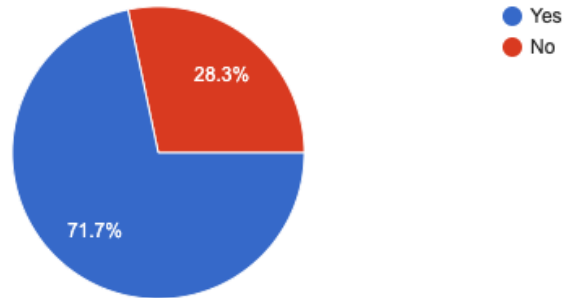


2019 GOLF SURVEY RESULTS

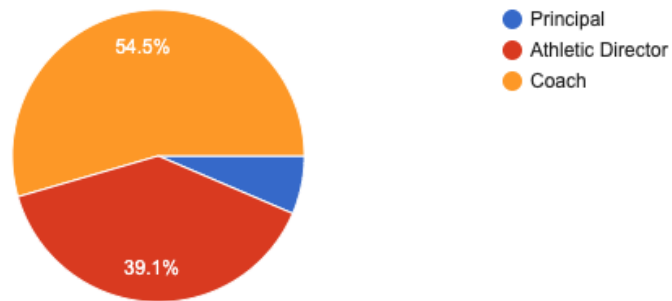
Are you in favor of moving boys' golf to the fall season?

233 responses



Position

233 responses



COMMENTS:

Long overdue

Currently, EWHS does not have a golf program, however I feel if Golf is moved to the fall season; we will be able to form a team and have enough members to compete in our conference.

No brainer - course availability, would increase participation numbers

This would conflict with students who love playing sports in the Fall and the spring now, they would have to choose just one sport for the fall. This would also affect coaching positions

The conditions we have played and practiced in are not what I would call ideal and here it is May and the weather still is not good. It's been like this for at least 5 years now. April is the modern day March. The courses in the fall are ideal and the kids have hopefully been playing during the summer. This seems like the a perfect combination. It's been a long time coming.

We would have issues transporting golf in the fall. We also would have issues with our course and the schedule.

100% yes. Weather, Course Availability, increased participation

The courses will be in better shape in September and October, and many of the players will be coming off of a season of playing golf, either on their own or in tournaments, so the golf should be better. The only downside I see is that many private clubs will have their end of the season championships set over the Labor Day weekend. We would not be able to start any matches and our practices would most likely be limited until after Labor Day. My concern is course availability. We play at a public course. In the spring the courses do not host a lot of outside tournaments. That is not the case in the fall. Also, our season starts and ends before there is a high level of public play and leagues.

It may create an issue with our course

Let it be..

Changing high school golf to a fall sport is long overdue please strongly consider it

The move will likely disproportionally affect small schools, where students will likely have to give up a sport to play golf. A better plan is to allow a 4-year window, so an incoming freshman will know what sports they will play during their years in high school.

Strongly in favor!!

Please I hope this happens! Move to the fall makes so much sense. For these reasons and more...

Kids come off summer of playing and are in golf shape;

No doubt weather is much better (way more 70+ degree days in Aug/Sept/Oct and way less rain);

There is no delay to season because of March snow;

Courses are in much better shape;

Less golfers on courses in fall, especially during the week as most golfers are golfed out;

I have players that play multiple sports which will take them away from playing golf if it is moved to the fall. I also coach multiple sports and will be in the same situation.

I take my team to Myrtle beach each year during April break, obviously that would not be an option if golf moves to fall. Also, I want to be playing our championships in good weather (June) not in late October. While the weather in the spring is poor at the start of the season, it is good by then end of the year. Don't forget the Halloween snow storm about 5 years ago and the fact that leaves are falling from trees during the time that championships would be happening. I also coach a fall sport so I would have to give up 1 of the sports. Better conditions and access, and golfers are playing at their peak coming off the summer. Also we have an imbalance in Girls vs. Boys Sports in the Fall

I think a move to fall golf makes perfect sense.

