

Senator asks NCHSAA to disregard USGA rule about disqualified golfer who reported incorrect score

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— A state senator is asking the N.C. High School Athletic Association to disregard a rule from the United States Golf Association after a player at Midway High School reported an inaccurate score at the regional championships this week.

According to a Facebook post by the Midway golf coach, Adam Capps, the player reported a score of 75 in the regional championship, but his

actual score was a 76. The scorecard was signed by two players and the score was posted.

USGA rules say that any score returned lower than the actual score results in a player being disqualified. In addition, the rules say it is the player's responsibility to "carefully check the hole scores entered by the marker."

According to the USGA, "neither a player nor the committee has authority to apply penalties in a different way."

As a result of the incorrect score report, the player was declared ineligible for next week's state championship, according to Capps' Facebook post. The player's ineligibility led to the team not qualifying for the state championship because it takes three players from a single school to qualify as a team. However, the other two players did qualify as individual golfers for the state championship.

However, Sen. Brent Jackson (R-Sampson) [released a statement asking the NCHSAA to disregard the rule](#) and allow the disqualified player to compete.

"High School athletics should be an opportunity to let students compete in a fair environment and learn important values for life. Among them are the importance of honesty and integrity. This decision punishes a student for correcting a mistake and choosing to be honest," Jackson said in a statement. "The NCHSAA is funded by taxpaying parents and schools and has an obligation to provide support and guidance to players. There is clearly a problem if the Association is more concerned with throwing the rulebook at student-athletes for being honest rather than enriching the experience of students and

upholding their mission statement."

Jackson said he has been in contact with Midway High School, the Carolinas Golf Association, and the NCHSAA about the issue.

"I would encourage all the relevant parties to continue working towards a fair resolution. Students deserve an athletics association that supports their hard work, determination, and dedication to honesty," the senator said.

The NCHSAA golf state championships are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday in a two-day tournament.

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