

Wildcat Golf 2011

Team & Tryout Information

Eligibility Requirements:

Listed below are a set of requirements you must meet before you may tryout for the 2011 team. If you haven't satisfied each requirement, you cannot tryout.

- ◆ Have a current VHSL Physical Examination (dated after 5/1/11) form completed & submitted before the start of tryouts. You may turn-in your physical at the meeting on July 28th.
- ◆ Complete the concussion education course provided by FCPS. This is new for 2011 & will be required for all sports, so get it done now & you'll be good for any winter/spring sports you may play.
- ◆ Have a current Emergency Care Card (ECC) completed & turned into the coaching staff. All information on your ECC should be current as of the first day of tryouts. Please turn this in when your turn in your physical.
- ◆ Have your own golf clubs & a lightweight carry bag. We have a few bags to loan if your bag is too heavy.
- ◆ Dress appropriately. You must wear appropriate attire. If you are unsure as to what is appropriate, please contact the coaching staff with any questions. Soft-spike golf shoes are now the required norm at all courses.

Varsity, Junior Varsity, & Girls' squads:

Like the past few years, we will have a Varsity, JV, & girls' squad. The Varsity squad will compete in our district matches & various invitational tournaments, as well as our district, region, & state championships. Because golf within the Northern Region & VHSL is co-ed sport, both boys & girls can compete together at the Varsity level.

- ◆ Varsity squad – Placement will be based on total stroke count from tryouts. We plan to place the cut line for the Varsity squad after the 8th best 36-hole score. We may position additional players (1-2) on the Varsity squad determinant on their level of play during tryouts. The coaches reserve the right to call upon performance from past seasons to determine placement.
- ◆ JV squad – We encourage anyone who is interested in bettering their game to join the JV squad. Most schools carry a Varsity & girls' squad, but have nowhere for the guys who didn't make the Varsity squad to go after tryouts. We want everyone who wants to keep playing – or maybe learn to play – to join the JV squad. We will be working on getting some matches scheduled with some other schools who also carry a JV squad.
- ◆ Girls' squad – Besides some girls' matches we will look to schedule, there will be a few additional opportunities for girls to compete against other girls, as well as compete at the Girls' State Open. There have been some new restrictions placed on the girls & where they can play, but they really don't come into play until the end of the season. There are three important changes – two of which have to do with qualifying for the Girls' State Open. In order to qualify, a girl must satisfy one of the following: (1) place in the top 20% (down from 30% in 2010) at the Oct. 18th Zone Qualifier or (2) finishing among the top 15 individual scorers at the Northern Region Championship. The third change forces girls to choose between playing in either the VHSL State Championship or the Girls' State Open. The only way they may do both is if their team advances to the former.

Tryout Format:

Technically, only those who would like to play on the Varsity squad will need to tryout. Those who are still learning the game & thus, want to be part of the JV or girls' squads, just need to say so & you'll be good to go. Our 4-day tryout format will follow the following schedule:

- ◆ Monday, 8/1 (2:15pm) – All those trying out for the Varsity squad will play 18 holes at Westfields Golf Club. We have 5 tee-times (20 slots) beginning at 3:00pm. If all the slots are not filled, then we will have those coming out for the JV & girls' squads play. Please arrive at least 30-45 minutes before your scheduled tee-time.
- ◆ Tuesday, 8/2 & Wednesday, 8/3 (2:00-3:30pm) – Range, chipping, & putting session at Westfields. We will split the field in half with some coming on Tuesday & the remainder on Wednesday. Please do not come to the course on the day you are "off" as it may overwhelm the facility. Plus, your presence may serve to distract the

coaches & those trying-out. But, if you are a member or want to pay for a range pass, then you are free to do what you like – we just ask that you come outside the 2:00-3:30pm time.

- ♦ Thursday, 8/5 (2:15pm) – All those trying out for the Varsity squad will play 18 holes at Westfields Golf Club. We have 5 tee-times (20 slots) beginning at 3:00pm. If all the slots are not filled, then we will have those coming out for the JV & girls' squads play (those who didn't play on Monday). Please arrive at least 30-45 minutes before your scheduled tee-time.
- ♦ Friday, 8/5 (3:00pm) – This will be the first day of practice for the Varsity squad. We will play 9 holes with our first tee-time beginning at 4:00pm. We will most likely make this some type of intra-squad completion.

Please note: Boys trying out will play from the white tees & girls trying out will play from 85% of what the boys play from (a combination of the red & green tees).

Making the Team:

In order to be competitive in our district, you need to be able to shoot in the 70s for 18 holes. In fact, in order to challenge for the district title & move on to Regions, we need multiple players breaking 80 & shooting in the low to mid 70s. Please take into consideration that Westfields is a challenging course & that it's not comparable to a course like Twin Lakes or Fairfax National. Please take this into consideration because we most certainly do.

Participation (practices, matches, tournaments, etc.):

Please note that all scheduled practices & practice rounds are tentative & that the courses/times are subject to change. Unfortunately, we do need to be flexible during the season & take what course time we are given. You may miss two excused (family event, emergency doctor visit, etc.) practices during the season. If you miss a third, you will be cut. Please understand that practice & course time are at a premium, so try to schedule appointments outside this time. Unexcused absences will result in you being cut.

If you make the Varsity squad, you will be expected to participate in all practices & matches. If you miss a practice, you will not play in the next scheduled match. As far as the tournaments, you should be available to play if you qualify. It should not come as a surprise that we want our best players represented the team & school. You should plan to attend all tournaments that are local or not held during the school day to support your teammates. On average, the Varsity squad will practice &/or compete 4-5 times per week.

If you plan to participate with the JV or girls' squads, you are expected participate in practice, play in every outing in which you have been entered, & compete in any matches that we have scheduled. Because we have to pay entry fees for these outings & matches, please plan on participating. We do plan to schedule some JV & girls' matches, so if you miss the preceding practice, you will be ineligible to play. On average, the JV & girls' squads will practice &/or play 2-3 times per week.

Once on the team, you will be required to participate in any fundraising events & pay team dues. Your team dues will cover the cost of your team polo, as well as some other expenses. Please understand that your commitment to the golf team will take precedence over all other teams with whom you may be participating. If you do plan to participate in any out-of-season camps or conditioning programs, please inform the coaching staff of your intention to do so as soon as possible.

Fundraising:

We have had two carwashes & will most likely have at least one other event (TBD). All money raised goes right back to the team in the form of entry fees in the tournaments, outings, or other round we play during the season. We may also look to get some team apparel that this money would go to either pay for or at least supplement. Of you have any ideas that would help the team in this realm, please don't be afraid to speak up. We are one of the forgotten sports & often times we're on our own to scratch & claw for practice time. Having some extra money in our account allows up the ability to get more practice & playing time.

Stay in Touch:

Please check your e-mail & look for updates on the team website regularly. Make sure you know what's next on the schedule. Please familiarize yourself with all the links & let us know if you have any questions.