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Sports | D9E

HIGH SCHOOL STATE GOLF

Rain washes out first day of DI play

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COLUMBUS — Winning a Division I state golf championship has boiled down to a one-day, 18-hole shootout on the Ohio State University Scarlet and Gray Golf Courses.

For only the second time in the 84-year history of state high school golf, Friday's opening round for boys and girls was washed out. Only half the field teed off before heavy rain began falling at 9:45 a.m. By 10:15 a.m., officials pulled everyone off the courses.

"We were hoping to restart

the tournament by 1 p.m.," said John Dickerson, an assistant commissioner with the Ohio High School Athletic Association. "But by 11:30 a.m., it was evident the rain wasn't going to let up, and OSU officials told us the two courses were unplayable."

The most recent time the opening round was washed out was 1996. The tournament will now consist of 18 holes today. Should the inclement weather continue today, the tournament would be held Oct. 31 at Ohio State, remaining as an 18-hole event, Dickerson said.

The news wasn't as upsetting

to some area coaches and players as might be imagined. Walsh Jesuit girls coach Bill Reilly said the one-day format could help the Warriors.

"Any team can get hot for one day and win this tournament," Reilly said. "At least our young girls got a sampling of the usual garbage weather we get for the state tournament. Saturday is supposed to be dry and cold, but so what? Our kids are excited that they have a chance to win this."

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