**FAQ's**

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| **1.) How do I make the team?** Every year scoring is different, to make the team you have to be one of the top 16 finishers after try-outs. There are an additional 4 coaches picks. These players will be chosen by the coach based on desire, ability, potential, and character. There will be a total of 20 players on the Golf Team. There is not a firm line drawn between varsity and junior varsity teams. We will usually practice with 10 players on varsity and 10 players on junior varsity. Anyone on junior varsity has the ability to move up to varsity if their scores during matches demonstrate it. Seniors may not be eligible for junior varsity.    **2.) Can 7th and 8th graders try out for the team?**  Yes, anyone who is in Grade 7-12 and is planing on attending Chaska High School or currently attending Chaska High School is eligible to tryour for the team.  If you  tryout and don't make it, then your activities fee will be returned.    **3.) What do I need to do to become eligible for practice?** Get all of the forms from the athletic office and fill them out. You must pay the fees and have completed a physical within the last 2 yrs. All forms and fees need to be turned in prior to the start of practice on March 18th.    **4. ) When are try-outs held?** Try-outs are usually held each year between April 1st & 15th. Try-outs and practices are never held during spring break. However, If the weather permits we will try to schedule them as early as possible. We try to book the tryouts on the first couple of days that courses open in the Spring.    **5. ) Where are try-outs held?** Try-outs are usually held at a course that opens up the earliest. In years past, try-outs have been held at Bluff Creek, Dahlgreen, and Shadowbrook in Lester Prairie. We will use any course in the area that will let us play during the first week that golf is played outside in Minnesota. Every year people inquire as to why we don't hold tryouts at Hazeltine or the Town Course or Deer Run. The reason we don't hold tryouts at these courses is because they usually aren't open early enough in the Spring. Also, we are unable to get enough tee times.    **6. ) How much are the greens fees for try-outs?** You are responsible for paying for your greens fees during try-outs. The fee ranges from $10 to $20 for nine holes.    **7. ) Are there any other costs associated with becoming a member of the golf team?** Yes, those of you who are practicing at the indoor ranges will have to pay for range balls during practice. The cost for range balls is usually between $3.50 and $7 per time. Also, those of you making the team will usually want to buy a uniform. We usually buy a short sleeve shirt and a long sleeve one. The cost for both is usually under $75 and you are allowed to keep them.    **8. ) Do I need to know the rules of golf in order to participate in golf at Chaska?** Absolutely. You need to have a complete understanding of all the rules of golf that are found in The Rules of Golf, according to the USGA. You can find a complete list of rules at USGA.org and you can print yourself a copy to study and use for your rules quizes. You can also order yourself a rules book at USGA.org and should carry one in your golf bag at all times.  The most important part of the rules book is the definitions.  Please read and understand the definitions in the front of the rules book.  You need to understand each definition in order to apply the rules in any situation.      **9. ) Are there any MN State High School League Golf Rules that I will need to know in order to participate in golf at Chaska?** Yes, There are a couple MN State High School League golf rules you will need to know in addition to all of the USGA rules. These rules can be found at MSHSL.org and must be followed while participating in any High School Golf Tournament.  A) There is no swearing or using vulgar language during the round. (2 stroke penalty)  B) No Caddies, No pull carts, No motorized carts.  C) Your parents and friends must stay 25 yards away from you during your round.  D) You may not carry any golf balls in your pocket during your round.  E) You may get advice from your coach during your round, unless you are in a hazard or on a green.    **10. ) What USGA rules should I learn first?** You are responsible for knowing all the rules. The key to learning the rules is first understanding the definitions at the beginning of the rules book. Next, once you have a good grasp of the definitions, you should learn the following rules first: Out of Bounds, Lost Ball, Water Hazard, Lateral Water Hazard, Ground Under Repair, Unplayable Ball, Immovable Obstructions including cart paths, and Ball moved by player.    **11. ) What scores do I need to shoot in order to make the team?** Every year is different however, in most years, you will need to be shooting 18 hole scores on a regulation 18 hole golf course that are below 95. In order to make the Varsity team it usually takes scores that are around 80 and below on a regular basis.    **12) What can I do to prepare for the season?** Work on your short game the most. If you play an even par round of golf and hit every green in regulation you will have hit 72 shots. Of these 72 shots, you will have hit 36 of those shots (1/2 of your strokes) with a putter. If you miss a few greens and have to get up and down to save par (or bogey) you will have to count on your putting even more. Of the 72 shots you will hit, 18 of them will be approach shots (mostly short to mid irons) You will then be left with 10 shots or others which will be made up of mainly wedges with some long irons and fairway woods/utility highbrids sprinkled in. So to make a long story short, you need to become a very good putter to improve your scores. If you have 2 hours to practice at a golf course you should divide your time up as follows: 1 hour putting drills. Long lag putts, mid range makeable putts from 10-15 feet, and short putts from 8 feet and in. You should then spend a half an hour hitting approach irons on the range. Finally you should spend 20 minutes chipping from the green side and 10 minutes hitting drivers, fairway clubs, highbrids, and long irons.    **13) What else can I do to prepare for the season?** You should know exactly how far each club goes. You can use your indoor time figuring this out. You should know how far a full, 3/4,and 1/2 swing wedge goes. Practice this to know exact distances. You should know how far a full, 3/4 and 1/2 gap wedge goes. You should know how far a full,3/4, and 1/2 lob wedge goes. Finally, you should learn to hit your irons High and low. You should learn to hit a draw and a fade so you can count on them when you get outside. Spend extra time learning how to hit the ball low because the Spring weather is windy and cold and low balls are less affected by the conditions. Really spend a lot of time working on finding exact distances that you can hit your irons. You need to practice choking down on each club to take off five to ten yards off each club. Be Honest with yourself and spend more time working on your weaknesses than your strengths. If you are a poor chipper, or putter than you need to spend double the amount of time on these areas of your game. If you are a good driver, then you should spend just enough time on this area to groove it. Your time may be better spent on improving your irons (18 shots per round) or your putting and wedge play (36 + 6 shots per round).    **14) Is it important to have my clubs properly fitted? Should I just use my Dad's old ones?** I think is is important to have your clubs properly fitted for you. Most golf pros at your local golf course would be happy to take a look at your clubs to see if they are properly fitted for you. You may need to book a time where they can meet you on the range to watch you hit a couple of shots. This can be done during the indoor seasaon so you are ready when tryouts starts. |