

COMPETITOR CONDUCT POLICY

UPDATED MAY 2026



The PGA of Canada takes great pride in the quality of its championships, which would not be possible without the active support and assistance of its host facilities, sponsors, and broad community involvement at each competition. In order to continue making PGA of Canada competitions enjoyable for everyone, and to show respect for the involvement of our host facilities and volunteers, the PGA of Canada requires that all players adhere to the this Competitor Conduct Policy and all [PGA Code of Professional Conduct and Safe Sport Policies](#) at all PGA of Canada championships.

The PGA of Canada Competitor Conduct Policy must be followed by all players and caddies (when permitted), on and off the golf course, throughout the entire competition, including the practice round(s).

All players are expected to act and 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 – for example, by replacing divots, smoothing bunkers, repairing ball-marks, and not causing unnecessary damage to the course.

Violations of the Competitor Conduct Policy:

- Unsportsmanlike conduct, including bullying, abuse, harassment, discrimination, intimidation, abusive or offensive language, club throwing, abuse of equipment, disrespect to volunteers, referees, officials, host facility personnel, other players, or spectators or abuse of golf course property.
- Failure to care for the course, including but not limited to the failure to fill or replace divots, rake bunkers or repair ball marks.
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages, cannabis, or any illegal substance on the competition course or any designated practice areas.
- Failure to adhere to the dress code policy while on the host facility property.
- Any vandalism or abusive behavior whether at the host, or other, hotel or to a host family, or their property.
- Any other conduct unbecoming of a player in a PGA of Canada competition occurring throughout the entire competition.

PRO-AMS

Any competitors participating in a Pro-Am must conduct themselves according to the provisions listed above, plus any additional regulations presented by the sponsor conducting the Pro-Am. Participating professionals must attend the dinner reception following play unless otherwise noted in writing.

GAMBLING

The PGA of Canada strictly prohibits competitors or caddies from placing wagers or bets, along with any form of event contract, swap, or derivative in any form on any PGA of Canada National Championship. Any violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action, including suspension, disqualification, or a permanent ban from PGA of Canada events and activities.

PRIZE PRESENTATION

The top two prize winners in both individual and/or team competitions must be present at the prize presentation or be subject to forfeiting their prize moneys to the PGA of Canada unless consent is given by the Tournament Director.

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PENALTIES

The PGA of Canada has adopted the Local Rule under Rule 1.2b setting standards of player and caddie conduct as more specifically set out above under Violations of the Code of Conduct. Any suspected breach of this policy may be reported to any member of the Committee in Charge of the Competition, Tournament Rules Committee, starter, or scorer.

The PGA of Canada Tournament Rules Committee may assess any or all the penalties outlined below, based on the severity and frequency of the violation, during a competitive round. The player is responsible for and may be penalized for any breach by their caddie during a competitive round.

- Warning
- One penalty stroke
- General Penalty (Two stroke penalty)
- Disqualification

Additionally, any breach of this policy is subject to a possible monetary penalty as described below.

Action	Maximum Penalty
No-show without notification - Tournament	\$500
No-show without notification - Pro-Am	\$500
Withdrawing without notifying a PGA of Canada official in writing	\$500
Conduct/Language likely to injure the reputation of the PGA of Canada, Club or the Sponsor	\$500
Disrespect to volunteers, referees, officials, host facility personnel, other players, or spectators	\$500
Not returning official score card	\$100
Not following Dress Code	\$100

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

All penalties must be paid, or an appeal must be made before play will be allowed in the next round of the championship or in the next championship.

All penalties will be doubled for a second offence and a third offence may lead to expulsion from competing in future PGA of Canada championships. Penalties apply to championship and practice rounds.

Penalties other than monetary value may also be imposed by the Disciplinary Committee for infractions not listed above.

APPEALS

Except as otherwise set out above, the PGA of Canada Disciplinary Committee is the sole judge in determining conduct unbecoming and may assess warnings and/or suspensions based on the severity and frequency of the current or past violation(s). Any Competitor Conduct Policy violation resulting in a warning, or a suspension will result in a written letter to the player or caddie. In the event of a suspension, the player or caddie may appeal the suspension in writing to the PGA of Canada Disciplinary Committee within 30 days of receipt of notice of the suspension. The Committee will reconsider the length of the suspension after reviewing all submitted materials, including a PGA of Canada tournament official/staff account of the violation and any past incidents. Any player who is under suspension will not be eligible for PGA of Canada awards.

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