

**Normal West
Wildcat Golf**



**“The Harder You Work,
The Luckier You Get!”**

2015 Normal West Wildcat Boys Golf

Parent/Golfer Handbook



Coaches:

Varsity – Matt Hoder

Junior Varsity – Terry Gliege

Tryout Dates:

Wednesday, August 12th - Tee Times starting @ 8:04

Thursday, August 13th - Tee Times starting @ 8:04

Important Information for the Season

Although this is not a definitive list of everything you need to know, you can use this as a guide throughout the season:

- **No athlete may participate in tryouts unless they are cleared by the athletic department.**
- Attendance at practices is mandatory. You must inform your coach prior to missed practices. Practices missed without informing your coach will result in suspension from one or more meets.
- Each golfer will be given a Wildcat golf bag. This bag is the property of Normal West High School, and each golfer will be responsible for returning their bag at the end of the season in reasonable shape.
- Any player who is caught cheating at a golf meet will be dismissed from the team if adequate proof is found of cheating. Each golfer is a representative of Normal West, and our reputation is extremely important to the coaching staff.
- All players are expected to respect the golf course (repairing divots, fixing ball marks, etc), fellow players, and coaches at all times, regardless of whether it is a meet or practice. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in suspension from one or more meets or dismissal from the team.
- Parents are encouraged to attend meets and support our golfers. However, please remain an adequate distance from all golfers, and never give advice during a match.
- All varsity players are responsible for providing their own transportation to practices and meets within Bloomington/Normal. However, there should be no ride sharing without parent permission.
- All junior varsity players and parents must inform the coaches of what their driving arrangements will be for practices and in-town meets. There should be no ride sharing without parent permission.
- Although IHSA rules state that you must be passing 5 classes to be eligible, a golfer in the Normal West program will not be eligible for meets if they are obtaining more than one D or F in any class (combo classes count as only one class).
- Parents, if you feel that your son is struggling with their class work and they need some time off practice/meets to concentrate on their studies, please contact his coach!
- Coach Hoder at 309.319.0618 & hodermt@unit5.org

Tryout Information:

Tryouts will be held at Ironwood Golf Course on Wednesday and Thursday, August 12th and 13th. Because there will be a lot of kids on the course (boys and girls golf teams from Normal West and Normal Community), you can expect rounds to last from 5 to 5 ½ hours. The tee times for Thursday will depend on scores on Wednesday, and will be available online within an hour of the completion of tryouts on Wednesday.

Please make sure that you have filled out the proper paper work before you tryout. **If you do not have the paper work completed and a clearance slip to tryout you will not be allowed to participate in tryouts!**

All golfers are expected to arrive at the golf course at least 30 minutes before their scheduled tee time to properly stretch, warm up, and practice. Range balls will be available to all golfers trying out.

Please make sure to bring the following with you to tryouts:

- A collared shirt and khaki shorts/pants. No jeans or jean shorts are allowed. No tee-shirts are allowed. The only exceptions to shirts without a collar are windbreakers and collarless golf shirts.
- Golf clubs
- At least a dozen golf balls
- Tees, divot fixers, and ball marks
- Rain gear, including umbrella and towel
- A good attitude. Swearing and throwing clubs will not be tolerated and will result in being sent home.

Golfer Expectations - Tryouts

You are expected to follow proper golf etiquette, including:

- No cheating – you must count every stroke and play the ball as it lies. We are trying to get the best team, and cheating does not accomplish this! Likewise, don't allow any of your playing partners to cheat.
- Play ready golf – in general the person who is “out” should play their shot, but if they are waiting on something, you should go ahead with your swing. There is no reason for slow play!
- Replace all divots and repair all ball marks. In fact, you should repair your ball mark and at least two others you see on the green.

- Respect the golf course. We are guests at Ironwood or wherever we play, and we must respect the course, its employees, and other players at all times. Disrespect will not be tolerated and will lead to removal from tryouts.

Making the Team

There is no set number of golfers we are going to carry. However, there are a few constraints which often dictate how many golfers make the team. First, there are six teams playing at Ironwood during the fall, and this makes it important to limit the number of golfers on each team. Second, most matches only accommodate six golfers per team. Because there are only so many matches (especially at the JV level), having too many golfers on a team does not provide adequate match experience.

After the two days of tryouts, the varsity and junior varsity coaches will get together and evaluate how many players tried out, what their scores were, and how many golfers we feel we can realistically keep. The number will likely be between 6-8 varsity members and 8-10 junior varsity members. Although scores change from year to year, a varsity golfer is typically expected to shoot between 70-82 and a junior varsity golfer is expected to shoot between 80-95.

A senior must be in the top 8 golfers after tryouts to make the team. A junior should be in the top 10 golfers after tryouts in order to make the team.

Financial Responsibilities

There are several fees that will need to be paid. These fees will be discussed at the parent/player meeting on **Friday, August 14th at 6:30 pm in Room 1003 at West**. The fees will include:

- \$65 activity fee payable to Normal West
- \$35 shirt fee payable to Normal West Golf for all golfers
- \$30 no-hassle fundraising fee to cover range balls, some equipment, miscellaneous items – some people will be exempt
- \$30 for each player who goes on an overnight trip (there are 2-4 varsity overnight trips)

Parent/Golfer Meeting

There will be a parent/golfer meeting @ Normal West on Friday, August 14th at 6:30 for all golfers who make the team. Look to the website for more information.

