

SPECTATOR BEHAVIOR

Ⓐ IHSA GOLF EVENTS

A quick primer on the do's and don'ts for spectators at high school golf events in Illinois.

It's Okay to...



- Follow players around the course
- Stay one shot ahead of players (don't stay even or behind)

Ahead...not Behind

- Ask if player needs any food/drink
- Ask if player needs umbrella or protective clothes



- Applaud good/great play
- Assist looking for a lost ball
- Offer positive encouragement



Avoid...

Giving Advice



- "...any counsel or suggestion that could influence a player in determining his play, the choice of a club, or the method of making a stroke."
- Penalty: 2 strokes for the player; possible removal from course for spectator

Unnecessary Actions/Behaviors

- Offering on-course rulings
- Interfering with the coach
- Attempting to influence event organizers



Final Thought: Learning to advocate for yourself is maybe the best skill high school golf teaches participants. Let the players learn that lesson.

The IHSA welcomes attendance at all high school events. High school programs, though, are education-based, which implies that coaches are working with young people in a setting that focuses more on participation and enjoyment than outcome. As a result, the primary focus of spectators at high school sporting events should be encouragement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO WWW.IHSA.ORG