



2023 ROMEO HS BOYS' GOLF INFORMATION

Staff: Athletic Director: Cody Smith, cody.smith@romeok12.org
Head Coach: Steve Himmelsbaugh, 248-770-8435, shimmel23@hotmail.com
Twitter: @RomeoHSGolf

Home Courses: Pine Valley (primary), Twin Lakes & Orchards (practice only)

Division: MAC RED: Romeo, Grosse Pointe South, GP North, Ford, Eisenhower. We'll have (2) matches against each team, (1) at each home course. We also compete in multiple tournaments (see schedule for current dates). Schedule is subject to change throughout the season based on weather, etc. All changes will be published with as much notice as possible.

Core Values:

Academics and Character: Expectations will be high for players, both in and out of the classroom. Players are expected to be committed to *academics* first and foremost, and to demonstrate *exceptional character* both in AND out of school. When selecting the roster, grades, citizenship, and character are weighed heavily.

Commitment: Players are expected to be at every practice, match, and meeting, and be willing to engage, learn, and improve their game. Part-time participation is not acceptable.

Responsibility: Players are expected to take ownership of their mistakes and put forth their best effort while supporting the team.

Integrity: Players are expected to uphold the rules of golf and maintain proper etiquette at all times, and to represent yourself, your team, and your school *with dignity at all times*.

Attitude: Players are expected to be in control of their emotions at all times, and stay positive and focused when faced with adversity. We win or lose TOGETHER.

Sportsmanship: Players are expected to be committed to fair play, ethical behavior, goodwill towards teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials, regardless of the situation.

Team Rules:

- 1) Maintain acceptable academic performance, social, and classroom behavior throughout the season. **Note: team GPA requirements to maintain eligibility: Minimum GPA 2.0 required. An (F), and (F) combined with a negative grade (D), or multiple negative grades can lead to a suspension of playing privileges until the grades are*

brought up. If the grades are not brought up within a 2-week time frame, or reoccur throughout the season, playing privileges may be suspended indefinitely.

- 2) Respect and maintain the golf courses, practice areas, and any facility that we use. We are GUESTS of these facilities. As such, our presence must not interfere with the normal operation of their facility, its members, or daily customers. This team wouldn't exist without their support. Players will occasionally be required to perform periodic, routine maintenance tasks before or after practice to help care for the facility. Tasks could include range pickup, filling divots on tee boxes and high traffic areas, ball mark repairing on greens, etc.. Rule of thumb: treat the facility and course like it's your own personal property. We need them more than they need us!
- 3) Dress properly for all golf-related activities: no sweat-pants or t-shirts allowed at the golf course. When at the course, wear team attire or school colors so staff can identify you as part of the team.
- 4) Attend every practice, match, meeting, and team event ON-TIME and be prepared. If you are going to miss an event, arrive late, or leave early for any reason, you MUST notify the coach IN ADVANCE. Failure to do so is considered an unexcused absence. If you accept a roster spot on the golf team, a full 100% commitment to the team and sport is expected throughout the season.
- 5) Social Media conduct: All posts must adhere to the school policy & team values. Ask yourself the following questions before posting:
 - Would I want my parents, grandparents, teachers and siblings to read this post?
 - Would I want the public or media to read this post and possibly share it with others?
 - Does it convey a positive image of Romeo HS, my teammates, and coaches?
 - To the best of my knowledge, is the information I'm posting factual?

If the answer is 'no' to any of these questions, **DON'T post it.** You're not only making yourself look bad, you could be hurting someone else, damaging the reputation of your community, and jeopardizing future opportunities for yourself.

- 6) **Cheating or allegations of cheating will NOT be tolerated.** It hurts the team, our sport, and the individual player. Adhere to the Rules of Golf at all times. When in doubt, consult a coach or official. Ignorance is NOT an excuse for cheating.
- 7) Maintain proper pace of play on the golf course. Golf courses sacrifice paid tee time to let us play. We must play at the proper

pace to return the favor. Rule of thumb is get to your ball fast so you can take your time playing the shot.

- 8) To help adhere to Rule #7, no cell phone or air pod use on the course or range, unless it's an emergency, used for scoring, or you have permission from a coach.
- 9) No smoking, vaping, drinking, etc. at any time on or around the golf courses or practice area. Zero tolerance if this rule is broken.
- 10) The TEAM comes first; although the game is played as an individual, you are part of a team, and your actions and behavior must support the team accordingly. Club-throwing, bag-slaming, foul language, confrontations, or any other emotional outbursts will not be tolerated.

Open communication with the Coach is a MUST. I'm available 24/7 – if we work and communicate together, we'll be successful.

Breach of team rules, core values, or unexcused absences:

1st occurrence = verbal warning, missed match or tournament.

2nd occurrence = review with player and parents, written warning, possible suspension or dismissal from the team.

Multiple occurrences = review with player, parents, and AD, minimum of suspension or full dismissal from the team.

EXCEPTIONS: any damage to the golf courses or facilities caused by a player will result in immediate dismissal from the team. Other serious circumstances, such as cheating, using foul language, vaping, arguing, fighting, etc. will be reviewed and may also lead to immediate dismissal, per the discretion of the Head Coach and/or Athletic Director.

