



WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN GOLF ASSOCIATION

CODE OF CONDUCT



The WMGA Code of Conduct applies to Competitive and Practice Rounds

Players may be warned, penalized or disqualified for violations of the Code of Conduct (including violations by their caddies). Further, the WMGA may reject an entry application, revoke an accepted application, expel from the tournament and/or suspend a player from future tournaments if the player, their caddie or family members engage in conduct detrimental to the integrity and image of the game of golf and/or public confidence in the WMGA. Such conduct may include, but is not limited to:

- **Disorderly behavior, including:**
 - Excessive use of profanity
 - Club throwing
 - Verbal or physical abuse, or threats of abuse, to officials, volunteers, other players, staff, or club members
 - Damage to the golf course or any player's equipment
 - Unbecoming conduct
- **Failure to care for the course, including, but not limited to the failure to:**
 - Fill divot holes or step down on replaced divots
 - Repair ball marks
 - Rake bunkers
 - Follow cart rules
 - Dispose of trash into trash receptacles
- **Failure to abide by the host club's rules**
- **Dress Code violations**

Headphones & Ear buds

- Are not permitted for players or caddies during competitive rounds.

Player's Responsibility for Caddies & Family

Players in WMGA competitions are guests of the host club and accordingly, players are responsible for the behavior and attire of their caddies, and subject to penalty for breaches by either. Players may face withdrawal of their entry, and possible future suspension for the inappropriate behavior of their caddies. Players, caddies or family who repeatedly violate the code of conduct, or who are abusive to officials or club staff, may be suspended from attending future events.

Subject to Rules

Any person whose entry is accepted will be subject to the Rules and Conditions of Competitions set forth by the WMGA.

Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco Products

The illegal use of drugs, alcohol or tobacco by players, caddies or family is prohibited. Alcohol should not be brought onto the property. All food & beverage policies of the host club should be followed.

Dress Code – Players, Caddies, and Family (Before, During and After the Round):

- **Club Dress Code Policy** – *Supersedes the WMGA dress code*
- **Generally Accepted Golf Attire** (or dressier) - Should be worn at all times by players, caddies and family
- **Shirts** – Must have collars or be specifically designed for golf and acceptable at the host facility
- **Men's Shirts** – Must be tucked in at all times
- **Hats** – Must be worn forward and should be removed indoors.
- **Shorts/Skirts/Skortis** – Generally, should reach mid-thigh in length (half way between hip and knee)
- **Footwear** – Athletic shoes, golf shoes or dress shoes should be worn
- **Host Club** – May have anyone removed from course or property for inappropriate attire

Family & Spectator Involvement in Conduct and Rulings

Please refrain from policing any code of conduct issues and situations involving the Rules of Golf. If you witness a code of conduct breach or Rules of Golf violation that is serious or have seen the same breach multiple times by a player, you may notify an official. **DO NOT HANDLE THE SITUATION YOURSELF.** Officials and the Tournament Chairman will be responsible for handling all code of conduct issues.

Penalties for Violation of Code of Conduct during Competition

Penalties may be assessed based on each individual situation including the severity of the breach and the factors that contributed to the breach occurring.

- **1st Offense: Warning**
- **2nd Offense: One Stroke Penalty**
- **3rd Offense: General Penalty (Loss of hole in match play or two-stroke penalty)**
- **4th Offense: Disqualification**
- **Immediate Disqualification: A player is subject to immediate disqualification for a serious breach of any code of conduct without warning.** (A serious breach during a practice round may result in withdrawal of a player's entry for that competition and subsequent ones.)

Players may be disciplined, but not penalized for any serious breach of the WMGA Code of Conduct by a spectator (including family members).