



2026 COMPETITIONS INFORMATION BOOKLET



Alberta Golf takes great pride in running championships that encourage engagement and participation from host club members and volunteers while providing all players with the best competitive experience possible.

To continue making Alberta Golf competitions enjoyable for everyone, all competitors are encouraged to do their part and become familiar with the following policies: Local Rules, Pace of Play, Suspension of Play, Motorized Transportation, Dress Code, Code of Conduct, Code of Conduct for Spectators, and Withdrawal and Disqualification.

STANDARD LOCAL RULES

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf (effective January 2023) as approved by Golf Canada, and, where applicable, by the following Local Rules, subject to any changes, additions, or deletions for championships. See applicable championships and qualifiers for the Notice to Players for any modifications or additions to these local rules and event specific Terms of Competition. Complete text of Local Rules may be found in the Golf Canada Official Guide to the Rules of Golf (effective January 2023).

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for a breach of a Local Rule is the General Penalty.

1. Out of Bounds & Course Boundaries

– **Rule 18.2** Defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white dots, lines, stakes, and posts of fences defining out of bounds. A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining the boundary of the course.

a. **Gates In Boundary Fences and Walls – Model Local Rule F-26**

Model Local Rule F-26 is in effect. Closed gates that are attached to boundary walls and fences are part of the boundary object. Relief is not allowed from such a gate under Rules 15.2 or 16.1. An open gate is not treated as part of the boundary object and may be closed or moved to a different position

2. Abnormal Course Conditions

(Including Obstructions) – Rule 16 –

Ground Under Repair includes:

a. Areas defined by white lines.

b. **Flower Beds – Model Local Rule E-8.1**

Model Local Rule E-8 is in effect. All flower beds are no play zones (NPZ) that are treated as an abnormal course condition. Relief must be taken from interference by the no play zone under Rule 16.1f.

c. **French Drains - Model Local Rule F-1**

Model Local Rule F-1 is in effect. Any drainage ditches filled with stones, also known as French Drains, are defined as ground under repair.

d. **Seams of Cut Turf – Model Local Rule F-7**

Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect. Interference exists if a player's ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing. However, interference does not exist if the seam only interferes with the player's stance. All seams within the area of cut turf are treated as the same seam in taking relief.

e. **Tree Roots – Model Local Rule F-9**

Model Local Rule F-9 is in effect. If a player's ball lies in the general area and there is interference from exposed tree roots that are in the general area cut to fairway height or less or in the rough within two club lengths of the edge of the area cut to fairway height or less the tree roots are treated as ground under repair. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.

But relief is not allowed if the tree roots only interfere with the player's stance.

f. **Ant Hills – Model Local Rule F-11**

Raised ant hills on the course that are up to two club lengths from the maintained area are, at the player's option, loose impediments that may be removed under Rule 15.1 or ground under repair from which relief is allowed under Rule 16.1.

g. **White-Lined Areas Tying Into Artificially Surfaced Roads and Paths – Model Local Rule F-17**

White lined areas of ground under repair and any immovable obstructions they tie into, and artificially surfaced roads, paths, and the worn areas next to the path or other identified obstructions that they are connected to are a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

3. Immovable Obstructions Close To Putting Greens – Model Local Rule F-5.2

Model Local Rule F-5.2 is in effect. For a ball in the general area, relief may be taken under Rule 16.1b when both the ball and obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less. The ball must be within two club lengths of the obstruction and the obstruction must be located:

- a. On or within two club lengths of the putting green, and;
- b. On the player's line of play

4. Wood Chips and Mulch – Wood chips and mulch are loose impediments.

5. Integral Objects – Model Local Rule F-3.2 The following are integral objects from which free relief is not allowed:

- a. The portion of cables, wires, wrappings and other similar objects closely attached to trees.
- b. Permanent artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within penalty areas or which are adjacent to the edge of bunkers.
- c. Bunker liners in their intended position. An exposed bunker liner may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee. However, interference by a bunker liner does not exist if the bunker liner only interferes with a player's stance.