Balances out the boys sports overall (right now it's 3 fall and 6 spring by moving to fall it becomes 4 fall and 5 spring);

In that regard I believe golf would likely gain more baseball/lacrosse kids who might be golfers than lose football/soccer kids who play golf in spring);

A 7-week season done by Oct 25 or so like XC is still fine weather wise (mid-October weather is better than first 5-6 weeks of spring season);

Our course can not guarantee that we will be able to use their facility

We have both a Boys and Girls team and this would alleviate the pressure from our host course regarding tee times and match date conflicts amongst the two teams.

I pay one coach, who coaches both the boys and girls. If both were moving officially to the Fall, I maybe more likely to consider it. But the split concept for the Girls options, makes a mockery of girls golf.

I believe it would be a very positive move for B golf to move to the Fall.

I would suggest we make another attempt at determining whether golf courses would accommodate teams playing at their courses beginning in mid/late August, rather than 'in the Fall'. This might change some courses perspective on the issue.

The sooner the better!

Long over due thanks

If this Spring is not enough evidence of WHY the sport should be moved to the Fall, I am not sure this will ever move forward. The courses are wet, multiple matches have had to be postponed and any school with a Boys & Girls program is at a disadvantage with scheduling dates.

Currently our golf coach also coaches freshman girls' volleyball, I would lose him in that position. I would like to see the rationale for this switch. Comments have been made that it will provide better weather and course conditions, athletes coming in to the season after finishing playing all summer so possibly better performances. While these reasons may be valid I have only one question, if it will be a positive improvement for boys then why would it not be positive for the girls and move them also? I think it would be helpful if in addition to the 2015 survey results and the explanation above the golf committee provide member schools the reason they feel moving the season is needed.

Traditionally spring sport... Keep it that way.

I always have a strong contingent of soccer players who play golf. I would lose some of the best players on my team. I also find it beneficial that the culminating competitions in the Spring happen during the nicer weather.

I've been in favor of moving to Fall golf since I became a coach 4 years ago. I hope to one day see it. The courses are in better shape, easier to get on, the kids have been playing all summer so they head into the season in top form and many other reasons.

Our golf team would cease to exist; 8 of 10 golfers play a fall sport. We don't have a girls golf team and moving the sport to the fall would seem to be deprive our girls from of playing on our school's golf team.

Would not have a golf team since most golfers play a fall sport.

Better weather.. Less issues with host clubs regarding maintenance etc.....

while i am in favor of moving to the fall, i'm not sure our home course would be in favor of the move

We are fully in favor of this move as is the course we use for boys and girls golf.

home course not available, coach coaches another sport in the fall
my team is usually heavily based on soccer players that I would lose.

I coach football in the fall so I cannot do both. It does not matter and should not matter. The boys will benefit by going in the Fall. They can play all summer and the conditions will be better. some indifference on my part more than a strong yes. I see benefits to both

More student-athletes available

Players would be better prepared for the season as they would have played golf all summer.

Kids will be better prepared for the season since they've played all summer, courses will be in top condition, and you'll have an influx of golfers (gain of tennis, baseball, lax will more than offset loss of football and soccer). no brainer

A move like this sets a disruptive pattern into action where coaches have to choose between sports when they coach both a fall and spring sport. Additionally, A move like this creates a hiring issue for many districts as several coaches may be displaced on both the golf end as well as the fall sports end. Athletes may also be forced to choose as these sports seasons have been in place for several years. Imagine a middle schooler who plans to play soccer and golf and now must choose one. I hope the committee will take these comments into consideration. Course not available in Fall, most of my golfers play a fall sport, I coach a fall sport

I think adding another sport in the fall would be good for many athletes. I know many tennis and baseball players would like to play golf.

I would like to see consideration made to start asap similar to football. The only downside would be if the championship were played in bad weather if it was late in the season.

