



# Parent & Spectator Code of Conduct

In order for Golf Manitoba competitors to enjoy their Championship experience, and to show respect to our host facilities and their members, volunteers and staff, the Association asks that all spectators in our events assist us with the following:

- help your junior competitors learn the Rules of Golf including golf etiquette and respect for fellow competitors.
- respect all Golf Manitoba volunteers, staff, spectators and Golf Manitoba property.
- respect the host club, their personnel, volunteers and property. As well, each club has their own dress code and cell phone policy, please familiarize yourself with it.
- Refrain from objectionable behavior including unacceptable language, disrespect to other players, referees, other spectators and volunteers.

## Minimum Distance and Prohibited Areas

- a minimum of 30 yards must be maintained between the player and all spectators in all circumstances with the following exceptions:
  - ~ once all players have reached the green spectators must remain 10 yards from the green
  - ~ once all players are on the tee, spectators must remain 10 yards from the tee
- when cart paths are provided, spectators must stay on those paths. When no cart paths are provided spectators must walk in the outside rough.
- Spectators are prohibited from the following areas:
  - ~ tees, fairways & greens
  - ~ scoring and starting areas
  - ~ rules situations

## Communication

- please refrain from giving advice to any player during the entire competition. Advice is defined as counsel or suggestion that could influence a player in determining their play, choice of club or method of making a stroke.
- please avoid all communication, verbal and non-verbal, which may be construed by others as advice.
- allow only referees to administer rulings and do not intervene. You will be brought into a situation ONLY if the referee asks you.
- **The competitor will be given a General Penalty under Rule 10.2a** if prohibited communication is given, whether asked for or not.

With the following exceptions:

- asking or giving the player food, drink umbrella or rain suit.
- need to deal with a medical situation.

## Lost Golf Balls

- spectators are not permitted to search or go near a player's golf ball.
- You are welcome to tell a referee where you believe the point of entry into a penalty area is or the general area where a ball may be located ONLY if asked by that referee. Remember, a player may not want their golf ball found, so looking for golf balls is NOT allowed.

## Golf Carts

- Spectator carts are not permitted unless the spectator has a permanent handicap placard. Letters from doctors or visible injuries will not warrant a golf cart without a placard.

## Safe Sport

Golf Manitoba is aligned with Golf Canada and Respect Group in committing to fostering a safe sport environment for golf.

All golfers deserve to participate and compete in an environment free from bullying, abuse, harassment or discrimination, regardless of gender identity or expression, race, religion, language, age and ability.

- All players 18 and under must have at least one (1) parent complete the Respect In Sport "Parent Program" no later than the deadline of the tournament they wish to enter. Events include the Bantam Championship and the Provincial Junior Championship.

## Penalties for breach of Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct

- **1<sup>st</sup> breach:** warning to both player and spectator or General Penalty to the player being followed.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> breach:** if the communication is determined to be "advice" (by definition) = General Penalty to the player being followed. Any direction, interference, discipline, scolding, influence, other than "advice" (as defined) or breach of any of the above mentioned rules = one-stroke penalty to the player being followed.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> breach:** Disqualification - regardless of the type of breach

**If in doubt on spectator and parent expectations, please don't hesitate to talk to Golf Manitoba Staff or Rules Referees.**

**April 2022**