6. Animals Near Ball – Model Local Rule E-13 – An animal that is not defined as a loose impediment and is touching or near a player's ball may be removed. If the ball moves while removing the animal, there is no penalty, and the ball must be replaced.

7. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO) – Model Local Rule F-23

Temporary Immovable Obstructions include, but are not limited to, starting, scoring and pace of play/live scoring tents if in use.

8. Penalty Areas - Model Local Rule B-1

When a red penalty area is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a red penalty area adjoins a boundary, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the boundary.

9. Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables - Model Local Rule E-11

If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a permanent elevated powerline or cable, the stroke does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made (see Rule 14.6).

10. Specifications of Clubs & Balls

a. List of Conforming Driver Heads:

Model Local Rule G-1 Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.

b. Groove and Punch Mark

Specifications: Model Local Rule G-2

Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.

c. List of Conforming Golf Balls:

Model Local Rule G-3 Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a ball in breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.

d. Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged – Revised

Model Local Rule G-9 Revised Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect. Penalty for Breach of Local Rule – **See Rule 4.1b.**

Note: An updated list of Conforming Clubs and Balls is available at golfcanada.ca

11. Prohibited Use of Materials to Help Read the Line of Play for Stroke from Putting Green: Model Local Rule G-12

During a round, a player must not use any written, printed, electronic or digital materials to help with reading their line of play for any stroke to be made from the putting green.

12. Caddies – Model Local Rule H-1.2

Caddies must register with the Tournament Committee prior to play. A caddie must wear a caddie bib at all times while caddying. A player must not have another player in the competition as their caddie during the round. A caddie may only caddie for one player per competition day. In exceptional circumstances, the Committee may grant an exception at its discretion.

The player gets the **General Penalty** for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

13. Pace of Play – Rule 5.6b(3)

Rule 5.6b(3) is in effect. The Alberta Golf Pace of Play Policy is in effect at all competitions. The full policy is available at albertagolf.org and will be in the Tournament Office. **Note:** Rule 5.6a (Unreasonable Delay of Play) is still applicable.

14. Stopping & Resuming Play –

Rule 5.7 Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows:

- a. **One Prolonged Blow:** Immediate suspension (imminent dangers such as lighting)
- b. **Three Consecutive Blows:** Normal suspension of play (darkness, unplayable course)
- c. **Two Consecutive Blows:** Signals resumption of play

15. Practice

a. Before or between rounds in Stroke Play – Model Local Rule

I-1.2 Model Local Rule I-1.2 is in effect and Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition course (except on or near their first teeing area or any practice area) on the day of a competition or between rounds. Penalty for first breach: **General Penalty** (applied to the player's first hole).

Penalty for second breach: **Disqualification**.

b. Between holes in Stroke Play – Model Local Rule I-2

Model Local Rule I-2 is in effect and Rule 5.5b is modified in this way: Between the play of two holes, a player must not:

- Make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed, or
- Test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball.

16. Transportation – Model Local Rule

G-6 Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect and is modified as follows: During a round, players or caddies must not ride on any form of motorized transportation unless authorized or later approved by the Tournament Rules Committee. A player proceeding under a stroke and distance penalty is always authorized to use motorized transportation for that purpose.

The player will receive a **Verbal Warning** for the first infraction and the **General Penalty** upon second breach for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule following the Verbal Warning. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

17. Code of Conduct – Model Local

Rule 1.2b Alberta Golf has adopted a Local Rule under Rule 1.2b setting standards of player conduct on the golf course during play at all competitions. The full policy is available online at albertagolf.org and in the Tournament Office.

The Tournament Rules Committee may assess any or all of the following penalties outlined below, based on the severity and frequency of the violation:

- Warning
- One penalty stroke
- General Penalty
- Disqualification

Note: Under Rule 1.2a, the Tournament Committee may **disqualify** a player for serious misconduct for acting contrary to the spirit of the game.

18. Scorecard Responsibilities – Model Local Rule L-1

a. **Scorecard Returned** – A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee when the player has completely exited the defined scoring area, unless the player, prior to leaving, verbally informs the Committee of their intention to leave the scoring area and receives the Committee's permission to do so.

b. Missing Player or Marker

Certification – Model Local Rule L-1 is in effect and Rule 3.3b(2) is modified in this way – If a player returns a scorecard without the hole scores being certified either by the player, the marker or both, the player may get the **General Penalty or be Disqualified at the committee's discretion**. The penalty applies to the last hole of the player's round.

