Please review the following information regarding the tournament.

**DRESS CODE:** The MSHSAA and the State Championship Golf Courses have a strictly enforced dress code. Players, coaches, and spectators shall wear appropriate golf attire. Shirts must have collars. Shorts shall be Bermuda-length. **Jeans and jean shorts are prohibited. This dress code applies during practice rounds as well as the tournament. No metal spikes!**

**TOURNAMENT FEES:** Tournament fees include practice round, range balls, and green fees for Monday and Tuesday. **Cost: $70.00/player. Do not pay the Golf Course! MSHSAA will invoice your school for the player fee(s) after the conclusion of the state championship tournament. Once you have received your invoice, send your payment to the MSHSAA office.**

**PRACTICE ROUND:** Practice rounds are available Tuesday, May 7th - Sunday, May 12th after 12PM. Please call the Columbia Country Club golf shop to schedule your tee time. Only one practice round per team/individual is permitted between the Sectional tournament and the State tournament. Violating this rule could result in team/individual disqualification.

**COACHES MEETING:** A meeting will be held for coaches in the clubhouse on Sunday, May 12th at 4:00 pm. **All coaches shall attend this meeting.** It is requested that Coaches volunteer to be starters and scorers. Please contact Greg Stahl at MSHSAA to volunteer.

**GOLF SHOP & RANGE HOURS/TEE TIMES:** Golf shop and range hours are 7:00 am – 6:00 pm. Tee times start at 8:00 am on both days of the tournament.

**SCORECARDS:** Players will be called to the starter’s table 10 minutes prior to their tee times. At the starter’s table, players will receive their scorecards and will identify the golf ball with which they will play. (Marked for identification) Players will report to the designated scoring area immediately upon conclusion of their round. Prior to signing the card, all rules questions should be resolved. The cards are to be turned into the scorer at the score tables. Please remember that each golfer is responsible for the **accuracy of hole play score** and not the addition.

**RULES:** USGA Rules of Golf shall govern play. Unless weather/course conditions indicate otherwise, the ball will be played “down.” An information sheet outlining special course rules will be available at the golf shop during practice rounds. These rules will also be addressed in the coaches meeting on Sunday, May 12th. When in doubt as to procedure, play a 2nd ball.

**CARTS:** Carts are optional on practice round. Participants must be at least 16 years of age and possess a valid driver’s license to drive a cart. There will be an additional charge for cart rental of $20; carts are not part of the tournament fee and must be paid at the time of use.

**SPECTATORS:** Spectators will be allowed on the course. Cost $8/day. Spectators must check in each day at the Gallery Table to receive a Gallery Pass hang tag and a copy of the rules and regulations for spectators.

**LUNCH:** An outdoor grill will be used to provide a burger/brat/chicken breast option with chips and drink for $10 that will be available to players, coaches and spectators.
The Rules of the United States Golf Association and of the MSHSAA govern play. Complete text of Rules and Appendix I may be found in the current USGA Rules of Golf. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Two strokes.

ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF BALL OR BALL-MARKER WHEN ON THE PUTTING GREEN: If a player, partner or player equipment accidentally moves a ball or ball marker on the putting green, there is no penalty and the ball should be replaced. Rule 13.1d(1)

OUT OF BOUNDS – out of bounds only when all of it is outside the boundary edge of the course. If your ball is deemed out of bounds, you must take a stroke and distance relief by adding one penalty stroke and playing a ball from where the previous stroke was made. Rule 18-2a.

PENALTY AREAS – Defined as either Red or Yellow, which affects your relief options. Your ball is in a penalty area when any part of it lies on or touches the ground or anything else inside the edge of the penalty area, or is above the edge or any other part of the penalty area. Rule 17

Relief from Yellow Penalty Area: (2 Options) Option 1 - stroke and distance relief based on where previous stroke was made. Option 2 - take back-on-the-line relief by dropping in a relief area based on a reference line going straight back from the hole through the point the ball entered the penalty area.

