

Great Valley High School

GOLF TEAM

Handbook



Great Valley High School

Golf Handbook

In this manual you will find all the information and rules that will govern our golf team.

**Great Achievement only follows great Effort
... our team can make that happen at Great Valley!**

**** If you have team spirit, enthusiasm for the game, a desire to practice and a determination to win - you, your parents, and your school will be proud, because you have given your best. ****

Great Valley High School

The Golf Season is upon us.

We expect to continue our formation of the successful golf program at Great Valley. In order to do so, we must abide by our established standards:

1. I am a student first and an athlete second. I am subject to the rules of eligibility and I will do everything in my power to remain academically eligible.
2. My family obligations have precedence over athletics. However, athletics require commitment to practice and the team, and missing practice and competitions can delay or hinder individual and team progress. I will make decisions about missing training or competitions with those things in mind.
3. I will maintain a positive attitude towards practice and competition.
4. I will strive to do my best in practice and in competition.
5. I will be respectful to coaches, officials, and my fellow competitors. I will celebrate success with class, and take set-backs in stride. I will demonstrate Patriot Pride as a member of the Patriot Golf Team.
6. I will foster team unity by wearing the team apparel to competitions, wearing the full team uniform and staying with the team for the duration of the competition. I will travel with the team to competition. I will attend all team meetings. I will be positive and supportive of my team members at all times.

If you have read this letter carefully and you believe that this letter carries a message to you, all of the members of the team can look forward to a successful year together.

Sincerely, Yours in sports,

Head Coach
Owen Brown

Assistant Coach
Paul Girone

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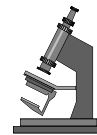
Great Valley Golf Team web site:

Go to Great Valley Middle School

- ❖ Teacher Pages
 - Owen Brown GVMS

Look here for our golf calendar with times, golf forms, parent information, and golfing links.

Physicals



Physical examination forms must be completed by the student-athletes physician. The Great Valley School District Participation Sports Physical Evaluation form must be completed by the first **Friday of August**.

The Great Valley School District Health Record and Questionnaire Parent/Guardian Consent form must be completed by the first **Friday of August**.

Great Valley School District Activity Fee

Secondary students who participate on Athletic Teams, Marching Band, Color Guard, Drama Guild, and the Middle School Musical Production will be required to pay \$95 per activity.

- Fees will be collected by each coach, activity sponsor, or athletic trainer
- Fees may be paid by check (no credit card payments or cash)
- Students may not compete or practice until the fee for the activity is paid
- Fees are non-refundable except in cases that involve roster limitations and try-out situations
 - If a student does not make a roster, checks will be returned
 - Refunds will not be issued when students quit, transfer schools, sustain injury, or are dismissed from a team/activity
- The payment of an activity fee does not guarantee a student-athlete will compete in every competition. Student athletes must adhere to all of the expectations of coaches and the coaches have the final say as to which athletes participate in events / competitions.

As the Great Valley community navigates through these difficult economic times, we will strive to maintain our programs and support our students' development. The funds generated through these fees will contribute greatly to our efforts. If you have specific questions regarding activity fees, please contact Dr. Heidi Capetola, High School Principal at 610.889.1900 or hcapetola@gvsd.org. Thank you.

General Guidelines:

1. All sessions are mandatory. If you are not able to attend a practice it is your responsibility to notify Coach Brown. Unexcused absences may result in suspension from a competition(s).
2. All equipment issued to you by the school is to be returned at the end of your season. Any equipment that you are responsible for which is lost or stolen will be charged to you.
3. Be cooperative and participate in drills to the best of your ability.
4. If at any time, during a practice or a competition you become ill or injured, inform one of the coaches at once.
5. Smoking, drinking, and other anti-social activities will not be tolerated.
6. Keep regular hours. At least 9 - 11 hours of sleep a night.
7. Grades must be kept up or you cannot play golf.

Golf Tryouts

- Golf tryouts will start on the first day of PIAA Fall Sports
 - (*usually around the 2nd Monday of August*).
- All golfers will compete on the first day of tryouts.
- Golf tryouts will be a maximum of 3 days.
- The number of tryout days could be adjusted based on course availability, schedule, weather, etc.
- Golfers who meet the competition expectations will be invited back for the next tryout day.
- Those not invited back for the next tryout day will not make this year's team but are encouraged to practice, play, and improve for future years.

Competition for top 8 team positions:

Golfers who make the top 8 for the team will be decided on by the following criteria:

1. We will establish the top 8 golfers for the first competition
2. The top 8 golfers will be decided based on
 - a. Scores in competitions
 - b. Scores during practice
3. Coaches have the final decision on who will or will not play golf.

Competitions

- Have all equipment ready.
- Golfers are expected to behave in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. No critical comments will be directed at opponents, coaches, or officials.
- All golfers who are involved in the competition will remain with the team in the scoring area when they are done playing.
- Golfers will take directions from the coaches - not from people (fathers, brother, etc) who are spectators.

Attendance Guidelines



All golfers are expected to follow the schedule for the entire season. Golf season officially begins on the **1st Day of PIAA Practice** which is usually the **2nd Monday of August** and ends **on the final day of the PIAA Championships**. You are making a commitment to the Golf Team during this time. If this obligation is not met, you will forfeit your athletic awards for the present golf season.

