

Hope everyone is having a great school year, our coaches teaching and the ones retired from teaching a great off season. Like a friend of mine says, every day is like a Saturday, but only day we know isn't is Sunday, because the paper is a lot thicker.

Wow where did our fall go, time seems to fly by faster every year. Only in Minnesota can we be golfing on a Wednesday in November the 16th, and have a snow day and first blizzard on Friday November 18th. Winter sports are all in full swing, that means under 4 months and our 2017 golf season will begin.

If you have not joined the golf coaches association for 2016-2017, please do so and take advantage of the benefits for the entire school year, remember the Coaches Association year runs from July to July and not the calendar year, so make your dues count. The million dollar insurance policy is in effect for the entire school year, and your membership pass gets you into most High School and College events all school year long, and you will be on our association email list as a registered coach and receive all our emails during the entire school year, that is how we can get hold of all our coaches. So don't wait until spring golf season, join now if you have not.

Other upcoming 2017 Golf dates:

Coaches On-line rules begins March 13, has to be completed by March 28 with State High School League, this is on your coaches clipboard, go to MSHSL website.

Deadline to complete the Eligibility Verification forms is March 30

Practice can begin March 20, wow this is just under 4 months from this writing of Chip Shots, so good luck organizing and getting ready for your new season!

Last day to play sections is June 6 and State tournaments are June 13-14 at the same sites, Class A at Pebble Creek GC in Becker, Class AA at Ridges at Sand Creek GC in Jordan and Class AAA at Bunker Hills GC in Coon Rapids.

I am fortunate that both my wife Diane and myself are retired and have been able to head to Arizona with our kids and grandkids for the winter months, walk, hike and golf a lot, and enjoy seeing sunshine almost everyday. If you need to contact me about anything please do, my mailing address is 24878 North Melissa Drive, Detroit Lakes, Mn. 56501, mail is forwarded to me or email me at bdgorden@detlakes.k12.mn.us or call my cell anytime 218-234-5509.

Have a great Holiday Season and Happy New Year, Think green and see you on a course, Golf Coaches Association President Bob Gorden