PACE OF PLAY POLICY

Maximum Allowable Time

The maximum allowable time is the maximum time considered necessary by the Tournament Committee for a group to complete its round. This is expressed in a per-hole and aggregate time format and includes all time associated with playing the game, e.g., for rulings and walking times between holes. All players are required to play at no more than the maximum allowable time (Time Par) set out for the competition. The Time Par may or may not be printed on each players scorecard. The Time Par for the competition will be made available to all players in advance and in the Tournament Office. The following procedure applies only if a group is "out of position".

"Time per stroke" and "Timing Sequence" Defined

1. The maximum time allocated per stroke is 40 seconds. 10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player to play: a) a tee shot on a par 3 hole; b) an approach shot to the green; and c) a chip or putt.
2. The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach the ball, it is their turn to play, and they are able to play without interference or distraction. Time taken to determine distance and select a club will count as time taken for the next stroke.
3. Timings will be taken from the moment it is decided by the referee that it is the player's turn to play, and they are able to play without interference or distraction.

Definition of Out of Position

1. The first group to start will be considered "out of position" if, at any time during the round, the group's cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes played as detailed on the applicable competition's Pace of Play Time Chart (Time Par).
2. Any following group will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, they:
 - complete play of a hole in more time than the allotted time par being allotted to that hole **AND** are one full hole behind the group ahead
 - If a group is "out of position" more than once during a round, the below procedure will apply on each occasion. Bad times and the application of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the round is completed. A player will not be penalized if they have a second bad time before being advised of the earlier bad time.

Procedure When Group is Out of Position During Same Round

If a group is "out of position" more than once during a round, the below procedure will apply on each occasion. Bad times and the application of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the round is completed. A player will not be penalized if they have a second bad time before being advised of the earlier bad time.

Procedure with Tag Marshal

1. Pace of play will be monitored using TagMarshal and if any groups are out of position, Alberta Golf Staff will inform the TD and referees.
 - a. An assessment of whether there are any recent mitigating circumstances, e.g. a lengthy ruling, lost ball, unplayable ball, etc. will be made before deciding if the TD or referees should approach groups.
2. Referees or Alberta Golf Staff will approach the group or groups out of position, inform them they are behind and instruct the players to improve their pace.
3. Identified groups will be monitored with TagMarshal and/or by referees on course and if groups fail to improve their pace, Alberta Golf staff and/or referees will follow identified groups, on course, until they complete their current hole.
4. The group will then be told they are XX minutes behind and the time par for the next hole is XX.
 - a. If the group plays at or under time par for the hole, this process continues onto the next hole.
 - b. If the group is slower than time par for the hole, they will be placed on the clock for the next hole and will be issued a **Verbal Warning**.
5. If a group is placed on the clock and fails to play the next hole at or under time par, a 1 stroke penalty will be assessed to the entire group.
 - a. Referees and Alberta Golf staff can time individual players and players can be penalized individually if a determination is made that certain players in the group are taking more time than others.

6. If the group placed on the clock plays at time par and/or closes the gap, they will be removed from the timing procedure.

Individual Timing Procedures

Alberta Golf and the referees at any event have the right to time individual players of groups out of position to ensure all players are ensuring play without reasonable delay (Rule 5.6a). Alberta Golf will use Golf Canada's Individual Pace of Play Policy for individual timings, which can be found [here](#).

The timing procedure and criteria for individuals is as follows:

- The timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is his or her turn to play and he or she can play without interference or distraction. Any time spent determining yardages will count as time taken for the next stroke. On the putting green, timing will begin after a player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace his or her ball, repair damage and remove loose impediments.
- Any player in a group which is out of position shall be penalized under this policy if, during the round, he or she takes 40 seconds or more to make a stroke.
- An extra 10 seconds will be allowed for:
 - the first player to make a first stroke on a hole;
 - the first player to make a second stroke on a par-4 or par-5 hole;
 - the first player to make a third stroke on a par-5 hole; or
 - the first player to make a stroke on or around the putting green.