All athletes are expected to attend all scheduled practices and competitions. If you cannot attend a practice or competition, the following guidelines must be adhered to:

1. If you are absent from school or become ill during school and are sent home, please email Coach Brown and let him know you are not feeling well and are not able to play golf that day.
2. If any other emergency arises and you must leave school, please try to email Coach Brown. If you are not able to email Coach Brown please leave a message with a secretary in the Main Office so they are able to contact the athletic department and notify the coaches.
3. If you will be late or absent for any other reason, I must be notified the day before this occurs. **Messages sent through a third party are not acceptable.** This is your responsibility.
4. Doctor and dentist appointments - please schedule so that there are minimum conflicts with practices and competitions. Notify me in advance of appointments if no other time is available.
5. Make-up class work for your teachers should be scheduled during study halls whenever possible. See me if there are extenuating circumstances beyond our control.
6. Missing practice or competitions due to a job or work hours is unacceptable.
7. Any conflicts with school related trips or responsibilities should be discussed with me in advance of pending conflict. I am a student-athlete supporter and will be a good listener.

Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the following:

1. The **first unexcused absence** will result in **one** competition suspension.
2. The **second unexcused absence** will result in a **two** competition suspension.
3. The **third unexcused absence** will result in a **suspension from the team** for the remainder of the season.
4. If you are **Late to practice** because of a **school detention or a teacher detention** three times, this will be considered **one unexcused absence**. Likewise, arriving late to practice without a written note from detention or teacher, will constitute an unexcused late.

These guidelines are meant to communicate our Golf programs' need for team unity and player responsibility.

Team Travel



- Golfers must be on time for all departures.
- Obscenities or less than classy behavior will not be tolerated.
- No food is allowed on the bus.
- No litter will be left on the bus.

The Great Valley Golf Team will travel to and from away games as a team on the transportation provided by the Great Valley School District. If parents wish their child to leave an event with them, please email Coach Brown at least 24 hours prior to the event. Golfers should not be leaving the competition until all teammates have finished playing and the competition is concluded. In order for athletes to maximize their homework and meal time, parents should arrive at GVHS prior to the bus returning to GVHS.

Initiations

Initiation of any golfer will not be tolerated. This initiation may occur in or out of school, ie – summer camp. If it occurs, the people involved may be suspended from participating in upcoming competitions and or will be removed from the team. Any incidence of initiation will be reviewed by the Coaches, Athletic Director, and Administration and they will recommend what penalty should be enforced. If you are aware that this type of behavior is going to take place, you should inform the coaches immediately.

Alcohol and other Drugs

When it becomes known that a student athlete is abusing drugs (underage drinking is included) he/she will be:

1. Referred to the Athletic Director to have the athletic department policies and procedures implemented.
2. Referred to the Student Assistance Program.
3. Removed from the team if any further drug or alcohol use occurs.

All team members will abide by the drug and alcohol policy as outlined by Great Valley School District (see student handbook). Team members are subject to disciplinary action at the coach's discretion (up to and including dismissal from the team) for participation in any activity unbecoming to a player/team member.

**** Note: You are considered as a member of the GVHS Golf team both in and out of season. This time includes the summer months. As a high school athlete you are responsible to be a positive role model year round.**

Injuries

The sport of golf is highly competitive and as in all athletics there is a risk for injury. In the case of an injury which the coaching staff is not able to treat, please contact our Great Valley Trainers at the Great Valley High School. We are very fortunate to have the finest trainers in the area treating our student athletes. In most cases, our trainers are able to help an athlete recover from injury and return to competition quickly. Please contact Mr. Keith Johnson at 610-633-1478 for any advice concerning injuries.

Player Code of Conduct

As an athlete you also have responsibilities outside of school as well as in. If you choose to be a member of our team this needs to be understood. Your behavior at any time has a direct impact on your high school team and teammates. The following Code of Conduct must be adhered to or you may be suspended from the team or be removed permanently. I will try to be as specific as possible and I am sure this will grow as time keeps moving on.

1. **You may not host any drug/alcohol parties.** This will lead to immediate dismissal from the team.
2. **Attendance at a party where drugs/alcohol are present, whether you are participating in the use of the said substances or not** will lead to suspensions(s) from upcoming events. You should not be there and you need to take the initiative to avoid the situation. (exclusions would be a family function with adults such as a wedding, etc)
3. **Personal use of drugs and or alcohol is prohibited.** You will be referred to the Athletic Director and school policies/practices will be administered.
4. **Detentions for any reason during the season.** If detentions continue to be a problem, suspension from competition and or dismissal from the team may occur.
5. **In school suspension is not acceptable for an athlete. You must show self discipline at all times.** If you are assigned In-School for any reason you will be suspended from the next competition.
6. **Any profanity or other forms of disrespect towards the coaching staff** will result in suspension from competition or dismissal from the team.

If you are willing to abide by these guidelines and regulations, we welcome you as a candidate for the team. In order to have a successful season, it will mean that everyone will have to cooperate with the coaches, teammates, and abide by the rules of our school. If you want to be a champion and have a championship team, these rules and regulations will not be a problem.

These are some of the rules established to guide our team. If you do not think they are important and do not wish to obey them, then we do not want you on our squad. Everything you do is noticed and appraised when you are a student-athlete. Big things are asked of big people. **Be big.** Have the courage to say “**no**” to friends who want you to do something that would cause you to break the rules of our squad. Be oblivious to outside pressures.