Beyond the weather plus to moving to fall - this would also make bus scheduling easier by taking a sport in the crowded spring and moving it to the less crowded fall bus schedule

I used to not be in favor of this but now I am. I hope this passes. The last couple of years we have lost several weeks to bad weather and poor course conditions due to the Spring. This would help alleviate some of those issues from Enfield's standpoint.

Balance the Varsity Teams (equal teams in each season. Allow boys from lacrosse and baseball to participate. best serves the students who play golf in Connecticut high schools. Overwhelmingly does so. What other comment can better describe the move?

weather is nicer, less leagues,

It appears to be against the CIAC philosophy to move a male sport and not it's female counterpart.

Our course would not be available.

Our small school we would lose most if not all of our Golfers and current coach.

Like many changes this appears to be driven by larger more well off school.

It has been getting harder and harder to get times on our home course, we currently have to share with Girls and a private school. Country Club has been very negative about have the team at the course. Limiting use of club. Fall golf will take pressure off the use of the course.

Pros: Kids are in better form; courses are in better shape; better weather, competition against afternoon leagues would essentially be removed; golf already competes with other sports -- it would just compete with different sports (lose soccer players but gain baseball player). I suggest we start at the same time as football and begin matches immediately in the school year.

This change would be very beneficial for both boys and girls golf.

Following concerns: golf courses approving the changes due to late Summer and early Fall being a time where courses are used for outings and leagues. Also in the Spring you have one coach for both the boys and girls golf team. By separating the two the cost will increase for schools because you will need to pay a coach for both seasons now.

Kids are in mid-season form, courses are in better shape, weather is more favorable to start playing at the beginning of season. Took almost 5 weeks to get on our course this year

Course availability is a case by case scenario. It may hurt some, and help others. Our home course is very busy and has a very large men's league. We have been able to make it work quite easily.

The argument that players will have summer to prep for the season is not selling me. Yes some will play in the Summer, but many will not. Obviously those that do play will be paying to play, the school will most certainly not be paying for student athletes to use the course until the official start date.

Weather..... obviously snow can impact us in the early stages. We are fortunate and have a course that is open all year and has allowed us out on the course since the start of this season. Again, this is a case by case scenario. If the course is open, teams should be out playing / practicing. There will likely be colder temps and rainy days towards the end of the fall season as well.

While moving golf to the fall may increase the quality of golf and the experience for high school golfers getting more kids involved, it will likely not happen overnight. If a large part of our goal is to grow the game of golf, we have to accept that during the first year of a change we may see a brief decline in numbers. What will happen to programs in smaller schools that experience this? Programs could be forced to miss a season etc. I do not know if all programs will survive a setback like that, even if only temporary.

I do not care either way

Thank you for considering this move, which I believe will benefit our students!

We would lose several athletes to other sports in the fall and would not gain any additional athletes that are not currently playing fall sport.

Can hurt small schools with numbers, soccer and football field a lot of students. In addition to this our course availability is much easier in the fall and our course/head pro prefers for us to play in the fall. What would happen if there was a fall snow storm? A lot more variables in the fall.

I sent an extensive email to Joe Velardi. It will KILL small school golf. Playing the most important golf in the worst weather is illogical. It is very likely that 16 play dates would not happen in the condensed time frame. No data was provided to PROVE that involved golf courses actually prefer fall golf. The academic disruption caused by early dismissals is more damaging in the beginning of the school year. Further- Connecticut's state tournament scores are commensurate to the scores of other New England states so the notion of improved performance is pure fiction. The NCCC and Shoreline are collectively VERY much against moving golf to the fall. LAST- It is irresponsible, thoughtless and typical of the CIAC to make such a decision without surveying a cross section of high school athletes (both fall and spring)

Changing high school golf to a fall sport is long overdue please strongly consider it
Although I feel for the smaller schools who may be faced to eliminate golf as their players play soccer, cross-country, etc

This makes sense and is something we have been pushing for for years
The move to the fall is completely about balancing the sports offered and maximizing opportunities for both boys and girls. It's not about the weather. The spring has the most boys sports while the fall has the fewest. Boys golf would fit better in the fall by conflicting less with other sports. The opposite is true for the girls. In the fall there are the most girls sports. Girls golf should stay in the spring.

