

OUT-OF-TOWN TRAVEL INSTRUCTIONS

Each time we travel to an out-of-town tournament, it is considered a business trip. I hope that you have fun preparing and playing in the tournament, but we are in the business of competing to win golf tournaments, and that is the main focus. Wherever possible, I will take you to the movies, the mall, bowling, etc., but please keep in mind that our priority is to play golf and play it as well as possible.

During our trips, you are under the supervision of myself and/or Coach Trousdale as well as the female chaperone, Mrs. Stovall or Mrs. Trousdale, and Coach Trousdale, at all times. I must always know where you are and what you are doing, not because we are nosy, but because it is our responsibility to keep you safe. And that is a responsibility which we take very seriously. Once you are in your rooms for the night, no one comes in or goes out without our knowledge. However, if a fire breaks out in your room, don't stop to check with me, just leave. District policy requires that you be transported in the district or rented vehicle by one of us, unless prior arrangements are made with the approval of the principal, or in some sort of emergency situation.

Coaches may also collect mobile phones at an appropriate hour before bed to ensure you are asleep and resting and return them in the morning.

Parents are invited and encouraged to join us for out of town tournaments but must make their own travel arrangements. If parents do stay in the same or nearby hotel, you are not allowed to stay with them. You must sleep and stay in your designated room. Parents are welcome to attend meals and other activities we may schedule. Parents must follow all UIL and tournament spectator rules (minimum distance from players, etc.)

Please remember that you represent your family, Eastwood High School, the city of El Paso, your coaches, and, most importantly, yourselves. I was going to say that I expect you to conduct yourselves with discipline, dignity, courtesy, and class, but I already know that you will so I won't say it.

One factor that we have to deal with in traveling to tournaments outside of El Paso is the time zone issue. All of the major tournaments we play are located in the central time zone, which is one hour later than the mountain zone. That means that when we have to get up at 5:30 in the morning and tee off at 8:00, we are really getting up at 4:30 and playing at 7:00. So if your body is accustomed to getting up at 7:30 here, you are actually waking up **THREE FULL HOURS** earlier than normal. This puts us at a huge disadvantage, because all of the other teams live in that zone and it is no big deal for them. When you have to suddenly wake up so early, it may take five or six holes of golf before you're fully awake and ready to play at your mental and physical peak. ***The only answer to this is for you to start going to bed earlier and getting up earlier the week before we leave. Nobody likes this, but it is the only way to erase this disadvantage. I will be requiring you to come to school earlier through the week so that your mind and body are ready to play much earlier than they are now. On Tuesday, we will meet in my room at 7:00, and on Wednesday at 6:30, and Thursday at 6:00 AM. I know this is an inconvenience, but experience has shown us that it works.***