

## **Golf Supporting Information for Competitions**

The following information is related to those golfers playing at a level 4 or 5. However those playing at a lower level should adhere to the spectator guidelines.

### **Spectators**

Spectators should respect the rules of the golf club they are attending and wear proper golf attire which is normally no jeans or collarless shirts.

Spectators must note that they should:

- Not use radios, I-pods or other such devices without headphones, mobile phones that ring or beepers on the competition course. Use of mobile phones should only be in the following areas: at least 75 yards from the players, car park, pro shop, driving range and/or putting greens. Violation of any of these may result in you being asked to leave the course
- Keep a proper distance from the players (50 yards recommended)
- Stay on any buggy path or in the rough with the exception of around the greens. (Spectators may go near the greens to watch the players putt)
- Avoid verbal contact with players i.e. engaging in conversation thus disrupting the pace of play
- Not give advice to any player. (Advice is any counsel or suggestion which could influence a player in determining his or her play, the choice of a club or the method of making a stroke. In a stroke play tournament, the penalty for this is 2 strokes. In a match play tournament the penalty is loss of hole for the player who has been given the advice)
- Act as a forecaddie. Keep a distance far enough ahead of the players as not to interfere with the player's shot
- Be sure to tell the match scorekeeper, the player, representative of the competition venue or a Head Coach if you see a rules infraction. These individuals must report this to the Competition Manager once the round is over and before the player signs his/her scorecard and turns it in to be posted
- Not use abusive language, swearing or consume alcoholic beverages on the course
- Note that only the match scorekeeper and caddies can go on the fairways and on the greens. If the match scorekeeper needs some help with a ruling or trying to find a lost ball and asks for help, then you may assist
- Pick up any rubbish you may see left on the course
- Not bring any pets on the golf course

### **Caddies**

Caddies must be aged 16 or older on 1st January of the year that the competition is held. The role of the caddy is to assist the player in accordance with the rules and may include carrying or handling the player's clubs during play.

If players require a caddy this must be noted on the competition entry form and golfers may only have their parent/carer caddy for them if a dispensation has been granted by the Competition Manager prior to the competition. Such requests must also be made on the entry form.

### **Caddy policy**

If a caddy becomes disruptive to the point of receiving a formal complaint from an official, volunteer, competitor or another caddy, he/she will be given a warning. If a second formal complaint is received the caddy will be suspended.

Important Royal & Ancient Rules of Golf caddy related rules are:

- **Rule 6-4** states that a caddy is the one who carries or handles a player's clubs during play and otherwise assists him/her in accordance with the rules. A player may only have one caddy at any given time. A caddy may be replaced or eliminated at any time by the player. No other person may offer advice or help to a player other than his/her caddy
- **Rule 14-2b Assistance** states that in “making a stroke,” a player must not allow his/her caddy to position himself/herself on or close to an extension of the line of play or the line of putt behind the ball. A caddy may position himself/herself in this manner before the player commits to beginning his swing but must move away once the player is set to begin his swing. Failure to do so may result in a two-stroke penalty
- **Rule 8-2b On The Putting Green** states that when a player's ball is on the putting green, the player or his/her caddy may before, but not during, the stroke, point out a line for putting, but in doing so the putting green shall not be touched. No mark shall be placed anywhere to indicate a line for putting. Violation of this rule may result in a two-stroke penalty
- **Rule 17-3** states that the player's ball shall not strike the flagstick or attendant when the flagstick is attended or the flagstick is in the hole, unattended, or when the ball has been played from the putting green. Should this occur, the player is assessed a two-stroke penalty, and the ball is played as it lies

Always remember that a rules violation by the caddy is the same as if the player violated the rule. Ideally a caddy should be aware of the rules and assist his/her player in accordance with the rules.

### **Score Cards**

- For each group out on the course there should be two score cards filled out for every player by different individuals i.e. the caddy and a scorer
- At the end of play the score cards must tally up and be signed off by players and caddies
- If they don't tally up the higher score on each hole will be recognised