

2009 St. Pius X Golden Lion Golf

Candidate Letter of Intent to Participate

By completing and submitting the following information, I am declaring my current intention to try out for the 2009 Boys/Girls Golf Team. While I realize that this does not obligate me to do so, communicating my future actions to Coach Cook/Coach Braham and the Golden Lion Golf Program does allow me to receive valuable information and assistance that may greatly benefit my attempt to make one of the three competitive squads in February's Qualifying School process.

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Personal and Contact Information

Home Phone #: (____)____-____ Cell Phone # (if applicable): (____)____-____

Grade: 9 10 11 12 City of Residence: _____

Homeroom: _____ Course you play the most: _____

Your Shirt Size: S M L XL Winter Sport (if applicable): _____

2009 St. Pius X Golden Lion Golf

Overview of Girls and Boys Q-School (Tryouts)

Prior to participating in the 2009 Q-School, candidates must have taken the following steps:

- A current (May '08 or more recent) physical examination document is on file in the Athletic Office.
- An up-to-date Candidate Letter of Intent to Participate is on file with Coach Cook.
- Transportation to the Hooch Golf Club has been arranged for the Q-School week.
- Proper attire includes slacks or golf pants, a collared polo shirt (anything that says "St. Pius"), either golf shoes or flat-bottomed athletic shoes or tennis shoes, and your own set of golf clubs.

What is Q-School?

Q-School is a five-day competitive tournament designed to screen all candidates who wish to participate on the 2009 SPX Golden Lion Golf Team. If weather permits, candidates will play nine holes of golf each day from Monday, February 2nd to Friday, February 6th. The boys will play all five rounds at the Hooch, while the girls will be at Peachtree Golf Center for the first three days prior to Thursday and Friday rounds at the Hooch. The best three nine-hole scores will be used to evaluate players; thus, if a player misses one or two rounds for any reason (illness, detention, weather, etc.), they will still be able to attempt to make the team.

The coaching staff reserves the right to reduce the Q-School field by cutting any golf team candidate at any time during the five-day process. The primary reasons for doing so would center on two elements: either a Q-School participant is performing so poorly that the process is self-defeating, or a player engages in behavior, intentionally or unconsciously, that jeopardizes other players' abilities to compete fairly (i.e. – poor etiquette, deficiency in knowledge or willingness to apply USGA rules of golf).

Exempt players (as of 8/15/08, the five boys who have earned 2009 team status via their personal/team accomplishments in the past year and the four girls who finished 2008 on the Girls State Championship Roster) will be present on most, but not all, Q-School days to observe the process.

In order to make the 2009 BOYS Golf Team:

A candidate must post an aggregate score of 125 (nine-hole average of 41.6) in order to make the squad, initially as a junior varsity member. Because upward movement is possible during the season, a JV player is capable of moving up to varsity-level events during the season.

Any player seeking to make the varsity squad must be capable of posting a 105 aggregate score (nine-hole average of 35). All juniors and seniors in Q-School must meet or exceed this threshold to make the team.

In order to make the 2009 GIRLS Golf Team:

A candidate must post three rounds to create a comparative aggregate score relative to the field of girls trying out. For this process, scores may come from any combination of the two courses being played (either the Hooch or Peachtree). The top three girls from the Q-School tournament will be taken on the 2009 team. If additional junior varsity-eligible girls post solid results, the coaching staff reserves the right to extend team membership to more than three candidates, but this is entirely at the discretion of the coaches.

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Overview of Girls and Boys Q-School (Tryouts)

Frequently Asked Questions about Q-School:

Q: What side (front/back) and what tees will we play from?

BA: Ideally, we'll play all rounds on the front nine from the BLUE tees. HOWEVER, if the weather is extremely poor, some/most/all holes may be moved up to the WHITE tees for improved playability reasons. Further, some groups may play the back nine if course traffic necessitates such a circumstance.

GA: At Peachtree, team candidates will likely play the first 9 holes, and they will likely play from either the BLUE or WHITE tees. At the Hooch, candidates will likely play the front nine from the RED tees.

Q: What time do we start, and when do we finish?

A: The first tee time each day is at 4:05p, so players must be prepared to leave school immediately after 8th period, get to the course promptly, and be on time for their tee time. Although projecting finishing times is not an exact science, daylight during Q-School week often dictates that our golfers finish their rounds by or before 6:00p...thus, I would expect that parents/carpool leaders are able to pick up players at such time.

Q: If it rains, what happens?

A: With the exception of extreme winter weather (snow, ice) or dangerous thunderstorm conditions that may produce lightning, Q-School will take place. Please be aware that Coaches Braham and Cook love cold, rainy days as poor weather reveals who is both prepared with proper outerwear and who is mentally tough enough to endure the harsh elements.

Q: How will I get there?

A: Transportation to/from the facilities we use for Q-School is the responsibility of the player and his/her family. Please be aware that a number of juniors and seniors are both available and willing to carpool, and a number of parents may also be available to help carpool players. With prior arrangements, Coaches are able to transport player equipment to/from the courses.

Q: Are there any fees to pay?

A: The Hooch charges each golfer a \$15.00 flat rate daily fee. This provides candidates with a bucket of warm-up range balls and a nine-hole greens fee. Players are responsible for paying this fee each day directly to the staff at the Hooch. Fees at the Peachtree Golf Center have yet to be negotiated but should be somewhat less than what players pay at the Hooch.

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Coach Cook and Coach Braham's Basic Standards of Golf

A cornerstone of the SPX Golden Lion Golf program is to develop proper awareness and exhibition of etiquette, sportsmanship, and maximization of talent among all golfers. From the start of the process, however, there are basic elements which a player must demonstrate. The following itemized list may assist players in that process.

All team candidates, prior to making the team, should be able to:

- Walk nine holes of golf in a foursome in less than 1:45 at the Hooch Golf Club and less than 1:30 at Peachtree Golf Club
- Finish a hole without causing undue delay for the rest of the group
- Appreciate the nature of silence during a player's address and swing, putting lines, and playing visibility lines
- Be generally compatible as a personality with your groupmates
- Locate their own golf ball without assistance
- Understand when to place a provisional ball into play, and when to drop a new ball into play
- Treat their fellow competitors as they themselves would wish to be treated
- Respect the golf course facility, staff, and other non-Pius golfers on the course....this means that players mind their manners and act in a dignified manner at all times
- Properly repair damage made to the golf course through the normal course of play (fix ball marks, kick in divots, and discard all trash appropriately)
- Refrain from emotional outbursts that demonstrate a lack of maturity or reveal an athlete's inability to keep from disgracing him/herself
- Cleanly strike a golf ball (no whiffs, shanks, or skulls) almost all (90% or more) of the time
- Know and enforce the basic USGA Rules of Golf