WOMEN’S GOLF

Conference Office Liaisons. The following SEC staff members are the designated liaisons for women’s golf: Sport Administrator – Charlie Hussey; Communications – Chuck Dunlap.

REGULAR-SEASON COMPETITION

Administration. [SEC Bylaw 17.30]

Artificial Noisemakers. [SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.5e] Artificial noisemakers shall not be brought into or used in any sports venue during games between member institutions. Each institution must have statements printed on tickets and notices to the effect that such noisemakers will not be permitted inside its competition areas.

Awards. The General Administration section of the Commissioner’s Regulations provides a complete list and guidelines for all Conference awards. In addition, the recipients of the sport-specific awards listed below will be selected as follows:

1. All-SEC Team. The first team (eight players) and second team (eight players) will be determined by a vote of the coaches. Completed online nomination forms are due at the SEC office the Monday prior to the Conference championship. Online voting ballots will be distributed the week following the Conference championship. Coaches shall list 15 players from the nomination forms on their voting ballot. The top seven players listed will receive two points and the next eight players will receive one point. The winner of the Conference championship will automatically be included on the first team and should not be listed on the voting ballot. The top seven point receivers (along with the winner of the SEC Championship) will be the first team and the next eight players will be the second team.

2. All-Freshman Team. The all-freshman team (eight players) will be determined by a vote of the coaches. Completed online nomination forms are due at the SEC office the Monday prior to the Conference championship. Coaches will vote on an online ballot distributed the week following the Conference championship and shall return it to the Conference office by the requested date.

3. Player of the Year. The recipient will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches will vote on an online ballot distributed the week following the Conference championship and shall return it to the Conference office by the requested date.

4. Freshman of the Year. The recipient will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches will vote on an online ballot distributed the week following the Conference championship and shall return it to the Conference office by the requested date.

5. Coach of the Year. The recipient will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches will vote on an online ballot distributed the week following the Conference championship and shall return it to the Conference office by the requested date.

6. Scholar-Athlete of the Year. See General Administration section of the Commissioner’s Regulations.

7. Community Service Team. See General Administration section of the Commissioner’s Regulations.

8. Player of the Week. See General Administration section of the Commissioner’s Regulations.

9. Freshman of the Week. See General Administration section of the Commissioner’s Regulations.
Coaches Committee. [SEC Bylaw 21.9] The coaches committee will be made up of three head coaches from different institutions and will follow an alphabetical rotation with one coach rotating off the committee each year. For 2015-2016, the coaches committee will include Kentucky, LSU, and Ole Miss. Subsequent years will be as follows: LSU, Ole Miss, and Mississippi State (2016-2017), and Ole Miss, Mississippi State, and Missouri (2017-2018). A chart listing the complete rotation will be maintained by the Conference office.

Should the championship return to campus sites (in the first year), the committee shall be composed of the host coach of the current year’s championship, along with the host coaches of the next two years’ championships. In subsequent years, the committee shall be composed of the host coach of the preceding year’s championship, the host coach of the current year’s championship, and the host coach of the next year’s championship.

Coaches Meeting. [SEC Bylaw 21.8] Each head coach is required to attend the annual meeting at the SEC Office. For 2016-17, this meeting will be held on November 15, 2016.

Coaches Meeting Chair. The chair of the annual coaches meeting will be an alphabetical rotation with Kentucky serving as the chair for 2014-2015. Subsequent years will be as follows: LSU (2015-2016), Ole Miss (2016-2017), and Mississippi State (2017-2018). A chart listing the complete rotation will be maintained by the Conference office.

Conference Championship. [SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.3] The Conference champion will be determined by a tournament of all member institutions sponsoring a team. The championship will be conducted under the guidelines outlined in the Commissioner’s Regulations.

NCAA Automatic Qualifier. The Conference champion will be the Conference’s automatic qualifier to the NCAA Championship.

Officials. Each official is entitled to a maximum of two complimentary tickets to the competition. Officials shall contact the ticket offices directly. The deadline for ticket requests is ten days prior to the competition.

Regular-Season Competition/Scheduling. Regular-season competition and scheduling are subject to the following:

1. Each member institution having a golf team shall schedule teams of other member institutions at its own option and discretion during the regular season.
2. The United States Golf Association rules shall be followed. The local management will have the prerogative to set any local ground rules when appropriate and necessary.