- If a group, which is out of position, regains its position, timing of players will cease. Timing may recommence if the group subsequently falls out of position, in which case any recorded timing exceeding 40 seconds anytime during the round will be carried over throughout the round. Such groups out of position will normally be notified of monitoring and timing.
- Unreasonable delay can also occur between strokes (such as walking too slowly) and between the play of two holes.
- A player being timed, who exceeds the applicable time to make a stroke, will be informed as soon as possible.

Pace of Play Penalties

Modified Pace of Play Penalty Structure – Model Local Rule K-2. The following are the penalties for any player in a group being timed who exceeds the applicable time to play a stroke:

- Penalty for first breach:
Verbal warning.
- Penalty for second breach:
One-stroke penalty.
- Penalty for third breach:
General Penalty applied in addition to the penalty for the second breach.
- Penalty for fourth breach:
Disqualification.

Penalty Appeals

Players are entitled to appeal penalties incurred during the stipulated round. Players must invoke their right to appeal before signing their scorecard in the scoring area. The Tournament Rules Committee, excluding the referee that gave the penalty, will review the penalty with the player and make a ruling. The final decision will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. Players may not appeal penalties for serious misconduct that result in disqualification.



GUIDELINES FOR SUSPENSION OF PLAY

Immediate and Normal Suspensions of Play

- If the Tournament Committee declares an immediate suspension of play, all players must stop play at once and must not take another stroke until the Tournament Committee resumes play.
- If the Tournament Committee suspends play for normal reasons (i.e., darkness or unplayable course), what happens next depends on whether a group is between holes or playing a hole.

Deciding When to Suspend Play

1. Lightning – Play will be suspended due to lightning based on the following guidelines:

- a. Lightning is visible or detected in the area.
- b. If a referee cannot count at least 30 seconds between lightning strikes and the thunder.
- c. Lightning is deemed to be within 10 km of the host club.

2. Rain – Play will be suspended due to rain based on the following guidelines:

- a. If the area around a hole is covered in temporary water and it cannot be squeegeed by maintenance staff, Alberta Golf staff, or a referee
- b. If players must move their ball an unreasonable amount in order to find a dry area.
- c. If the host club expresses concern for the overall health of the course if play continues.

3. Heat and Humidity – Play will be suspended due to heat and humidity based on the following guidelines:

- a. If the humidex reaches 40 for all championships.
- b. If the humidex reaches 35 for all senior championships.
- c. If the temperature reaches 38°C for more than 2 days for all championships.
- d. If the temperature reaches 38°C at any point during a senior championship.

4. Visibility – Play will be suspended due to visibility based on the following guidelines:

- a. If players cannot see the landing area due to fog, darkness, or smoke.
- b. If players are unable to read the line of play on a putting green due to lack of visibility from fog, darkness, or smoke.

5. Wind – Play will be suspended due to wind based on the following guidelines:

- a. If several balls have moved because of the wind. One or two moving balls usually is not enough to suspend play; however, an exception can be made if it occurs within the first handful of groups.
- b. If players cannot replace their ball to its original location without it moving due to wind.

6. Air Quality – Air quality is measured, via the Air Quality Health Index, by Alberta Golf staff using a variety of websites and apps to ensure accuracy, Play will be suspended due to air quality based on the following guidelines:

- a. If the Air Quality index is 7 or above play should be suspended or cancelled for all senior championships.
- b. If the Air Quality index is 8 or above play should be suspended or cancelled for all championships.
- c. If the Air Quality index is below 7 but meets one of the guidelines specified under visibility.

Deciding When to Resume and Cancel Play

- The Tournament Committee will monitor weather conditions and provide updates every 30 minutes when play is suspended.
- Play must be suspended if one of the above guidelines is met.
- If the decision is made to resume play, players will be given 30 minutes to return to their respective holes.
- **Rounds can be cancelled only if less than half of the competing field has not completed their rounds.**

- If more than half of the competing field has finished their round, then play must resume at the earliest possible moment.
- Additionally, Alberta Golf has the right to delay the beginning of a round if one of these conditions is met, or there are additional concerns for the safety of the course or players.