The other major benefit is that the boys and girls would not be competing for the same facility. Golf is like volleyball and swimming. Both of those sports are in different seasons for girls and boys so that both teams don't have to share a gym or an off-site facility. The same should be true for golf.

Jay Pelchar
Lewis Mills Golf

There are numerous pros to this move.

I believe this move is well overdue and a positive move for our student athletes. I have spoken with the Golf Professional at The Windham Club, our home Course, and he is hoping this initiative become a reality as it is much better for the Course.

Players would have the opportunity to play all summer and be ready for the season. The weather would be better at the beginning. The only issue could be cooler weather for the state tournament. The courses would be in better shape to handle that kind of weather at that time. I am very much in favor of changing it to the fall.

My course only wants us in the spring. Also, I would rather play conference and state tournament when it gets warmer

The weather will be so much better in the fall. This spring has been one of the wettest and coldest we've had in a very long time. Also, the golfers will have played all summer and be at the top of their game.

There is no doubt that moving it to the fall would be in the best interest of the athletes which should obviously be our primary focus and concern.

I coach football, so I would have to resign only reason why I selected no

Based on course availability and fall is not readily available for us

Student athletes deserve to play their season when conditions are the best. Currently, our student athletes play at least 1/2 of their golf season in very poor weather. Tryouts should begin before school starts in the fall. Currently, tryouts are not extensive or balanced due to weather. I feel it is worth a try. Thank you for being open minded.

The course we use allows us to play free of charge; I fear if we moved to the Fall we would have too many scheduling conflicts. If I had to move to a course that charged us, my school would cut Golf without hesitation.

To Whom It May Concern,

I feel strongly that for many reasons, golf should remain in the spring. Below I have developed a list of arguments and counterarguments to this potential decision. I would like to note that my hope is that regardless of the decision the CIAC golf committee does make, it is in the best interest of all kids and golf in the state of Connecticut. Additionally, I would hope that the committee looks at this decision from multiple lenses to make the best possible decision. Finally, I would hope that the committee would do their research and collect any necessary data to make the most informed decision possible. Below I highlighted a few reasons for keeping golf season during the spring.

Moving golf to the fall would have a major impact on small school golf programs: Like many small school programs, I rely heavily on fall athletes who play sports such as soccer. Our team, similar to many other small schools, will likely lose large portions of our participants to the sports they are currently playing during the fall. I would nearly lose a third of my team, many of which would be difficult to replace in the fall. I feel that many other small schools may lose their programs entirely. I have heard the argument that we would now have access to baseball players who might choose to golf, however, I would argue that any baseball player switching to golf, and any golfer switching to baseball would have many issues with adjusting one swing from another. A golf swing and baseball swing are significantly different and would have a negative impact on one another. Additionally, moving golf from the spring to the fall would bring a small school such as Portland down to two spring sports for boys (baseball and track), so I am hoping we don't lose sight of the small schools in this decision and how this might impact us.

Conditions: Both the spring and the fall have had poor conditions as of late, however, I think it in the best interest of high school golf in Connecticut, would be to have the conditions improve throughout the season rather than to deteriorate. In the fall, courses progressively get worse, and a major concern I would have, would be falling leaves in the fall. Incorporating some type of "leaf rule" could have a major impact on matches and tournaments in the later part of the fall. Additionally, although conditions for the past two Division IV state championships has not been ideal, I worry about weather problems we might run into late in the fall. Cold weather and snow could both impact our state championships, a time where currently we have the "best" weather. This past fall, for example, our school's grass soccer field was closed during late October/early November because of poor conditions.

