

CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS POLICY COMPETITION / EVENT POLICY

Golf Ontario's goal is to have all its Competitions recognized as the best Amateur Golf Competitions in Ontario. To continue to make our competitions an enjoyable experience for everyone, Golf Ontario requires that all the participants adhere to certain standards set out in this Guideline.

Definitions:

- The following terms have these meanings in this Guideline:
 - "Amateur Player" means any Player who is not a professional golfer at the commencement of the relevant competition.
 - "Golf Ontario Competition" means any golf competition that is sponsored by, organized by, or held under the authority of, Golf Ontario.
 - "Golf Course" means the golf course at which a Golf Ontario Competition is to be played and includes any related practice or locker room areas.
 - "Golf Facility" means a facility at which a Golf Ontario Competition is being held, and includes any related Golf Course, food service facility or other amenity associated with such a facility.
 - "Junior Player" means any Player who is under the age of 19 at the commencement of the relevant competition.
 - "Tournament Official" means any Volunteer, Individual or Staff participating in any way in the staging of a Golf Ontario Competition.

Scope and Application:

- These Guidelines apply to all Players including Junior Players and Amateur Players as well as all Officials and sets out the behavior they are expected to abide by while participating in Golf Ontario Competitions (including practice rounds).

On the Course:

- While on the Golf Course during a Golf Ontario Competition, all Players:
 - Will strictly adhere to the Rules of Golf
 - Will refrain from using abusive or profane language.
 - Will refrain from displays of temper (such as throwing clubs)
 - Will complete all competitive rounds of golf, unless otherwise approved by the Golf Ontario Tournament Committee
 - Will adhere to the Dress Code during practice and competitive rounds
 - Will demonstrate respect for volunteers, spectators, officials, the staff and members of the Golf Facility at which a Golf Ontario Competition is being held, as well as their fellow Players
 - Will not demonstrate any conduct not becoming of a GO member, as outlined in the Code of Conduct.
- Tournament Officials (Referee, Starter, Scorer or Timing Official) are expected to:
 - Present a clean, well-groomed appearance

- Avoid all physical contact with Players, including hugging Players, unless initiated by the Player
- Avoid any situation that might be construed as a conflict of interest, i.e. a close relationship/friendship with specific Players
- Deal with Players, Coaches and spectators (including parents or caregivers of Players) by showing respect, even in cases where this is not reciprocated. Heated exchanges, whatever the cause and under any amount of provocation are to be avoided at all costs. If disputes which seem likely to result in such exchanges cannot be avoided, every effort must be made to conduct such dialogue in private and the Tournament Director must be informed
- Avoid public criticism of fellow Officials, Players, organizers, sponsors, or the host Golf Facility that may bring the game into disrepute
- Be discreet. Comments relating to the competence, performance or behavior of fellow Officials should only be made to the Tournament Director, in private
- Work in a spirit of cooperation with other Officials and not interfere in any way with their duties or responsibilities.

Off the Course:

- While **off** the Golf Course, **Players:**
 - Will not be associated with vandalism
 - Will not demonstrate abusive behavior to any fellow Players, Tournament Officials, or members or staff of the Golf Course
 - Will avoid any other conduct not becoming of a Golf Ontario Member, as outlined in the Code of Conduct.
- While **off** the Golf Course, all Tournament Officials:
 - Are expected to attend appropriate training sessions and clinics provided by Golf Ontario.

Use of Tobacco, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems, Alcohol, Marijuana and Illicit Drugs:

- To ensure a safe and enjoyable environment at Golf Ontario Competitions/Events:
 - Junior Players will NOT use illicit drugs, tobacco, electronic nicotine delivery systems, marijuana or alcohol at a Golf Facility, whether on or off the Golf Course
 - Players Other Than Junior Players:
 - Will NOT use illicit drugs, marijuana or alcohol on the Golf Course; and
 - Will NOT use illicit drugs, marijuana or alcohol at a Golf Facility during times when play is suspended but anticipated to resume before nightfall.
 - Will refrain from using tobacco, electronic nicotine delivery systems or marijuana products at a Golf Facility except in designated areas and subject to Golf Facility policy.
 - Tournament Officials:
 - Will NOT use illicit drugs, marijuana or alcohol at Junior competitions
 - Will refrain from using tobacco products or electronic nicotine delivery systems on the Golf Course except in designated areas

- Will refrain from entering a Golf Facility under the influence of alcohol, marijuana or illicit drugs.

Dress Code Policy

- All Golf Ontario players and caddies must adhere to the Dress Code policy anytime the competitor or caddie is on host facility property. Additional dress code restrictions of the host facility may also apply and will be communicated to the participants.

The Golf Ontario Tournament Committee will review questionable attire. Players in violation of the Dress Code policy will not be allowed to tee off. If the violation is discovered once play has begun, the competitor or caddie must rectify immediately.

- **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.
- Hats or visors must be worn in a forward position.

- **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.
- Hats or visors in the clubhouse, unless permitted by the host club.
- 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.

Policy Violations:

- In addition to penalties that may be imposed under the Rules of Golf, Golf Ontario may impose one or more of the following Tournament/Event disciplinary actions based on the severity of the violation:
 - Letter of warning to any Tournament Official or Player and/or the parents of a Junior Player
 - Disqualification from the competition at which the violation occurred
 - Disqualification from future Golf Ontario Competition for which a Player is otherwise eligible
 - Rejection of a Player's selection for Golf Ontario teams
 - Suspension of Golf Ontario membership, either for a specific period or indefinitely. Any Player whose membership is under suspension will not be considered for post-season rankings, exemptions for future events, or selection for teams representing Golf Ontario.

Right of Appeal:

All competition disciplinary actions except the issuance of a letter of warning are subject to appeal in accordance with Golf Ontario's Dispute Resolution and Appeal Policy.