



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND SPECTATORS POLICY

*Note: This Code of Conduct for Parents, Guardians and Spectators Policy is an Addendum to Golf Canada's [Safe Sport Policies](#) which govern the conduct for all Participants

Golf Canada takes great pride in the quality of its competitions, host facilities and broad community involvement at each competition. In order to continue making Golf Canada competitions enjoyable for everyone, and to show respect for the involvement of our host facilities and their volunteers, Golf Canada requires that all parents and spectators adhere to this Code of Conduct for Parents, Guardians and Spectators and all Safe Sport Policies at all Golf Canada competitions.

Golf Canada also recognizes and complies with Version 6.0 of the [Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport \(UCCMS\)](#).

The Code of Conduct for Parents, Guardians and Spectators and the Code of Conduct and Ethics must be followed throughout the entire competition, including practice rounds.

Any parent or guardian of a competitor or a spectator whose conduct is deemed to be disruptive, may be banned from the course, host facility or future Golf Canada competitions if they are in violation of this Policy or Golf Canada's Safe Sport Policies. The Tournament Committee has authority in determining unbecoming conduct and may assess sanctions based on the severity and frequency of the violation(s). All instances of bullying, abuse, harassment or discrimination require an incident report to be compiled by the Golf Canada Tournament Director. They must also notify Golf Canada's Compliance Officer and/or Golf Canada's Independent Third Party or the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner as appropriate of any such Code of Conduct violations.

Note: For more information on the definition and concepts of maltreatment or prohibited behaviors please refer to the Golf Canada [Safe Sport Policies](#).

1. **Golf Canada's Expectations from Parents, Guardians and Spectators on the Golf Course:**

Please note following conduct may also result in potential penalties to players.

- a) Please do not carry or handle your child's clubs, including their golf bag and/or cart (caddies are prohibited at all junior competitions only). However, you are permitted to carry other items for competitors (i.e. a rain suit, umbrella, food and drink).
- b) No advice is to be given to any player during the competition or official practice rounds. Advice is defined as any counsel or suggestion that is intended to influence a player in choosing a club, making a stroke or deciding how to play a during a hole or round.
- c) During a round make sure to avoid all communication, verbal and non-verbal, which may be construed by others (competitors, parents and our Referees) as advice.
- d) Please keep your distance from competitors (approx. 20 yards) while following them during play. Parents, guardians and spectators are not permitted on the teeing areas, fairways, putting greens, or starting and scoring areas.



- e) Help everyone maintain the pace of play by assisting to spot golf balls for competitors. Spectators should only begin searching for golf balls with the authorization of the player first.
- f) Mobile devices are permitted on the course with the volume setting on silent, unless prohibited by the host facility.
- g) Any photographs or videos taken by parents or coaches must be respectful and not disrupt play in any way.
- h) Parents, guardians and spectators are not permitted on the course with a golf cart during the competition. In exceptional circumstances, the Golf Canada Tournament Director may permit a parent, guardian or spectator to use a golf cart to follow ONE (1) group of players. To request access to a golf cart, a Transportation Request Form (including the required medical documentation as specified on the form) MUST be submitted to Golf Canada at least SEVEN (7) DAYS before the competition. The golf cart must remain on cart paths (where available) and, in all cases, remain at least 20 yards from all players in the group and no closer to the green than any player's ball. The golf cart shall not be operated while any of the players is playing their ball, and shall not be operated in a way that would disrupt any other groups on the course. The Golf Canada Tournament Director reserves the right to withdraw the permission granted to the parent, guardian or spectator to operate the golf cart.

2. Regarding the Rules of Golf:

- a) Allow Golf Canada Referees to administer rulings and do not intervene. You will be brought into a situation ONLY if the Referee asks you.
- b) For parents and guardians: Encourage your child to become familiar with the Rules of Golf and the supplementary local rules (Notice to Players) specific to the competition so that they are aware of the options available to them.

3. Respecting the Host Facility and Golf Etiquette:

- a) Respect the host facility policy if cell phones are prohibited.
- b) Familiarize yourself and adhere to the host facility dress code. Some facilities may not allow blue jeans, T-shirts, etc.
- c) If you are going to wear golf shoes as you walk the course, metal or traditionally designed spikes are prohibited.

4. Following the Competition:

- a) For parents and guardians: Encourage your child to send thank-you messages to those who contributed to the success of the respective tournament. A thank you list can be found in the competition fact sheet.
- b) We welcome any and all letters of suggestion to Golf Canada that will ultimately help us in making these competitions even more special for all involved.



Reporting of Violations

This information was created in order to have a reference for parents, guardians and spectators for frequently asked questions and to sure a safe sport environment for all Participants. If any unbecoming conduct is observed by a parent, guardian or spectator, it should be immediately reported to the Golf Canada Tournament Director. The Tournament Committee is the sole judge in determining unbecoming conduct and may assess any or all of the sanctions based on the severity and frequency of the violation(s).

Golf Canada and our host facilities thank you for your cooperation.