Relief from Red Penalty Area: (3 Options) Option 1 - stroke and distance relief based on where previous stroke was made. Option 2 - take back-on-the-line relief by dropping in a relief area based on a reference line going straight back from the hole through the point the ball entered the penalty area. Option 3 – take lateral relief from point the ball entered the penalty area.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR – Defined by enclosed white lines. Rule 16

EMBEDDED BALL – relief is allowed only when your ball is embedded in the general area. Relief is not permitted when ball is embedded in sand in a part of the general area that is not cut to fairway height or less, or when interference by anything other than your ball embedded makes your stroke clearly unreasonable. (Ex: unable to make stroke because of where the ball lies in a bush).

ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION (ACC) – Free Relief Is Allowed: Rule 16

-When your ball touches or is in or on an ACC.
-An ACC physically interferes with your area of intended stand or area of intended swing.
-When ball is on putting green, an ACC on or off the putting green intervenes on your line of play.

Note: There is no free relief from an ACC when the ACC is out of bounds or your ball is in penalty area.

GOLF BALLS – Only brands of golf balls on the posted USGA’s latest List of Conforming Golf Balls may be used. PENALTY FOR USE OF BRAND NOT ON LIST: Disqualification.

PRACTICE – A player shall not play a practice stroke either during the play of a hole, between the play of two holes, or on the green of the last hole of the round. This does not preclude a player from finishing out a hole, where the outcome has been decided or that his score may not be used in team competition. PENALTY FOR BREACH: Two strokes at next hole.

CELLULAR PHONES (Electronic Communication Devices) – The use of cellular phones and electronic communication devices while on the golf course is prohibited. The penalty may be disqualification.

PACE OF PLAY – The player must play without undue delay. Between completion of a hole and playing from the next teeing ground, the player must not unduly delay play. The rules committee will be monitoring the pace of play. If a group is slow in playing the course, that group will be timed by a member of the rules committee. If the situation requires, the following penalties will be invoked: First Offense – one stroke; Second Offense – two strokes; for any subsequent offense – disqualification.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION – The competition shall be deemed to have closed when the trophy has been presented to the winner or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.

DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE: PLAYING A SECOND BALL – Player may play a second ball ONLY after declaring that he/she intends to do so AND announcing to his/her fellow competitors which ball he/she intends to count if the rules permit. Upon completion of the round, the player must inform the committee (at scoring table) BEFORE signing the card, regardless of the scores for both balls.

ADVICE IN TEAM COMPETITION: MSHSAA Approved Head Coaches and Assistant coaches with athletes participating in the State Tournament shall receive a pass. Each school may appoint up to two MSHSAA approved coaches to coach (give advice) at the state tournament. One of the appointed coaches must be the Head Golf Coach. The appointed coaches must be the same for both days of the tournament and must meet all MSHSAA requirements to be an approved golf coach. Coaches may not be on the putting greens. They may not give advice once player’s ball is on the green AND the player has reached the green area (10 yards).

ADVICE BY PLAYERS DURING COMPETITION: Per USGA Rule 24.4, in summary, players are not permitted to give advice to other players, including teammates, during competition.

COLUMBIA COUNTRY CLUB
LOCAL RULES

USGA Rules govern all play unless modified by the following Local Rules:

- Relief must be taken if any flowerbed or the like interferes with a player’s stance or area of intended swing. The ball shall be lifted, without penalty, and dropped in accordance with Rule 16.1 (Immovable Obstruction/General Area).

- The “Embedded Ball” rule is in effect through the green.

- Out of Bounds is located on Holes #s 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, and 18.

- Environmentally Sensitive Area on the right side of Hole #4 is marked with red stakes/signage and should be played as a red penalty area. Under penalty of one stroke, proceed under Rule 17.1 (penalty area) Searching for lost balls is prohibited.

- All participants will play from the “Gold” tee markers (Modified 6,500 yards)

- All yardages are measured to the center of the green.

- You are responsible for any injury to people or damage to property caused by your actions, including errant golf shots.

- Golf Carts are not permitted in the parking lot or patio at any time.

- All penalty areas shall follow natural terrain, cart part, road, and/or cut of grass (overruling stakes).

- Red penalty areas are defined by red stakes and/or lines. Rule 17.1.

- Out of bounds is defined by white stakes and/or lines. Rule 14.3