High School Postseason Committee Notes

**Present:** Michael Camacho (Chair), Karen Henderson, Chris Adams, Pat Heitz, Ed Morgan, Kellie Lee, Brad Harris, Chris Redle

The following notes are meant to provide a summary of the Committee meeting. Discussion took place within items addressed in the meeting, but these notes are designed as a basic review of the discussions.

**Survey Results:** Results from a survey completed by high school coaches and Athletic Directors were presented to all Committee members prior to the meeting. Over 600 individuals received the survey, and over 200 responses were received. A little more than one-third of the responses were from schools that have not made it to the State Championship the past three seasons. The responses were also divided based on the number of Invitationals the school plays between less than 2, 3-5, 6-9, and 10+ with no category fitting more than 32% of the total responses. The Committee listed the following overall messages gathered through survey results:

* Improve level of play at State Championship
* Satisfaction with organization at State Championship
* Efforts needed to grow the game in all parts of the state
* Concern of elimination of quality players with limited opportunity for individual advancement
* Develop scoring standard for teams and individuals advancing to the State Championship
* 1-Day vs. 2-Day at Regional Championship
* Cost to participate limits opportunities/access for some teams/schools & socio-economic concerns
* Develop additional tier to qualifying process (District or Sectional)
* Public school vs. Private school disparity
* Golf cart usage at the State Championship

Noted later during the discussions that something missing from the survey responses was any comments about 7th Grade limit rule, but still became a topic Committee discussion considered.

**What Needs Addressed:** The Committee developed a list of items that need to be addressed with discussions on timelines to develop solutions to the issues. The issues come from a combination of issues brought up with the survey results and experience from Committee members. The issues that need to be addressed include:

* Number and quality of teams advancing and process to determine State Championship teams
* Number and qualify of individuals advancing and process to determine State Championship individuals
* Pairing formula used at State Championship
  + Balancing pairings with individual scores
  + Structure for teams and pairings of players as it relates to team structure used
* Coaches using carts at State Championship with focus on coaches with multiple players participating
* Safety with on course refreshment for players with water/product on the course
* Number of teams & individuals advancing at State Championship cut
* Practice round procedure for tee times
* Publishing additional times for rules meetings in advance of practice rounds

**2018 Changes:** After reviewing items to be addressed, the following items were listed as potential changes that could be in place by the 2018 State Championship:

* KGA-PGA utilize professional experience to determine pairings formula and placement at State Championship
* Scoring system including on course updates managed by KGA-PGA Staff
* Hosting of State Championship events through KGA-PGA tournament management programs
* Establish practice round times using a formula TBD
* Publish times for multiple Rules Meetings on practice round days
* Allow coaches with multiple players in State Championship to rent carts at BGCC fee while eliminating spectator carts completely

**2019 & Beyond Changes:** Other changes suggested by the Committee after reviewing survey responses will take to implement in 2019 or beyond. Discussed items for future consideration includes:

* Evaluation of current Regional structure with revisions to balance strength of fields, number of teams competing, and improving Regional representation
* Expanding age limit younger that 7th Grade with scoring expectations for qualified individuals (through Tour level participation)
* Develop additional tier to Postseason process
  + District to Regional
  + Regional to Sectional/Semi-State
  + District to Super Regional
* Number of teams vs. number of individuals participating at State Championship
  + Best teams to State Championship
  + Best individuals to State Championship
  + Combination of best teams and individuals at State Championship

More detailed discussion of options pertaining to changes took place in the Committee meeting. Sensing that the discussion could move to less productive results after more than 3 hours discussing options, Ed Morgan and Chris Adams were appointed to a sub-Committee with the assistance of Kellie Lee to set up google docs. After reviewing several options, the Committee will further investigate two primary postseason alternatives:

1. Utilize current Regional structure to advance Regional Champion to the State Championship with 2nd-4th Place teams at Regional level advancing to one of two Semi-State Championships to determine additional teams advancing to State. Sub-Committee will look closer at options to determine individuals advancing to State Championship as well.
2. Develop plan to develop 12 Regions for girls and boys with 4 teams and 8 individuals from each Regional Championship advancing to one of four Super Regionals. Teams and Individuals would advance out of Super Regionals with potentially 4-5 teams and 12-16 individuals from each of the four Super Regionals advancing to the State Championship.

Consideration can be given for the cut at the State Championship that would narrow the field to teams more competitive for the trophy spots at the State Championship while allowing for more quality individuals to advance to the second day at the State Championship. The alternative plans for the post-season will be presented to the KGCA President to be used as part of a presentation in conjunction with KGA-PGA to improve the overall postseason process.