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Administrative Meeting. Coaches from each institution competing in the Conference championship shall attend a mandatory meeting following the Conference championship practice round but prior to the start of the championship to review policies and procedures.

Championship Director. The host championship director shall:

1. Supervise the championship;
2. Plan and coordinate all activities of the championship;
3. Secure the services of all necessary personnel related to the championship;
4. Provide entry forms and send out mailings to coaches;
5. Report results to the SEC office;
6. Officially register the championship with the NCAA (forms sent by NCAA to the host in the fall with a deadline in October);

7. Obtain the services of at least six qualified USGA rules officials from the area who will be present on the course throughout the championship;

8. Consult the SEC office before making any corporate sponsorship commitments for the championship; and

9. If showing a video at a team banquet, receive pre-approval from the Conference Championship liaison.

**Course Set-Up.** The host golf professional and head rules official, in consultation with the Coaches’ Committee shall perform the following duties:

1. Set the length of the course at a minimum of 5,800 yards (NCAA regulation);

2. Set the tee boxes and flagstick positions for each day;

3. Mark the course according to USGA standards; and

4. Compile a local rules sheet to cover any unusual circumstances.

**Dates and Sites.** The championship will be held two weeks prior to the NCAA regional championships, or within the deadline for submitting qualifying scores established by the NCAA, insofar as possible. Future dates and sites for the championship are:

- 2016 April 15-17 Hoover, AL (Greystone Golf and Country Club)
- 2017 April 14-16 TBD

**Entries.** Each team may enter five players. Players and their positions may be changed up to the time they are called to the first tee on the first day of competition.

**Equipment and Personnel.** The host shall provide the following:

1. Registration table with at least two people assigned to work;

2. Scoreboard, score sheets and two score keepers each day;

3. Starters for each day (practice and competition);

4. Spotters at designated trouble spots on the course;

5. Scorecards arranged according to starting times and labeled by player name and institution;

6. Marshals to maintain satisfactory pace of play;

7. Golf carts for rules officials, media, each head coach and SEC staff liaison; and

8. Information packet about the championship.

9. Refreshments for players at the first tee, the turn and the last hole.

**Format.** The championship will consist of a 54-hole stroke-play tournament of all members sponsoring the sport. The best four-of-five scores will be counted daily toward the team total. USGA rules will be followed, plus any local rules as determined as appropriate and necessary by the Rules Officials.

**Golf Carts.** Golf carts will be provided to members of the rules committee and selected tournament staff.
1. **Players.** In accordance with USGA Rules of Golf, golf carts are not permitted during competition. Coaches may transport anyone they desire, except players.

2. **Coaches.** One cart will be provided to each institution and only a member of the coaching staff may drive the cart. Coaches may transport anyone they desire, except players.

3. **Spectators.** Golf carts are not permitted by spectators. The coaches committee may make exceptions for special needs. Each coach must submit the name(s) of the spectator(s) for whom a golf cart is requested. Each request will be acted upon individually, provided carts are available for rental. The request must be accompanied by a physician’s statement of condition and/or a handicapped tag.

**Host Sports Information Contact.** The host sports information contact shall:

1. Prepare and distribute advance publicity for the Conference Championship event;
2. Provide information to local, regional and national media during the championship;
3. Supervise and coordinate media interviews and the media work area;
4. Send each day's results to all other Conference schools and the SEC office, including the SEC website;
5. At the end of the championship, mail three clean copies of the final results to the SEC office;
6. Perform any other duties pertaining to the media aspect of conducting the event; and
7. Work with the championship director as needed.

**Inclement Weather.** The championship may be shortened due to inclement weather. No provision is made for extending the Championship to a fourth day. Each day's competition will be 18 holes. If, on the first two days of the championship, a round cannot be completed, the championship committee will determine whether the round should be cancelled or resumed the next day. In this case, pairings for the next day will not be changed. All other decisions regarding the conduct of the championship and inclement weather issues will be determined by USGA rules officials in conjunction with the championship committee.

**Manual.** The Conference (or host institution if conducted on-campus) shall distribute a championship manual, outlining the policies and procedures for the championship, as well as information specific to a tournament site, to each institution no later than four weeks prior to the championship.

