressed enough that those who improve and excel are generally those players whom reflect great attitudes and work ethic in combination with their talents. **“Hard work beats talent that won’t work”**

Qualifiers

Qualifiers are widely used at the collegiate level, and in high schools where the players are of very similar skill. The advantages of this format are to give varsity level players the opportunity to participate in almost all the top tournaments of the year, allows the coach to take advantage of a player(s) who may be playing very well at the time or developing fast enough to contribute sooner than expected, adds a competition aspect to practices, provides pressure for players to not be complacent about their skill level, and finally allows a very up-to-date assessment of a team’s performance level.

Here is an example of a typical qualifier.

- Qualifier format is coach’s discretion (stroke-play, match-play, stableford, or any other point system).
- Players participating in a qualifier will play a predetermined amount of rounds (tournaments included if applicable) for a 2-3 week period.
- Players with lowest scoring averages, aggregate score, or points, depending on format, during the time frame of the qualifier will earn the spots in the tournament the qualifier was designed to determine.
- Qualifier competition results will always be based on the same courses and conditions (i.e. a nine-hole score of 38 at Lake Park G.C. is not equivalent to a 38 at Oakmont C.C.).
- All varsity players will earn or qualify for every tournament based on overall ability. However an official qualifier may only involve a sub-set of players.
 - For example, according to the team rank Tiger Woods and Jack Nicklaus are clearly the top 2 most qualified on the team thus have been exempt from the qualifier. This leaves Gary Player, Arnold Palmer, Ben Hogan, Tom Watson and Phil Mickleson, qualifying for the other 3 spots in the upcoming tournament over the next 2-3 weeks.

Challenges

In this format players challenge each other in a one-on-one (head-to-head) competition. There are two types of challenges, a “Forced” challenge in which the coach will mandate the competition be played by some or all the players, or “Requested” challenge by any player against the player ranked just above them.

Challenges are set up as followed.

- Challenges are normally stroke-play (9 or 18 holes), but coach has the discretion to choose another golf format. Tournament scores during a challenge are always included provided both players are playing in the same tournament.
- Players have two weeks, or other specified amount of time, to complete challenge.
- Players with an avoidable absence during a challenge will forfeit that day’s competition.

Forced Challenges – Is a situation where the Coach determines, at any given time, that everyone on the team must engage in the challenge in order to defend their ranking. This helps create an atmosphere of competition designed to fuel development.

Requested Challenge – Is a request by one player to Challenge another for that ranking spot. For example, if the #4 ranked player wishes to move up the team rankings they may only challenge the #3 ranked player ahead of them. The player challenging his/her teammate must defeat the player 3 out of 5 matches to conclude the challenge.

Example Rank

Ranking basically allows the coach to use the least subjective (bias) manner in which to determine the best players on the team. Rankings are almost entirely the result of the player's skill level and talent. The ranking also allows the team MVP to be objectively determined. The example rank below represents an End of Year ranking based on tournament averages. However, any ranking can change throughout the year up until the end of the season. Take note that classification has no influence on ranking system only their skills as a golfer.

Team Ranking	Tournament Avg.	Low Score
Trey LaMastres (Sr)	74.4	72 (73.3/138)
Jared Street (Fr)	76.9	73 (72.6/127)
Patrick Richardson (Sr)	77.4	67 (71.9/125)
Kaleb Brewer (Sr)	80.8	77 (68.3/108)
Conner Nicosia (Soph)	80.8	68 (72.3/122)
Garrett Metzger (Fr)	82.2	73 (72.3/122)
Kory Lefler (Sr)	83.7	79 (71.3/123)
Cheyenne Bauman (Jr)	84.6	78 (72.3/122)
Zach Lind (Fr)	85.2	81 (72.3/122)

Recognition and Achievement

Letterman Qualification (Letter Jacket)

1. Any player who participated in the District Tournament as a Top 5 player.
2. Have been a member in good academic standing of Lake Dallas Golf for three full seasons and have participated at the District Tournament at least once.
3. Senior who is promoted to the varsity class and participates in at least one varsity tournament.
4. Any All-District honor (Top 10 finish at district), or advancement to the Regional Tournament.
5. Under rare circumstances the coach reserves the privilege of awarding Letterman status to a worthy participant. For example, Senior with less than two years or a Foreign Exchange Student.

Team Awards: Any and all awards will be given at the end of year banquet dinner.

1. **Most Valuable Player (MVP)** - is awarded to the top boy and girl player with the lowest varsity tournament average and must include District Tournament (minimum of 9 rounds).
2. **Newcomer of the Year** – is awarded primarily to a freshman boy and girl who contributed most to the overall success of the Lake Dallas Golf Team based on skill, dedication and character. However, coach reserves the right to award any first year player regardless of classification.
3. **All-District Honors** – Top 5 individual results at District Tournament will be deemed 1st Team All-District, 6th – 10th place individual results will be deemed 2nd Team All-District, and those individual competitors finishing 11th – 15th will be given Honorable Mention.
4. **All-Region and/or All-State Honors** – Certificate recognition of any player who finished Top-15 individually at either of these tournaments.
5. Finally, the coach reserves the right to award certificates in recognition of any achievement or criteria deemed appropriate, for example Most Improved or the Falcon Award for leadership.