Try-outs: (DATES, LOCATION, AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

March 13~16: Topgolf Auburn Hills, Level 1, 4~6pm approximately. March 17: TBD

- Space at Topgolf and other ranges is in high demand. As a result, we are restricted on the amount of space available for tryouts. An on-line registration procedure via signup.com will be used. Returning players and upper-classmen will get top priority; the remaining spaces will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- **Tryouts will be open to players ONLY please.*
- Tryout signup link: <https://signup.com/go/rOmMiug>
- (Players will need to sign up for each day of the tryout) Weather-permitting, we may move tryouts to the golf course as the week progresses.
- Depending on how many students tryout, cuts will likely have to be made. Space constraints at the golf courses we play limit the size of the roster. In most seasons, 14 players make the team; 6 varsity, 6 junior varsity, and 2 for our "futures team". Although I reserve the right to make roster decisions at any time, the 3rd or 4th tryout days will be used to make final determinations. I'll meet with each player 1-on-1 to let you know if you have made the team.

- Team makeup: typically consists of 12-15 players; six 'Varsity', six 'Junior Varsity', and 2-3 players for the 'Futures Squad'.

Note: Roster size is subject to change at anytime from season to season.

Tryout fees: \$25 per player, due the first day of tryouts. The fee will be used to cover costs such as facility rental, range balls, etc. that will be necessary due to the time of year and weather.

Player Profile Questionnaire:

To help me get to know the new players prior to tryouts, you'll be required to complete a brief questionnaire. This must be completed and returned to me via email at shimmel23@hotmail.com **BEFORE** the start of tryouts.

Pre-season Conditioning: We'll be hosting open conditioning and skill sessions in the weight room at school ahead of tryouts. Although golf is a very skill-oriented sport, it is also important to improve your strength, flexibility, and endurance, as many of our events will be held in less-than ideal conditions. While all preseason sessions are voluntary, they are highly encouraged. If you are currently playing a winter sport or taking a weight training class, it is not recommended that you attend. Sessions will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:30~7:30pm, and Saturdays from 10-11am. Participation does not guarantee a place on the final roster. Contact me after the meeting for questions.

Team Kickoff Meeting:

Date & time TBD after tryouts. We will meet at golf course to introduce the team to the GM, discuss the rules of the facility, practice schedule, etc.

Practice:

Practice will be dependent on the weather during the beginning of the season and therefore the plan will be identified after tryouts. Depending on the weather, we may have to practice at area driving ranges, indoors, or at the school.

Practices will be run from 5 or 5:30 PM until approximately 7:30 - 8pm to start the season. The duration will extend as the weather breaks and we get more daylight to allow the players to practice on the course towards the end.

Match / Tournament Format:

(2) groups can compete at most matches; a 'Varsity' group consisting of the top (6) players, and a JV group consisting of the next (6) players. The rosters on each of these squads may change depending on scoring averages. The lowest (4) individual scores are added up to calculate our team score. Some tournaments also allow a Varsity and JV squad. More details will be shared with the players.

Apparel:

Team uniforms will consist of polos, hats, and sweaters. Style & color be determined at a later date. They cannot be reused by the school like football uniforms, therefore

they must be purchased. We have suppliers that offer us generous discounts. There will also be pullovers, hats, rain suits, and other items available to be purchased.

Equipment needed:

Golfers will provide their own clubs, tees, balls, ball marker, and repair tool. Players will be required to have proper golf attire for all practices, matches, and tournaments, including: collared shirts, proper pants / shorts, golf shoes with soft spikes only. No jeans, T-shirts, sweatpants, or cutoffs, or metal-spiked shoes allowed. I HIGHLY recommend WATERPROOF shoes, and both a LH and RH glove for early season activity when the weather will be cold and wet. Please consider purchasing gloves made for rain and/or cold weather, available at most golf retailers.

Equipment provided:

Each player will be loaned a Romeo Golf bag. We have some laser-range finders and rain suits to also loan out during the golf season. Depending on quantities, those will be distributed prior to matches and tournaments to the highest-ranking golfers or upper classmen that do not already own a range finder.

Transportation: The team is responsible for their own transportation to and from practices, matches, and tournaments. We usually meet at a pre-determined location and take two or three vehicles.

Spectators at Matches and Tournaments:

Parents, grandparents, etc. are welcomed and encouraged to come to matches and tournaments while following whatever rules safety protocols exist at the host facility. The team appreciates all of the support we can get! As with most HS sporting events, spectators are prohibited from communicating with athletes during competition. The general rule for golf is that spectators have to stay at least 20 feet away from the players. Spectators are required to walk the golf course, as carts congest the course and slow down play. If special circumstances exist that may warrant the use of a cart, please contact the golf course directly to discuss. The coaching staff does not dictate the policy, nor is it involved in the request process.

**Tryouts and Practices will be open to players ONLY please.*

Other Reminders: Emergency Contact Cards, Player Physicals, must be submitted prior to the start of season. Pay-to-Play fees will be due at the completion of tryouts.

Fundraising / Volunteering: We will be holding fundraisers and offering volunteer opportunities throughout the season and in the off-season. All team members will be expected to support and participate in these events. Additional details will be shared as they are determined.

Miscellaneous Topics:

Qualifying for competitions, Spring Break, Snack Schedule, Picture Day 4/17/23, Details about Fund-raising, Outside Competition.