**Officials.** [SEC Bylaw 30.20.2.2]

**Pairings.** Pairing for the practice round will be made based on the previous year's finish. Pairing for the first round will be made based on the latest Golfstat rankings. Team ties will be broken during the championship by the fifth golfer’s score. NCAA regulations will be followed with the other tie situations.

**Personnel.**

1. Minimum of six rules officials;
2. Starter – Responsible for all tee times, rules sheets, hole-location sheets, pencils, ball markers and tees;
3. Scorer – Responsible for verifying all scorecards (may be same person as the starter);
4. Scoreboard operator – Oversees entire procedure; individual and team leader boards for all days of competition;

5. Sports information contact(s):
   A. Type, copy and distribute tee times, team results each day, individual results each day, and labels for scorecards;
   B. Story to Associated Press wire each day (optional); and
   C. Send full results and list of award recipients to all 14 schools and Conference office the day following the championship.

6. Additional personnel/runners:
   A. One person on No. 9 green throughout the event to obtain scores at the turn;
   B. One person to assist the scoreboard operator and shuttle cards from scorer’s tent to scoreboard; and
   C. One additional runner to be used as needed.

Optional Items:

1. Shuttle service for participants between holes and/or to starting tee as needed.
2. Host school incurs cost of vans for use of teams flying to site of championship.
3. Team cookout on Thursday following the practice round.
4. Sandwiches for participants at completion of each round.
5. Coaches gift (one per school).
6. Coaches hospitality room.
7. Computer program for results and tee times.
8. Walkie-talkie radios for rules personnel, starter, scoreboard operator, and head coaches.

Practice Rounds.
Each team may play one 18-hole practice round at the site of the championship on the day prior to the start of the championship. In addition, student-athletes may use the practice facility at the host course on the Wednesday prior to the championship. Only the practice facility may be used, not the course.

All other play at the site of the championship is prohibited, except as follows: (1) Student-athletes may play as a guest of a member until the first day of the fall semester preceding the championship; (2) Student-athletes who are members of the championship site course may play at any time.

Violation of this policy will result in the following penalties: (First Offense) forfeiture of practice round for that individual; (Second Offense) two-stroke penalty assessed to that individual during opening round of the championship; (Third Violation) disqualification of that individual from the championship.
**Rules Committee.** The rules committee will be composed of the host golf professional and at least two other qualified persons whose duties include ensuring that USGA rules are followed, making recommendations for a local rules sheet for all participants, and being available on the course at all times during competition for specific rulings.

**Schedule of Events.** The following schedule is recommended:

- **First day** Practice round, coaches meeting/rules session
- **Second day** First round of competition
- **Third day** Second round of competition
- **Fourth day** Final round of competition, awards ceremony

**Starting Times.** Starting times will be determined each year by the coaches committee, in consultation with the coaches and host golf professional.

**Squad Size.** [See Supplement D of the General Administration section] The SEC Championship squad size is 6.

**Tickets.** The host institution of the championship may decide whether or not to charge for ticketed admission. If an institution chooses to charge for admission, ticket prices shall be set by the host institution, but must be approved by the Conference office. In addition, if admission is charged, the host institution should make prior contact with each participating school to determine the form of payment and staffing for the player/guest gate. Institutions are not required to purchase a set amount of tickets.

**Ties.** Ties will be broken to determine first place only (team and medalist). If the championship is tied at the end of 54 holes, a sudden-victory play-off will be held, beginning at the No. 1 tee.

1. **Team Competition.** All five members of each tied team will play. If two teams are tied, the Nos. 4 and 5 golfers from each team will play in the first group, followed by the Nos. 3, 2 and 1 golfers. The best four scores from each team will be counted on each hole to determine the winner. If three or four teams are tied, the No. 5 golfers will play first, followed by the No. 4 golfers, etc.

2. **Medalist Competition.** If two or more individuals are tied for the individual championship, and one or more of the individuals is on a team tied for the team championship, the individual golfer(s) will be added to the team competition. The score of the tied team competition will concurrently count for the team and individual awards.

**Uniforms.** All team members must wear the uniform of the institution they represent. All guidelines, as outlined in NCAA Bylaw 12.5.4, regarding commercial logos on uniforms and equipment shall be followed. (See the General Administration section of Commissioner's Regulations)