Horn Calls

- **One Prolonged Blow:** Immediate suspension (imminent dangers such as lighting)
- **Three Consecutive Blows:** Normal suspension of play (darkness, unplayable course)
- **Two Consecutive Blows:** Signals resumption of play



MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION POLICY

As a general policy, players, caddies and spectators are expected to always walk at Alberta Golf competitions.

Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect and players may receive the General Penalty for a breach.

Exceptions:

- A competitor with a serious, physical disability (permanent or temporary) may request the use of motorized transportation for themselves at any Alberta Golf competition by following the approved application procedure. If motorized transportation is approved for a player at a competition that would otherwise prohibit the use of motorized transportation, the conditions described in Part A below must be in place.
- In senior competitions, competitors will be permitted to use motorized transportation. The conditions described in Part B below must be in place.
- If it can save time and ensure prompt pace of play, a referee can, and should, transport a player proceeding under stroke and distance penalty.
- Shuttles may be used in certain competitions where there is a great distance between one hole and the next hole. In these cases, players and their caddies are permitted to use motorized transportation. Locations of the shuttles will be communicated to players in advance of the competition.

- A spectator with a serious, physical disability (permanent or temporary) may request that a tournament official or referee transport them to a certain location on the property.
- If a spectator with a physical disability requires motorized transportation, it is their duty to provide the tournament staff a doctor's note stating their need for motorized transportation prior to the event. Tournament staff have the option to grant the spectator a use of the cart or not. If the application is approved, the spectator must follow the conditions stated in Part C.

Part A: Use of Motorized Transportation by a Person with a Serious Disability:

When using motorized transportation, the player must not:

- Permit anyone else to drive the cart (other than moving it a very short distance to facilitate play).
- Permit anyone else to ride in the cart.
- **Drive past any player's ball to gauge distance or gather any other information about the hole.**

A player in breach of this condition is subject to the applicable penalties.

Part B: Use of Motorized Transportation

- There is a limit of two golf carts per group.
- If a cart is shared by two or more players, the cart and everything in it are deemed to be the equipment of the player whose ball is involved except that, when the cart is being moved by one of the players sharing it, the cart and everything in it are deemed to be that player's equipment.
- When using motorized transportation, the player must not:
 - Permit anyone other than a player or caddie to drive the cart (other than moving it a very short distance to facilitate play).
 - Permit anyone other than a player or caddie to ride in the cart.
 - **Drive past any player's ball to gauge distance or gather any other information about the hole.**

A player in breach of this condition is subject to the applicable penalties.

Part C: Spectator Use of Motorized Transportation

If a spectator is granted use of a cart for the event by tournament staff, they must adhere to the following conditions:

- Spectators with a cart are the only ones permitted to drive the cart unless noted in the doctor's note that assistance is required.
- Spectators using a cart **must** always stay on the cart path.
- Spectators using a cart must stay one shot ahead of the group they're watching at all times.
- Spectators are not permitted to give rides to any players, except in the case of inclement weather. In these cases, spectators require direct instructions from the tournament committee before proceeding.
- Spectators must follow all other applicable conditions in the motorized transportation policy.
 - This includes but is not limited to not driving ahead to gain any additional knowledge or information and reporting back to the player.
- Spectators must follow all other applicable conditions listed in the spectator policy.
 - This includes but is not limited to requiring a player's verbal consent to search for their ball, and strict rules on providing advice for players.

A spectator in breach of these conditions is subject to the same penalties listed in the spectator policy and the player may also be subject to further penalties.

DRESS CODE POLICY

The purpose of the dress code policy is to ensure reasonable and appropriate standards are maintained at all Alberta Golf competitions. All players, caddies and spectators must adhere to the dress code any time they are on host facility property. The dress code is in effect at all Alberta Golf competitions in conjunction with any additional dress code restrictions of the host facility, which will be communicated to all players in advance of the competition.

Alberta Golf maintains and encourages a respectful and inclusive environment under its Safe Sport Policy.