Thankfully, sports like soccer and football can be played on turf fields, however, golf does not have this luxury. I hope that the committee would closely examine any necessary weather data to ensure that our most important matches and tournaments are being played during the best weather.

Course opinions: I think courses sound mixed in their opinions. Portland Golf Club would prefer to keep golf in the spring. The first part of April, most courses are dead with little play to compete with. Most public course leagues start later in April, providing us flexibility to complete our tryouts during the first few weeks. Furthermore, many courses, such as ours will aerate the courses in both the spring and the fall, not providing an advantage or disadvantage in either season. I know it would be more difficult for us to get playing opportunities in the fall with leagues and a significantly higher amount of play, in particular during the opening weeks of our season.

Academics: Since golf is played off-site, we need to schedule our matches around their schedule. In many instances, because of leagues (which once again will be in full swing during the early fall), teams need to tee off earlier. This impacts students who need to get early dismissals to travel to various courses in order to make their allotted tee times. This will impact students regardless of playing in the spring or fall, however, I would argue that pulling kids out of class the first weeks of school for golf matches might be more impactful than doing so during April and May when their academic foundation has already been established. Looking through from an educational standpoint, keeping golf in the spring is best for academics and student achievement.

Quality of Play: I have heard the argument that at the end of the summer, quality of play will be improved. While I do somewhat agree with this statement, I do not see a major improvement in performance by making this move. Looking at current scores across all divisions, many individual golfers and teams seem to shoot some very good scores during all parts of the season. Additionally, with many indoor facilities opening across the state, players that want to play and swing during the off season will have access to do so IF they choose. I hope the committee would examine data comparing scores to nearby states that compete in the fall. For example, last year, Connecticut's Division 1 champion shot a 293, Division 2 shot a 293, Division 3 shot a 308, and Division 4 shot a 325. Comparatively speaking, if you look at Massachusetts state championship scores, held in the fall, they include a 304 in Division 1, 312 in Division 2, and a 300 in Division 3. Based on these results, it does not seem that the quality of play has improved at that point in the year, on the contrary, play may have deteriorated. If this is indeed the argument, should we also look to switch baseball to the fall? Similar to golf, players start off rusty in the pre-season and are probably playing their best baseball toward the later half of the summer. If we use this rational, we might eliminate spring sports entirely.

College Golf: Although college golf plays during both the spring and fall, their primary season is during the springtime. I would suggest staying consistent with division 1 college golf programs.

Quality Coaches: Many athletic directors would agree that it has been much more difficult to find quality of coaches as of late. Although not a primary reason for not making the switch to the fall, a secondary consideration needs to be for losing coaches who have dedicated their time to more than one sport. Many coaches spend years developing programs, building relationships with their players, developing practice plans, etc. I do believe there are a significant number of coaches that will be lost in making this move, who, similar to the student athletes will be forced to make a difficult decision.

Thank you again for taking the time to hear my views. I understand that the CIAC golf committee has a difficult decision to make and wish them the best in doing so.

Weather issues can affect the end of the season and league/state championship play. Putting golf in competition with other fall sports such as Football and Soccer will lead to lower golf numbers and a drop in the quality of competition. What would be done about the schools whose golf courses cannot accommodate fall golf? Players have been playing consistently over the summer, the courses are in better condition and are usually not as busy, and the weather is not as unfavorable.

Major reason is there is much better weather in late May early June for the major events such as conference and state tournaments, as opposed to the chance of poor weather in late October. Home golf course prefers boys golf to remain in the spring as would be many more course conflicts in the fall.

Asking boys who currently play a sport in the fall, and who also play golf in the spring, to make the decision to stop playing their current fall sport in order to participate in golf would be detrimental to small schools golf programs. This detriment could be something that causes small schools to lose their golf program.

