



Western Province Golf

Royal Cape Golf Club, 174 Ottery Road, Wynberg 7800
POSTNET Suite 429, Private Bay X16, Constantia, 7848
+27 021 761 4195 • www.westernprovincegolf.co.za
NPO Registration Number 296-572

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PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

Introduction

This Code of Conduct applies to all WP Golf Affiliated players participating in any Championship, Tournament, event or competition organized or sanctioned by Western Province Golf. This is in addition to any other requirements expected of players as laid out in the Tournament Conditions, Local Rules or Bye-laws of hosting club.

1. General

- a. Players are expected to play by the Rules of Golf and in the spirit of the game.
- b. Players must adhere to commonly accepted standards of golfing etiquette and sportsmanship.
- c. In order to ensure proper standards of behaviour at all times, a player who infringes this Code is liable to face disciplinary proceedings.

2. Definitions and Interpretation

- a. "WPG" means the Western Province Golf;
- b. "accused player" means the player accused of an offence under this Code;
- c. "Code" means this Code of Conduct;
- d. "Organising Committee" means the committee appointed by WPG to organize a competition;
- e. "competition" means any Championship, Tournament, event or competition, organized or sanctioned by WPG;
- f. "Investigating Officer" means a person appointed by the WPG to investigate and report;
- g. "report" means any oral or written statement by any person of an alleged infringement by a player under this Code that is reported to the Organising Committee;
- h. "player" means a player or participant in a competition;
- i. An "infringement" means any breach of the constitution of WP Golf and/or any act described in Clause 3 below (but not limited thereto).
- j. "Disciplinary Committee" means the WPG Disciplinary Sub-Committee, appointed by the WPG Executive Committee, which will convene to consider, hear and determine a report referred to the Disciplinary Committee under this Code;

- k. "Executive Committee" refers to the WPG Executive Committee.
- l. "Appeals Committee" mean the committee, being the President and Vice Presidents, who shall not have been members of the Disciplinary Committee
- m. An act is deemed to occur "during competition" if it occurs:
 - i. On any qualifying or practice day for a competition; or
 - ii. On any day during which the competition is conducted.

3. Infringements

A player is guilty of an infringement under this Code if the player:

- a. Verbally threatens another player, an official or person during a competition;
- b. Deliberately breaks the Rules of Golf;
- c. Deliberately returns a false score card;
- d. Behaves in a manner detrimental to the good name and reputation of the WPG;
- e. Brings the game of golf into disrepute;
- f. Throws or, deliberately or in anger, breaks golf equipment (including golf balls) during a competition;
- g. Deliberately causes serious damage to the course (including putting greens), or changes the course setup;
- h. Uses abusive or profane language towards another player, an official or person during a competition;
- i. Utters audible obscenities during a competition;
- j. Commits an act deliberately to disqualify them self from a competition or, during a round picks up own ball without playing out a hole;
- k. Misses a tee time or withdraws from a competition before its completion without providing good reason in writing;
- l. Consumes any alcohol or a prohibited substance under the South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport's Anti-Doping (SAIDS) Rules during the course of any round played in a competition;
- m. Fails, without good reason, to attend the prize presentation ceremony at the completion of a competition whether the player is a winner or not.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE (as per Clause 8.4 WP Golf Constitution)

4. Reporting and Consideration

- a. Any report made to the WPG during or after the competition will be referred, by the Organising Committee to the WPG Disciplinary Committee who will then deliberate whether:
 - i. No disciplinary (formal) action should be taken, however, they may refer it to the relevant WPG Sub committee to engage directly with the player to assist with appropriate remedial measures (informal action); or
 - ii. To convene a hearing in relation to the report; or
 - iii. To appoint an Investigating Officer.
- b. If the Disciplinary Committee determines to convene a hearing (as per 4a. ii), it must give at least 7 days written notice to the accused player stating:
 - i. The date, time and place at which it will hear and determine the report;
 - ii. Brief particulars of the report;
 - iii. That the accused player is entitled to be assisted or represented by another person.
- c. If the Disciplinary Committee appoints an Investigating Officer; (as per 4a. iii) the person duly appointed will carry out a preliminary investigation and gather all the facts of the complaint. These may include interviewing the accused player and getting a written report from him.
- d. The Investigating Officer will present their report to the WPG Disciplinary Committee that will then deliberate whether:
 - i. To dismiss the report; or
 - ii. To convene a hearing in relation to the report.
- e. If the Disciplinary Committee determines to convene a hearing in relation to the report, it must give at least 7 days written notice to the accused player stating:
 - i. The date, time and place at which it will hear and determine the report;
 - ii. Brief particulars of the report;
 - iii. That the accused player is entitled to be assisted or represented by another person.

For more detailed information refer to the WPG Disciplinary Code

5. Disciplinary Hearing / Enquiry

- a. At the commencement of the hearing, the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee will read out the alleged offence by the accused player under this Code and any report compiled (as per 4a iii)
- b. If the accused player is not present at the hearing, the Disciplinary Committee may:
 - i. Proceed to hear and determine the report and the penalty (if any) to be imposed; or
 - ii. Adjourn the hearing for such period determined by the Disciplinary Committee and must give written notice of the time and place when the hearing will resume.
- c. If the accused player is present, the Chairman will ask the accused player whether he/she wishes to admit or deny the alleged offence.

- d. If the accused player admits to the alleged offence, the Disciplinary Committee will deliberate the penalty and then announce the penalty to be imposed on the accused player.
- e. If the accused player denies the alleged offence, he/she may give evidence and bring any relevant witnesses to support their case.
- f. After the presentation of evidence and hearing any final submissions by the accused player, the Disciplinary Committee must determine whether the accused player is guilty of an offence under this Code and the penalty to be imposed on the accused player.
- g. The Disciplinary Committee will then announce its decision to the accused player.

6. Right of Appeal (as per Clause 8.4.6 WP Golf Constitution)

- a. A player may appeal the decision of the Disciplinary Committee to the WPG Executive Committee by giving written notice to WPG within 14 days of the date of decision by the Disciplinary Committee.
- b. In the event of an appeal, the Appeals Committee will re-hear the report at such a time and in such a manner as it deems appropriate. A quorum of at least three members, comprising of the President, Vice Presidents or another member of the Executive Committee must be present to hear an appeal.
- c. Upon re-hearing the report, the Appeals Committee may affirm, vary or substitute the decision as it may deem appropriate.
- d. The Appeals Committee decision is final.

7. Penalties (as per Clause 8.4.5 WP Golf Constitution)

In the event that a player is found guilty of an offence under this Code, one or a combination of the following penalties may be imposed:

- a. Suspension or termination of the membership of an Affiliated Club or Playing Member;
- b. A formal reprimand;
- c. A fine;
- d. Suspension of an Affiliated Club or Playing Member from playing in or attending at competitions for a period of time;
- e. Removal of a Playing Member from representative teams or from Union office;
- f. Suspension of a Playing Member from selection for representative teams for a period of time;
- g. Any combination of the above wither in the alternative or otherwise.

By entering any WP Golf sanctioned event you are acknowledging that you have read and understand the contents of the WP Golf "Code of Conduct" and thereby agree to abide thereto.

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President: Maureen Weimar | GM Golf Operations: Robert Scott | GM Finance & Admin: Michele Kern