Permitted Attire:

- Men are required to wear golf shirts with collars (mock necks and turtlenecks are permitted) and sleeves. Shorts may be worn, but they cannot be rugger or cargo shorts (outside external pocket).
- Women are permitted to wear pants, shorts, skorts, capris and dresses. Mock style, V-neck and sleeveless shirts are permitted. Bare midriff or cleavage is not acceptable.

Attire Not Permitted:

- Jeans of any kind or color, cut-offs, tennis shorts, rugger/cargo pants or shorts (outside external pocket), tank tops, halter tops, mesh shirts, workout attire, or t-shirts.
- If the host facility has additional restrictions, it will be communicated to, and followed by, all players.
- Any other inappropriate attire determined by the Tournament Committee.

Footwear Not Permitted:

- Golf shoes with spikes comprised either entirely or partially of metal (if such metal may meet the course) are prohibited during the competition rounds, including the official practice round(s).

Caddies: Are subject to the same footwear restrictions as players. Smooth rubber sole shoes are preferred (i.e. running shoes).

Players in violation of the dress code will not be allowed to tee off; or, if the violation is discovered once play has begun, the player or caddie must rectify immediately without undue delay. Spectators will be asked to rectify immediately without undue delay. All individuals in violation of the dress code policy will be subject to the respective Code of Conduct Policies and penalty structures.

Penalties:

- First breach of the Code of Conduct: **Verbal Warning** from referee or Committee sanction.
- Second breach: **One-stroke penalty.**
- Third breach: **General Penalty.**
- Fourth breach **OR** any serious misconduct: **Disqualification.**

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

Note: This Code of Conduct is an Addendum to Alberta Golf's Safe Sport Policies which govern the conduct of all participants.

Violations of the Code of Conduct:

- Unsportsmanlike conduct, including unacceptable language, abuse of clubs, disrespect to other players, referees, spectators, volunteers, and/or failure to care for the course.
- Bullying, harassment, discrimination, and intimidation.
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages, recreational drugs and cannabis products on the competition course or any designated practice areas.
- Possession of any illegal substance.
- Failure to adhere to the dress code policy while on the host facility property.
- *Smoking or chewing tobacco products are allowed on the competition course or any designated practice areas as long as the host facility policy allows for this. Players who use these products should do so in a discreet manner with particular care for the impact it may have on the course, fellow players and spectators.*
- Any other conduct unbecoming of an Alberta Golf member.

Audio & Video Devices:

Cell phones are permitted on the course only when kept on silent mode, unless otherwise prohibited by the host facility. The use of headphones, earbuds, or external speakers is prohibited during competitive rounds.

Code of Conduct Penalties:

- First breach of the Code of Conduct: **Verbal Warning** from referee or Committee sanction.
- Second breach: **One-stroke penalty.**
- Third breach: **General Penalty.**
- Fourth breach **OR** any serious misconduct: **Disqualification.**

The Committee for each respective championship is the sole judge in determining conduct unbecoming and may assess any or all of the preceding penalties based on the severity and frequency of the violation(s). Disciplinary sanctions that a committee may impose include refusing to allow the player to enter one or more future competitions. Any serious misconduct resulting in a disqualification will result in a written letter to the player. In the event of a sanction, the player will be required to submit a written account of the Code of Conduct violation to the Alberta Golf Competitions Committee within 30 days of the incident. The Committee will determine the severity of the sanction after reviewing all submitted materials, including an Alberta Golf tournament official/staff account of the violation.

Penalty Appeals

Players are entitled to appeal penalties incurred during the stipulated round. Players must invoke their right to appeal before signing their scorecard in the scoring area. The Tournament Rules Committee, excluding the referee that gave the penalty, will review the penalty with the player and make a ruling. The final decision will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. Players may not appeal penalties for serious misconduct that result in disqualification.



SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

Note: This Code of Conduct is an Addendum to Alberta Golf's Safe Sport Policies which govern the conduct of all participants.

General Policy

- Family members or friends can follow and observe play but must not interfere, give advice, or impede play in any way.
 - A distance of 20 yards must be kept at all times.