Would the student athletes be required to have the same 10 practices in before the start of the season or would this be modified?

We have consistently been unable to access our home course until after April vacation.

This year we actually moved the girls to a different course, which is the next best thing to moving boys to the fall, it paid huge dividends so much more practice time, we are strongly in favor of this proposal
Colder weather, shorter season, conflict with other sports, days shorter leaving school before end of the day will be more common.

Course I use is not in favor of the move and I will lose playing there

Weather, course conditions and athletes ready to play are all reasons that warrant the change.

Boys golf might be in jeopardy @ St. Paul for a variety of reason if it was moved to the fall.

We typically get a lot of multi-sport athletes competing on the golf team, and most have made a choice as to the sports they will play in high school prior to high school. I dont foresee getting many more players from sports like baseball or lacrosse if we moved to the fall. I would loose players that are soccer and football players though.

Another comment made was that if we moved golf to the fall, the kids would be coming into their season in golf shape. That is true for teams and programs where the majority of their kids have a membership to a country club of some sort. Most of my teams have been made up of kids that spend their summer working a job, doing community service/resume building activities, or generally relaxing with family or friends. I dont anticipate them working on their game all summer in an effort to play their better during the season. The kids that do play, often play with their friends in scenarios that are not competitive and would not do much to help improve their ability.

Lastly, without starting our season earlier than the 27th we would possibly run into weather issues at the conclusion of the season. We would be playing championship golf during the coldest/wettest part of the season. We would run into issues with sun light due to daylight savings. Pace of play could be slower as kids are looking for balls just off the fairway but under piles of leaves. Have we heard definitive answers from the courses that host our teams? Have the courses agreed to anything beyond the first year? Would they be willing to have the end of their season/tournament time be adjusted to host high school golf? How many teams would need to relocate and find a new course if clubs are unwilling to make the change? What happens if the club changes their mind about hosting us? While I understand that a club can change their mind at any time about being our host, I am relying on many many years of past history to assume that they will not say the we cant play at ***** Country Club next spring. I dont have that same historical info about playing in the fall, and that unknown is unsettling.

Less course availability in the fall as compared to the spring. Golfers that play a fall sport have to make a choice between golf and a fall sport.

I believe that the fall is more conducive to better scores, though it may mean less access to the courses on which we play.

With a two year trial period.

The weather is better in fall and boys have been playing all summer. It's impossible to practice in preseason when course don't open early enough also we had 8 inches of rain in April making matches difficult to play. Our course wants us to move it because leagues will be done and not breathing down our neck every match

My players also play other sports. Recruiting minority players would be difficult if golf were in the fall.

I am in favor of fall golf because golf courses are already open and we are not waiting for the snow to melt at the beginning of the year. I would like to see a schedule of when the season begins and when the State Tournament is. Golf does not need 10 practice days before the first match. Most of the students that play golf are probably playing all summer and are ready to go on your first day of tryouts. You will also split up the boys and girls teams, so courses might be have more room.

pending home course approval

New Milford and the South West Conference are unanimously in support of this move.

I am unequivocally in favor of moving Boys Golf to the Fall. The reasons for doing so far outweigh the reasons against it. Golf courses are in much better condition in the Fall and receive far less league play, which means less competition for high school use of the facilities. Because of this, most golf courses and golf professionals are in favor of the move. Most importantly, it would benefit our players to be competing when they are at the top of their games. It gives our players the chance to showcase their skills and talent when their games are in their best shape after a summer of practice and competition.

While I understand the argument that there is a risk of colder weather for the league and state tournaments in October, most golfers would far prefer to play one or two events in chillier weather on well-conditioned golf courses than to play the first couple of months of the season in cooler and wetter conditions on courses that are still mending from the winter months. This is especially the case when you consider that our players will still be rounding their games into shape after a long winter layoff.

I sincerely hope that the committee will give this serious consideration. Thank you for your time.