Varsity Golf Schedule – 2015

08/17/2015*	Mon	@ Peoria Notre Dame Invitational	A	1:00 PM	Mt. Hawley CC - Peoria
08/18/2015*	Tue	@ Barrington Invite	A	2:00 PM	Wynstone CC GC
08/19/2015*	Wed	@ Bloomington Invite	A	1:00 PM	The Den GC
08/20/2015*	Thu	@ Challenge @ Lick Creek Pekin/Morton/NCHS	A	4:00 PM	Challenge @ Lick Creek Pekin/Morton
08/22/2015*	Sat	@ Limestone Invite	A	8:30 AM	Coyote Creek GC
08/24/2015*	Mon	@ Centennial Invite	A	1:00 PM	U of I GC
08/25/2015*	Tue	@ U-High Invitational	A	1:00 PM	ISU Golf Course
09/03/2015*	Thu	vs. Challenge at the Den	H	1:00 PM	THE DEN GC
09/04/2015*	Fri	@ Danville Invite	A	1:00 PM	Turtle Run GC
09/08/2015*	Tue	vs. Centennial	H	4:00 PM	IRONWOOD GOLF COURSE
09/11/2015*	Fri	@ Mattoon Invite	A	1:00 PM	Meadowview/Country Club GC
09/12/2015*	Sat	@ Mattoon Invite	A	8:00 AM	Meadowview/Country Club GC
09/14/2015*	Mon	@ Pontiac/Olympia	A	4:00 PM	Wolf Creek GC
09/15/2015*	Tue	vs. Intercity	H	1:00 PM	IRONWOOD GOLF COURSE
09/19/2015*	Sat	@ Pekin Invite	A	8:30 AM	Lick Creek GC
09/24/2015*	Thu	@ Pontiac Invite	A	1:00 PM	Elk Club GC
09/28/2015*	Mon	@ Big 12 Conference Meet	A	9:00 AM	Danville Turtle Run GC
10/03/2015*	Sat	@ Unit 5 Better Ball	A	8:30 AM	Unit 5 Better Ball
10/06/2015*	Tue	@ Regionals	A	TBA	IRONWOOD GOLF COURSE
10/12/2015*	Mon	@ Sectionals	TBA	TBA	TBA
10/16/2015*	Fri	@ State	A	TBA	The Den GC
10/17/2015*	Sat	@ State	A	TBA	The Den GC

Junior Varsity Golf Schedule – 2014

08/19/2015*	Wed	@ Bloomington Invite	A	1:00 PM	Highland GC
08/25/2015*	Tue	vs. NCHS/BHS/CCHS	H	3:30 PM	IRONWOOD GOLF COURSE
09/03/2015*	Thu	@ BHS/U-High	A	3:30 PM	BHS/U-High
09/12/2015*	Sat	@ BHS Invite	A	12:00 PM	Highland Golf Course
09/16/2015*	Wed	vs. U-High	H	4:00 PM	IRONWOOD GOLF COURSE
09/19/2015*	Sat	@ JV Intercity	A	1:00 PM	Highland GC
09/24/2015*	Thu	@ Central Catholic	A	4:00 PM	Central Catholic
09/28/2015*	Mon	@ U-High	A	4:00 PM	ISU GC
10/01/2015*	Thu	@ U-High/NCHS	A	4:00 PM	U-High/NCHS
10/07/2015*	Wed	@ NCHS	A	2:00 PM	IRONWOOD GOLF COURSE

Banquet

The end of the season banquet will be held at the end of October. More information to follow.

Summer Golf Tournament Information

If you are an average golfer, you should play in at least the following 2 summer golf tournaments:

- Bloomington/Normal Junior City
- Country Youth Classic
- The Prep Tour tournaments

If you are an above average golfer, you should compete in the above 2 summer golf tournaments, as well as at least 2 of the following:

- Bloomington/Normal Men's Match Play
- Bloomington/Normal Men's Medal Play
- Optimist Qualifier
- Pekin Independent Insurance Tournament
- MAJGT Tournaments

Summer Workouts

You are expected to keep in shape over the summer, and attempt some golf-specific exercises. There are several sites on this handbook, as well as sites available on the Normal West Boys Golf website that can help you with this.

Boys Golf Website

Please consult the boys golf website often for information regarding ordering golf merchandise, hints and tips, schedules, meetings, and other information.

<http://www.unit5.org/ncwhs/westboysgolf>

Important Golf Information and Links

Coach Hoder's Information:

Cell Phone – 309.319.0618

Office Phone – 309.336-6286

Email Address – hodermt@unit5.org

Normal West Golf Page:

<http://www.unit5.org/westboysgolf>

IJGA Homepage for summer tournaments:

<http://www.ijga.org>

PGA Junior Tournament Series:

<http://www.pgajuniorseries.com/>

The "Ultimate" Junior Golf Website:

<http://www.juniorlinks.com/index.cfm>

Golf Exercises/Stretches:

<http://www.golflink.com/golf-tips/tips/pedersen005.asp>

http://www.pga.com/improve/features/cochran_blog/20060926p_ower.cfm

<http://www.golfillustrated.com/fitness.asp>

Tips For the Offseason/Summer:

1. Play early in the Spring when the weather isn't so good. This gives you good practice for playing in the Fall.
2. Play in competitive tournaments over the summer that will help push you to get better. In other words, play in tournaments outside of Bloomington/Normal.
3. Work on strength, conditioning, and stretching. The pros continue to get better because they get stronger and more flexible!
4. Practice during the summer, don't just play. It is important to enjoy golf, but sometimes it can be hard work.
5. Try different shots during practice – you don't have to shoot a career round every time on the course. Learn something!