Violations of the Code of Conduct:

- Following a player closer than 20 yards.
- Objectionable behaviour including unacceptable language, disrespect to other players, referees, other spectators, volunteers, and/or failure to care for the course.
- Possession of any illegal substance.
- Failure to adhere to the dress code policy while on the host facility property.
- Any other conduct unbecoming of an Alberta Golf member.
- Carrying, transporting, or handling a player's clubs, including their golf bag and/or cart during a stipulated round. However, spectators and parents are permitted to carry other items for players.
- Giving or offering advice to any player during a stipulated round. Advice is defined as any verbal comment or action that is intended to influence a player: in choosing a club; making a stroke or deciding how to play during a hole or round. Note: limit all communication, verbal and non-verbal, which may be construed by others (players, tournament officials, volunteers, and referees) as advice.
- Walking on teeing areas, fairways, putting greens, or starting and scoring areas. Spectators and parents are encouraged to walk on paths and in the rough, avoiding interference with play.
- Searching for a player's ball without the express permission of the player. Spectators and parents may help with pace of play by spotting balls and indicating to players the general area/location of their ball.
- Player interference and/or distraction from loud conversation or cell phone notifications. Cell phones are permitted on the course with the volume setting on low or silent unless the host facility does not permit cell phones.
- Riding in a motorized golf cart without the express permission of the Committee.
- Intervening with referees administering rulings. Spectators and parents will be brought into a situation only when and if the referee requests so.
- The Scoring Area is only reserved for players, event staff, referees, and scorers. Caddies may be invited in when required. Spectators and parents are not permitted into the scoring area.

Respecting the Host Facility:

- Respect the host facility policy if cell phones are prohibited.
- If you are going to wear golf shoes as you walk the course, make sure they do not have metal or traditionally designed spikes.

This information was compiled not because of recurring problems, but rather to have a reference for spectators and parents for frequently asked questions. Alberta Golf and our host facilities thank you for your cooperation.

Code of Conduct Sanctions:

- First breach of the Code of Conduct: **Verbal Warning** from referee or tournament official.
- Second breach: **Spectator will be removed from the physical golf course and will have to remain at the clubhouse.**
- Third breach **OR** any serious misconduct: **Banned from all Alberta Golf competitions for a year.**

The Committee for each respective championship is the sole judge in determining conduct unbecoming and may assess any or all the preceding penalties based on the severity and frequency of the violation(s). Disciplinary sanctions that a committee may impose include being banned from the course, host facility and/or future Alberta Golf competition. The Committee will advise as to the stipulations of the sanction. The final decision will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. Spectators and parents may not appeal sanctions for serious misconduct that result in being banned from the facility for a duration of time.

WITHDRAWAL, DID NOT SHOW AND DID NOT FINISH POLICY

Withdrawal from Championships or Qualifiers – Prior to Event

- Players who withdraw from any event prior to registration closing will receive a refund of the paid fee, minus \$15 administrative fee.
 - Registration closes 10 days prior to the first round.
- Players who withdraw following the closing of registration will not receive the refund less \$15, unless:
 - Their spot in the field is replaced by another player,
 - Player provides a medical note stating withdrawal is due to injury,
 - An unavoidable emergency.

Did Not Show – Prior To The Event

- If a player doesn't show up to the event, has not communicated with the TD and withdrawn from the event, no refund will be provided, and a DNS will be given to the player.
 - If a player Does Not Show, Alberta Golf will follow the same process as an unjustified DNF.

Did Not Finish (DNF) – During the Event

- A DNF or Did Not Finish is given to a player who must withdraw themselves from competition during the round or championship.
- A justified Did Not Finish (DNF) from championships and qualifiers may include.
 - Injury sustained during play,
 - Unavoidable emergency.
- Unjustified DNF's will be addressed by the TD and the Director of Competitions at Alberta Golf. No refund will be provided.
- If a player is found to have an unjustified DNF the TD and Director of Competitions can take the following actions:
 - First, a letter acknowledgment.
 - Second, phone call discussion.
 - Third, suspension from competing.



For competitions inquiries, please contact
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