As a northern Connecticut school I have found that southern Connecticut schools can begin their practice sessions up to two to three weeks earlier than the northern schools. This is typically to wait for snow melt and then the requisite drying out of the courses that impacts southern Connecticut schools to a lesser degree. If the CIAC is looking to keep the playing field even, moving golf to the fall would allow all schools to begin their practices at the same time which is fair to all teams. I am still waiting for our driving range to open because of the saturated landing area. In many seasons, including this season our competitive schedule often starts within a day or two of our first practice day on the course. Two years ago our first day on the course was for our first match. A move to the fall would allow adequate practice time for all schools before competition. If a policy were adopted for basketball that practices for teams south of Hartford can start on the Monday following Thanksgiving but schools north of Hartford must wait until the second Monday of December those schools north of Hartford would be much less competitive and the skill level of those athletes in the northern part of the state would develop at a much slower pace. Certainly no such policy would ever be adopted by the CIAC because clearly it would be unfair, but a policy of keeping spring golf in place creates a de facto policy of this sort.

I have spoken to the head pro at our course. The club favors the move and would host us in the Fall. Currently our course is very busy in the spring with member play and leagues. As it stands, our course is not allowing us on the course on Mondays to accommodate the twi-light league and Fridays to reserve the course for members. This gives us three days for matches and practices sessions. Our Pro told me that we could play 5 or 6 days a week in the fall when the leagues are finished and member play decreases. Other schools, regardless of a schools geographic location have similar problems with getting onto the course for 5 days in a week, as courses try to balance High School play and their member's needs. If we hope to improve the skill level of our young golfers, we need to have more practice time for our players. A move to the fall would allow this.

A concern often heard to justify not making this move is to accommodate the needs of coaches who coach fall sports. I do not coach a fall sport but am actively involved with our girls volleyball program and would be impacted by this move. I look at coaching through the lens of what is best for the kids. As a coach, my needs should be secondary to the needs of my players. Not all, but many of the coaches who coach in the fall already, that I have discussed this with, have considered the possibility of coaching other spring sports that they enjoy such as baseball and lacrosse. Again we should make this move in the best interest of the players.

Many of our golfers are also negatively impacted when being recruited by colleges. Collegiate recruits who play in the fall can provide their senior year statistics to colleges or have college coaches watch them play prior to the

signing period of a golfers senior year. States that play golf in the spring lose the ability to provide senior year stats prior to the recruiting and signing period. Typically the best statistics of a high school golfers playing career are during a golfers senior year when they have mastered more skills. They can provide coaches those statistics after their senior year but many roster spots and scholarship dollars have already been committed to other players. In the first year or two of this move some athletes that play both a fall sport and golf will be forced to make a decision. Life is riddled with moments where a person has to make a decision. This is not a bad thing. Many of my students that play baseball and Lacrosse have told me that since they don't play a fall sport now, it would allow them to play golf and their current spring sport. I believe that I will see increased overall student participation in athletics if this move is adopted.

Golf should be moved to the Fall in the state of Connecticut. If we as coaches, administrators and the CIAC want to promote golf in a way that is done in the best interest of the athletes, this move should be adopted. I appreciate your consideration in making this move.

Comments on some of the information contained in the email:

3. WHAT WOULD BE THE START AND ENDING DATES FOR THE FALL GOLF SEASON? – Fall golf would not require an extended tryout period. The student-athlete should arrive at tryouts ready to go. The tryouts could last 3 - 5 days and then start matches. An exception is made to start football early; how about an exception to start fall golf early?

4. HOW WOULD THIS EFFECT GIRLS WHO PARTICIPATE IN GOLF WITH THE BOYS TEAM? I suggest allowing girls who don't have a team to co-op with another area girls' team in the spring. Some of the girl golfers may already play a fall sport.

5. HOW WOULD MOVING TO THE FALL EFFECT PARTICIPATION IN THE NEW ENGLAND TOURNAMENT? Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine are already dealing with this so this shouldn't be an issue.

