

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

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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.