



## Code of Conduct for Junior Golf

### COACHES

- Remember that young people participate for pleasure - winning is only part of the fun.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of Golf - help your players to understand that playing by the rules is their responsibility.
- Implement relevant sport safety policies and practices.
- Implement policy and practices (and lead by example) - in relation to responsible use of alcohol and in relation to recreational and performance enhancing drugs.
- Listen to your players - ensure that the time they spend with you is a positive experience.
- Encourage young people to participate in administration, coaching and officiating - as well as playing.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Keep up to date with coaching practices and qualifications – ensure you understand the principles of physical growth and development.
- Ensure you are aware of your club's child safe policy – ensure you are aware of your mandated responsibility to report suspicion of child abuse and neglect. Complete the online training on [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au).
- Ensure that any physical contact with a young person is appropriate – is it necessary for the player's skill development?
- Avoid developing any 'special' relationships with children – ensure that you show no favouritism such as gifts or special treatment.

### PLAYERS

- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official.
- Be a good sport - applaud all good play.
- Show respect to and acknowledge opponents and officials - (e.g. shake hands before and after the game and say things like 'good luck', 'thanks for the game').
- Cooperate with your coach, team mates and opponents.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit - not just to please parents and coaches.
- Play fair — no verbal abuse of officials, sledging other players (including vilification) or deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Speak to an adult you trust if you have an issue, feel unsafe or are concerned about someone else.

## PARENTS & SPECTATORS

- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment - not yours.
- Encourage children to play according to the rules - settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child - for making a mistake or not winning.
- Respect officials' decisions - encourage children to do likewise.
- Show appreciation for coaches, officials and administrators - remember they are usually volunteers.
- Applaud good performance and efforts
- Condemn the use of violence, verbal abuse or vilification in any form – regardless of whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- Support all policies and practices (lead by example). - This includes responsible alcohol and drug use and support of child safe strategies.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person -regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Ensure you are aware and follow the correct processes to follow if you have an issue or complaint – do not perpetuate issues with gossip or general criticism.

## ADMINISTRATORS & OFFICIALS

- Ensure you are aware of your obligations to provide a child safe environment - this includes risk management, child safe policy, appropriate screening of staff/volunteers and mandatory notification obligations of certain people in the organisation. Complete the online training on [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au).
- Ensure your club is accessible for all to participate.
- Create pathways for young people to participate in your club - give them “a say “on decisions that affect them, provide leadership opportunities and most importantly listen to them.
- Ensure that the types of programs, rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules are modified to suit the age, ability and maturity level of young players.
- Provide quality supervision and instruction for junior players - ensure volunteers are adequately trained.
- Direct coaches and officials to highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development.
- Ensure that everyone emphasises fair play - not winning at all costs.
- Give a code of behaviour sheet to spectators, officials, parents, coaches and players - encourage them to follow it.
- Develop where appropriate and distribute codes of behaviour for other volunteers – this may include team managers and sport trainers and first-aid staff.
- Remember, you set an example - your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Implement policy and practices (and lead by example) - in relation to responsible use of alcohol and in relation to recreational and performance enhancing drugs.
- Adopt and implement relevant sport safety policies and practices.
- Promote a culturally tolerant environment.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.