

PROPOSAL FOR KHSAA - GOLF CART USAGE FOR COACHES DURING STATE-FIRST ROUND AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

April 18, 2025

The high school golf coaches of Kentucky are requesting from the KHSAA the ability to use a golf cart for coaching and safety purposes at the State First Round and State Championship sites beginning this September 2025.

These carts would be for coaches who have “full teams” participating in the event and the individual schools will pay the regular “spectator cart” rate set by the host course on the day of the event.

High School golf coaches in Kentucky are allowed to coach with golf carts at every regular season tournament and at every regional tournament – so it makes sense to extend this policy to the rest of the post season.

The main reason for this policy change request is **PLAYER SAFETY**. When five players are spread out on 100 to 300 acres of land, the ability for a coach to get to an individual player who may be under duress (dehydration, heat illness, adverse weather) is extremely compromised. Player injuries are also a potential concern – getting hit by a ball or club – and having more golf carts being operated by coaches can greatly increase the efficiency of getting players to the clubhouse for proper attention. Also, many coaches are now required by their schools to have an AED apparatus for potential heart situations and having a golf cart to transport this during the event is a best case scenario.

One of the main pushbacks the coaches have heard against having “coaching carts” is the ability for the host course to honor ADA cart requests from spectators. The three First Round sites and State site have ample cart fleet size to easily handle these ADA requests after coaches, rules officials, KHSAA and KYPGA officials have been allotted carts. Cart allotment details are on the next page.

The high school coaches for the boys and girls across the state are fairly unanimous that allowing coaching carts at the First Round and at State is a wise upgrade to the current policy. We have documented that Tennessee, Indiana, and Ohio allow coaches carts at their State Championships and now is the time for Kentucky to make their post season a better experience for all involved.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope you approve this golf cart policy change.

Signed by the following coaches:

Mike Finney – Saint Xavier HS Boys Head Golf Coach
Bert Richey – Highlands HS Boys Head Golf Coach
Mark McKelvey – Ryle HS Boys Head Golf Coach
Chris Meredith – Oldham County Boys Head Golf Coach
Eric Geldhof – Lexington Christian Academy Boys Head Golf Coach
Pat Heitz – Trinity HS Boys Head Golf Coach
Rhett Robinson – Frederick Douglass HS Boys Head Golf Coach
Casey Young – Taylor County HS Boys Head Golf Coach
Adam Whitt – Bowling Green HS Boys Head Golf Coach
Kyle Congleton – Madison Central HS Boys Head Golf Coach
Mackenzie Moir – Sacred Heart HS Girls Head Golf Coach
Steve Frank – Assumption HS Girls Head Golf Coach
Tennye Ohr – Madison Central Girls Head Golf Coach

CART FLEET DETAILS AT 2025 POST SEASON HOST SITES

FIRST ROUND STATE

Drake Creek Golf Club

- **Cart Fleet – 54**
- **Rules Official Carts - 4**
- **KHSAA Officials - 2**
- **KYPGA Officials - 2**
- **Coaches - 8**
- **Remaining carts to rent to ADA spectators and others – 38**

Pendleton Hills Country Club

- **Cart Fleet – 74**
- **Rules Official Carts - 4**
- **KHSAA Officials - 2**
- **KYPGA Officials - 2**
- **Coaches - 8**
- **Remaining carts to rent to ADA spectators and others – 58**

Winchester Country Club

- **Cart Fleet – 65**
- **Rules Official Carts - 4**
- **KHSAA Officials - 2**
- **KYPGA Officials - 2**
- **Coaches - 8**
- **Remaining carts to rent to ADA spectators and others – 49**

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Bowling Green Country Club

- **Cart Fleet – 60**
- **Rules Official Carts - 10**
- **KHSAA Officials - 2**
- **KYPGA Officials - 2**
- **Coaches - 9**
- **Remaining carts to rent to ADA spectators and others – 37**