



GOLF

WESTERN PROVINCE

CODE OF CONDUCT

With effect from 1 January 2024

PLAYER CONDUCT AND SPIRIT OF THE GAME

It is one of the central principles of the game of golf that all players are expected to play by the Rules and in the spirit of the game.

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

1. Misconduct

Penalties other than disqualification may be imposed for player misconduct.

Examples of actions by a player that, although involving misconduct, are unlikely to be considered serious misconduct include, but are not limited to:

- i. Slamming a club to the ground, damaging the club, and causing minor damage to the turf.*
- ii. Throwing a club towards a golf bag that unintentionally hits another person.*
- iii. Carelessly distracting another player making a stroke.*
- iv. Bad language and shouting.*

2. Serious Misconduct

Examples of actions, amongst others listed in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf (Interpretation 1.2a/1), by a player that are likely to be considered serious misconduct include, but are not limited to:

- i. Deliberately causing serious damage to a putting green.*
- ii. Disagreeing with the course setup and taking it on himself or herself to move tee-markers or boundary stakes.*
- iii. Consumption of alcohol for the duration of a round.*
- iv. Throwing a club towards another player or spectator.*
- v. Deliberately distracting other players while they are making strokes.*
- vi. Removing loose impediments or movable obstructions to disadvantage another player after that other player has asked him or her to leave them in place.*
- vii. Repeatedly refusing to lift a ball at rest when it interferes with another player in stroke play.*
- viii. Deliberately playing away from the hole and then towards the hole to assist the player's partner (such as helping the player's partner learn the break on the putting green).*
- ix. Deliberately not playing in accordance with the Rules and potentially gaining a significant advantage by doing so, despite incurring a penalty for a breach of the relevant Rule.*



GOLF

- x. *Repeatedly using vulgar or offensive language.*
- xi. *Using a handicap that has been established for the purpose of providing an unfair advantage or using the round being played to establish such a handicap.*

3. Commitment to Play

- a. Failure to give notice of withdraw at least 24 hours in advance (unavoidable emergencies may preclude penalty) may result in the player being disqualified from the next WPG event in which the player is entered.
- b. Discontinuance of play for any reason not covered by R5.7a (picking up, quitting) will result in the disqualification penalty under that rule and additionally the player will be ineligible for the next WPG event in which he /she is entered.

4. Cellphones

- a. Players are requested to ensure that their use of does not cause a disturbance to other players and that they do not allow their phone calls to interrupt the flow of play.

5. Audio & Video Devices

- a. During a round, a player must not listen to or watch content of any nature on a personal audio or video device.

6. Penalty for breach of Code:

- a. First breach: Warning
- b. Second breach: One stroke penalty
- c. Third breach: General penalty
- d. Fourth breach or any serious breach: Disqualification
- e. Any breach of the Code of Conduct may also result in a formal disciplinary hearing