October 13, 2016

To: Athletic Directors and High School Golf Coaches

From: Kyle Stanfield, Assistant Executive Director

Re: Distance Measuring Devices

The following announcement comes from the October 10, 2016 OSAA Executive Board Meeting.

Beginning January 1, 2017, all OSAA-sanctioned golf events will allow the use of Distance Measuring Devices (DMDs) (e.g. range finders, smart phone applications, GPS devices) for the purposes of measuring distance only. The following Local Rule will be in effect, “For “X” competition, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation change, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.”

Per the USGA rule book, sharing distance is not “advice.” “Information on the Rules, distance or matters of public information, such as the position of hazards or the flagstick on the putting green, is not advice.”

Exact verbiage for the 2017 season will be available by the first practice date.

Please contact Kyle Stanfield of the OSAA with any questions at 503-682-6722 x 239 or kyles@osaa.org.

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