6. HAS THE CIAC GOLF COMMITTEE CONSIDERED ALL PERSPECTIVES, SUCH AS COACHES THAT COACH IN BOTH SEASONS AND ATHLETES WHO PLAY A SPORT IN BOTH SEASONS? The fact that some coaches may coach another sport in the fall should have no bearing on this decision. It's about the student-athletes not the coaches. Other athletes have to make a decision about which sport to play in the spring, such as baseball or lacrosse. So it shouldn't be any different in the fall.

7. HAVE THE GOLF COURSES BEEN SURVEYED REGARDING FALL GOLF? A few years ago at the state golf club pro annual meeting (CT PGA Section), an informal vote was taken about having high school golf in the fall. 131 out of 132 pros present voted in favor of high school golf in the fall. I don't think a club pro would have voted for fall golf if his/her course was not available.

To quote a famous sporting goods company advertising campaign, "Just Do It".

There are a variety of reasons why Golf should be moved to the fall. One large reason from the AD side is to balance the number of sport offerings for boys in the fall and spring. Some may argue there might be a XC, soccer, or FB athlete who wants to play golf but that is no different than a golfer who also has to decide between tennis, volleyball, baseball, LAX, and track.

Also - when the survey is complete, I would like to see the breakdown of:

total votes - yes v no

coach votes - yes v no

AD votes - yes v no

Principal votes - yes v no

Have a 2 year trial period and revisit

Please consider allowing Boys Golf to begin when Football begins, or even a little before, so they can begin matches earlier in the year to alleviate any strain on courses in September.

I hope that the CIAC is doing their research on the fall season acceptance from area golf courses. The fall is a busy time for area public courses, much different client than the spring golfer. As being the girls coach, it would definitely help our season purely by numbers trying to get off the tee.

Many reasons for both seasons, interested to see how courses feel about it

I think the courses will be in better condition, better weather (other than possible fallen leaves that could be a problem) and less traffic at most courses.

Comments on some of the information contained in the email:

3. WHAT WOULD BE THE START AND ENDING DATES FOR THE FALL GOLF SEASON? – Fall golf would not require an extended tryout period. The student-athlete should arrive at tryouts ready to go. The tryouts could last 3 - 5 days and then start matches. An exception is made to start football early; how about an exception to start fall golf early?

4. HOW WOULD THIS EFFECT GIRLS WHO PARTICIPATE IN GOLF WITH THE BOYS TEAM? I suggest allowing girls who don't have a team to co-op with another area girls' team in the spring. Some of the girl golfers may already play a fall sport.

5. HOW WOULD MOVING TO THE FALL EFFECT PARTICIPATION IN THE NEW ENGLAND TOURNAMENT? Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine are already dealing with this so this shouldn't be an issue.

6. HAS THE CIAC GOLF COMMITTEE CONSIDERED ALL PERSPECTIVES, SUCH AS COACHES THAT COACH IN BOTH SEASONS AND ATHLETES WHO PLAY A SPORT IN BOTH SEASONS? The fact that some coaches may coach another sport in the fall should have no bearing on this decision. It's about the student-athletes not the coaches. Other athletes have to make a decision about which sport to play in the spring, such as baseball or lacrosse. So it shouldn't be any different in the fall.

7. HAVE THE GOLF COURSES BEEN SURVEYED REGARDING FALL GOLF? A few years ago at the state golf club pro annual meeting (CT PGA Section), an informal vote was taken about having high school golf in the fall. 131 out of 132 pros present voted in favor of high school golf in the fall. I don't think a club pro would have voted for fall golf if his/her course was not available.

To quote a famous sporting goods company advertising campaign, "Just Do It".

Weather is drier, golf courses are easier to get

I am diametrically opposed to this elitist proposed change. Point 4 is also a chafing issue (and perhaps illegal as well.)