
GOLF AUSTRALIA

CODE OF CONDUCT

ADAPTED FOR WGWA

GOLF AUSTRALIA INC

CODE OF CONDUCT

PART 1 - PRELIMINARY

1. Purpose

Players are associated with or assisted by GA, and in some circumstances will represent, or be seen to represent, GA. Conduct must be consistent with such association or representation. This Code of Conduct (“Code”) is designed to ensure that players adopt appropriate forms of behaviour in relation to all aspects of their association with and representation of GA.

2. Definitions

In this Code of Conduct the following terms have the following meanings:

“**Disciplinary Committee**” means the body comprised of the GA and State Golf Management Committee as this varies from time to time.

“**Drug of Dependence**” means a ‘drug of dependence’ as defined in section 4 of the *Drugs, Poison and Controlled Substances Act (Vic) 1981*.

“**Official Training**” means any national development training camp which a player is required by GA to attend.

“**Player**” means any person in receipt of a scholarship or any other financial or contra assistance from GA, or who plays or is selected to play in any Tournament.

“**Tournament**” means any competition conducted under the auspices of GA, including any State, Association or Open Amateur Championship and includes all time from the commencement to the close of the Tournament whilst the Player remains at the Venue Club.

“**Venue Club**” means the golf club at which a Player competes in a Tournament or attends Official Training.

“**Venue Clubhouse**” means the clubhouse of the Venue Club.

“**Venue Course**” means the golf course of the Venue Club, and includes all land within the control of the Venue Club.

“**GA**” means Golf Australia Inc.

PART 2 - GENERAL CONDUCT

3. Threatening behaviour

A Player shall not physically threaten any official, administrator, sponsor, member of the media, spectator or other Player at any time.

4. Damage and theft of property

A Player shall not deliberately damage or wrongfully remove property:

- (a) owned by the Venue Club;
- (b) located on the Venue Course, or in the Venue Clubhouse; or
- (c) located in a place of residence or accommodation provided to a Player.

5. Public comment on Tournaments

In relation to a Tournament, a Player shall not publicly criticise or comment adversely on:

- (a) the Venue Course;
- (b) the administration and running of the Tournament;
- (c) the Tournament sponsors; or
- (d) any official supervising or organising the Tournament.

A Player is entitled to comment publicly on her own performance.

6. Withdrawal and disqualification from Tournaments

A Player shall not:

- (a) deliberately disqualify themselves from a Tournament by picking up their ball, or inducing another to pick up their ball, prior to the completion of a Tournament hole which the Player has attempted; or
- (b) withdraw from a Tournament before the completion of the Tournament without first providing in writing explanation which is satisfactory to GA.

7. Trophy Presentations

A Player shall not, without satisfactory reason, fail to attend a trophy presentation at the completion of a Tournament where that Player is:

- (a) in the case of a strokeplay event, a trophy winner; or
- (b) in the case of a matchplay event, a finalist or a semi-finalist.

8. Dress regulations

A Player shall:

- (a) adhere to the dress regulations stipulated by the Venue Club whilst on the Venue Course or in the Venue Clubhouse;
- (b) ensure their clothing is clean, tidy and of a standard which would generally be considered presentable by the administration of the Venue Club during a Tournament;
- (c) wear a team uniform, as required by GA.

9. Clubhouse conduct

A Player shall:

- (a) adhere to the Venue Club's rules of behaviour whilst in the Venue Clubhouse;
- (b) show courtesy and respect to all officials and members of the Venue Club at all times.

10. General Behaviour Requirements

A Player shall not during a Tournament or Official Training:

- (a) throw or deliberately damage golf equipment (including golf balls);
- (b) use abusive or profane language towards another player, official, administrator, member of the media, sponsor or spectator;
- (c) utter audible obscenities;
- (d) jam flagsticks into a hole on the Venue Course;
- (e) deliberately damage a playing green, or any other part of the Venue Course;
- (f) throw a ball club or other golf equipment at another person;
- (g) conduct themselves in an unsporting-like fashion or in a manner which may bring themselves or GA into disrepute; or
- (h) deliberately, wilfully or neglectfully breach the Rules of Golf.

PART 3 - CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO**11. Consumption of alcohol during Tournament**

A Player shall not consume any alcohol immediately prior to or during the course of a round played in a Tournament.

12. Consumption of alcohol during Tournaments or tour period

A Player shall not consume excessive amounts of alcohol during a Tournament or any tour period as specified by GA.

13. Permission to consume alcohol

A GA team manager or coach may grant permission to a Player to consume alcohol in moderation whilst that Player is wearing a team uniform and/or attending Official Training. In the event of any conflict between the decision of the team manager and coach, the decision of the team manager shall prevail.

14. Supply of alcohol or tobacco to minors

A Player shall not supply alcohol or tobacco to persons under the age of 18 years.

15. Consumption of cigarettes

A Player shall not smoke tobacco so as to affect the health or performance of other Players, officials, administrators, members of the media, or spectators.

PART 4 - DRUGS**16. Australian Sports Commission anti-doping policy**

Players shall familiarise themselves with, and adhere to, the anti-doping policy of the Australian Sports Commission (as this varies from time to time), which has been adopted by GA, a copy of which is available from GA on request.

17. Drug prohibition

Players are prohibited from using, attempting to use, possessing, trafficking, or attempting to possess or traffic a Drug of Dependence or any substance similarly prohibited under the law of any country, state or territory in which the Player is travelling or will (pursuant to GA activities) be travelling

PART 5 - CONDUCT OF PLAYERS UNDER 18 YEARS**18. Consumption of alcohol**

A Player who is under the age of 18 years shall not consume any alcohol at any time.

19. Consumption of tobacco

A Player who is under the age of 18 years shall not consume any tobacco at any time.

PART 6 - PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THIS CODE**20. Discretion of Disciplinary Committee**

The Disciplinary Committee shall have full and absolute discretion to enforce this Code.

21. Allegation of violation

If any alleged or actual violation of the Code is brought to the notice of the Disciplinary Committee, the Disciplinary Committee shall be empowered to investigate the alleged or actual violation, and for these purposes shall require the Player to respond to the allegation, in writing or in person, within a reasonable time period. Natural justice shall be accorded to a Player in these circumstances.

22. First violation

Upon the finding by the Disciplinary Committee of a first violation of this Code by a Player, the Disciplinary Committee may issue the breaching Player with a written warning.

23. Second or subsequent violation

Upon the finding by the Disciplinary Committee of a second or subsequent violation by a Player of this Code, the Disciplinary Committee may impose some or all of the following sanctions:

- (a) suspension from the national and state squad;
- (b) suspension from participation in Tournaments or Official Training;
- (c) suspension from a national and state team;
- (d) withdrawal of financial assistance;
- (e) a warning; or
- (f) such other action as is deemed necessary or appropriate in the circumstances.

The Disciplinary Committee must advise the Player of its finding and any sanction as soon as is practicable.

24. Notification to relevant golfing organisations

Where sanctions are imposed on a Player, the Disciplinary Committee may advise the following organisations of the sanction:

- (a) the relevant State golf association;
- (b) the Player's home golf club;
- (c) the National or State sports institute; or
- (d) any other organisation considered appropriate.

Nothing in this Code requires or prohibits any such association recognising the sanction imposed upon the Player.

25. Right of appeal

A Player who has been found in breach of this Code by the Disciplinary Committee has the right within 21 days of being notified of the finding of the Committee to appeal against the severity of the sanction imposed by, or a finding of, the Disciplinary Committee to the National Sports Dispute Centre.

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