

# **Southern Golf Association Code of Conduct**

**Effective: February 26, 2020**

The Southern Golf Association (SGA) takes great pride in the quality of its players, host facilities and volunteer involvement at each tournament. In order to continue making the SGA experience enjoyable and rewarding for everyone, the SGA requires all tournament participants and their caddies to adhere to a set of guidelines known as the Code of Conduct.

## **Violations of Code of Conduct**

It is impossible to determine exactly the standard of conduct expected from players and caddies in SGA competitions. It is also impossible to make a list of all the acts in violation of the Code of Conduct. In most circumstances, any of the following actions by a player or their caddie at an SGA event constitutes a violation of the SGA Code of Conduct and could result in sanctions or penalties.

- Unsportsmanlike conduct, including: abusive language, cheating, club throwing, disrespect to volunteers, officials or fellow competitors, or abuse and theft of golf course property.
- Not adhering to the dress code at the host facility.
- Conduct not becoming of an SGA player, such as acting in anger or creating other distractions such as loudly playing music or listening to sporting events during a round.
- Use of headphones during a round.
- Failure to treat host golf course with respect by ignoring the responsibility of caring for the course, filling divots and fixing ball marks.
- Physical abuse, threat of physical abuse, verbal abuse, slander or libel towards other players, host golf course staff or members, SGA staff, directors or volunteers in any medium.
- Incidents of wagering or gambling considered flagrant or excessive by the Committee.
- Use of cellular phones (except for emergencies, a ruling, viewing tournament leaderboard, viewing weather forecasts, or use as a distance measuring device), laptop and tablet computers, PDA's and the like.

## **Code of Conduct Violation Penalties**

The SGA Tournament Committee may assess any or all of the following penalties based on severity and frequency of the Code of Conduct violation(s):

- Warning or Committee sanction
- One penalty stroke
- Two penalty strokes
- Disqualification

Depending on the severity of the violation, a tournament disqualification may also result in disqualification from future SGA event(s).

The SGA reserves the right to suspend or revoke a player's ability to compete in SGA events for a major breach of the Code of Conduct. SGA participants violating the Code of Conduct at non-SGA competitions may also be subject to the penalties above based on severity.