

MPUMALANGA GOLF UNION

APPROVED CODE OF CONDUCT

1. **Dress Code on the Golf Course :**
 - 1.1 The following are the dress regulations for all Mpumalanga Tournaments :
 - 1.2 **ON THE COURSE :**
 - 1.2.1 All shirts must have a collar – No T shirts or vest like tops will be allowed. Shirts must be tucked in. Branded polo collar shirts are permissible.
 - 1.2.2 Golf long trousers with socks. Jeans or the like are not permitted.
 - 1.2.3 Golf shorts with long hose or short tennis socks are permitted. No Bermuda/multi coloured shorts allowed.
 - 1.2.4 Golf shoes only – no running or tennis shoes permitted.
 - 1.2.5 Any jersey, windbreaker, golf cap/hat worn must be neat, tidy and clean.
 - 1.2.6 Golf bags/ carts must be in a presentable condition/state.
2. **PRIZE GIVING FUNCTION :**
 - 2.1 MGU players should attend all tournament prize giving functions. Requests to be excused will be denied. Dress is smart casual – shoes and socks must be worn.
3. **PUNISHABLE OFFENCES – ON THE COURSE OR ITS PREMISES – THREE TO SIX MONTHS SUSPENSION. AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION – PLAYER SUSPENDED PENDING DISCIPLINARY HEARING.**
 - 3.1 **PLAYERS HANDICAP TO BE FROZEN IMMEDIATELY.**
 - 3.1.1 Failure to arrive at tournament – no apology tendered – player liable for entry fee.
 - 3.1.2 Throwing clubs/badly behaved – warning for first offence.
 - 3.1.3 Directing foul, abusive, sexual or racist language at any person on the clubs premises.
 - 3.1.4 Walking off the course without a valid reason and not completing your round/match.
 - 3.1.5 Engaging in violence of a physical nature on the clubs premises.
 - 3.1.6 Consuming liquor on the golf course and/or abusing drugs on the clubs premises.
 - 3.1.7 Conduct unbecoming that of a player/ Bringing the game into disrepute.
 - 3.1.8 Purposely damaging the course, greens or club property.
 - 3.1.9 The Rules of Golf 2019 Rule 1.1 to 1.3a is adopted and is effective as from 01.01,2019 in this Code
4. **ONE YEAR SENTENCE - SUBJECT TO A DISCIPLINARY HEARING. PLAYER IMMEDIATELY SUSPENDED.**
 - 4.1 A second offence of clause 3.
 - 4.2 A serious breach of the Rules of Golf and/or unbecoming conduct.
 - 4.3 Blatant cheating on the golf course.
 - 4.4 Player manipulating his handicap in any form.
5. **CLUB GUILTY OF NEGLIGENCE – MUST BE SUBJECT TO A DISCIPLINARY HEARING.**
 - 5.1 If a club fails to inform a club member of his starting time and destination in any MGU tournament – the player must be representing his club - the club shall be liable to a minimum fine of R1000 and maximum fine of R1500. The club is also liable for the entry fee if the player fails to arrive. Players can only enter Mpumalanga events on the official entry form.
6. **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE – PANEL ELECTED AT AGM ANNUALLY.**
 - 6.1 A player summoned to appear at a Disciplinary Hearing must receive details of what he is charged with in writing – the charge must be in detail and must be **delivered by hand or e mail at least 72 hours** before the hearing.
 - 6.2 The player has the right to appeal against the outcome and must do so within 7 days of the hearing.
 - 6.3 The player has the right to be represented by a **competent person** and may produce witnesses on his behalf at the hearing. The Chairperson should limit representation to non lawyer representation of the player's choice.
 - 6.4 Any player whose appeal fails then has the right to appeal to the MGU Executive Committee whose decision shall be final.
7. **GENERAL.**
 - 7.1 Any offence or breach of the Rules not covered by the above shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee. This includes Mpumalanga players representing other Unions at Provincial level.
 - 7.2 If a player violates the condition of his suspension he will then serve out the original sentence and an additional **ONE YEAR**, this subject to a disciplinary hearing.
 - 7.3 All players in Mpumalanga are expected to be familiar with the **MGU Code of Conduct**.
 - 7.4 Any club official/MGU Executive Member breaching any of the above will be charged under 4.2.
 - 7.5 **The MGU Code of Conduct overrides any MGU club code of conduct.**
 - 7.6 Clubs must adopt the MGU Code and outcome of guilty players/officials must be consistent. Club to immediately freeze the handicap of a player found guilty.
 - 7.7 During the timeframe of an appeal and the final outcome of the case the accused may **not play any golf at all**.
 - 7.8 **The South African Golf Association Disciplinary Hearing Guide** shall take precedence in the case of a dispute.

By order of the Executive Committee.

UPGRADED 20th NOVEMBER 2018

The Code of Conduct was sent to attorney Jonathan Stockwell of Werkmans firm of Attorneys in Johannesburg on 21 November 2016 requesting him to peruse the Code with the aim to upgrade it to ensure that it could stand up in a court of law. It was approved by them on 18 January 2017 as is.