



Gold Coast District Golf Association Men's Pennants

Players, caddies & spectators Guide

1. **Players** – all players are to conduct themselves in accordance with **Rule 1.2a** which states:

“All players are expected to play in the spirit of the game by:

- **Acting with integrity** – for example, by following the Rules, applying all penalties, and being honest in all aspects of play.
- **Showing consideration to others** – for example, by playing at a prompt pace, looking out for the safety of others, and not distracting the play of another player.
- **Taking good care of the course** – replacing divots, smoothing bunkers, repairing ball marks, and not causing unnecessary damage to the course.

The committee has determined that poor behaviour of players and their support including caddies, managers and club supporters is not acceptable. It is not in the spirit of the game of golf and is contrary to the rules of golf as outlined in **1.2**.

We refer to **Rule 1.2a/1** as examples of poor behaviour. The committee has determined that in recent weeks this rule may have been breached however without definitive, clear, and consistent evidence that all players and their support including caddies, management and supporters are on notice. The committee has determined if this Rule is seen to be breached immediate action will be taken.

2. **Caddies** - Under **Rules 10.2 & 10.3** guidance is given around the role of a caddie and what they can and cannot do.

- Under the clarification point of **Rule 10.3a/2** another player in the same competition on the same day **having completed their round may caddie for another player in the same competition.**
- In taking on the role of caddie **specific advice offered can be given by a player who has now taken on the role of caddie** given their round has finished.

3. **Spectators & Supporters including players and caddies who have completed their matches** – Spectators are encouraged to support their home clubs however they must do so in terms of the Rules of Golf in terms of behaviour under Rule 1. The following will apply:

- The player and caddie, designated Managers and GCDGA officials are the only individuals permitted to be in the teeing area, fairway or putting green.
 - No spectator or supporter is allowed on the teeing ground, the fairway, or the putting green.
 - No spectator or supporter is to engage in discussion with or provide advice to players or caddies.
 - Spectators and supporters can act as spotters for errant shots but are not allowed to provide advice.
 - There is to be no boisterous behaviour which would seek to provide an advantage to one player over another.
4. **Social Media** - The GCDGA recognises the benefits of social media for sharing stories and photos. The use of social media to either bully, abuse, intimidate or make offensive statements will not be tolerated. If this is seen to be abused the GCDGA will take immediate action to sanction, suspend or penalise the relevant parties.
5. **Mobile Phones** – mobile phones must be on silent or turned off during the conduct of matches on the designated playing course. If this is not followed by a player or caddie, then the penalty will be the general penalty which is loss of hole. Any further infringement will result in disqualification.

GCDGA