



MALTA GOLF ASSOCIATION

CODE OF ETHICS

Officials, coaches, athletes, and volunteers should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. The highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honour according to six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship.

TRUSTWORTHINESS

be worthy of trust in all you do

- Honour:** Live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honour; do what is right even when it is unpopular or personally costly.
- Honesty:** Live and compete honourably; do not cheat, lie, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanship conduct.
- Reliability:** Fulfil commitments; do what you say you will do; be on time to practice sessions and games.
- Loyalty:** Be loyal to your Association and team; put the team above personal glory.

RESPECT

treat all people with respect all the time and require the same of other athletes

- Class:** Live and play with class; be a good sport; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; give fallen opponents help, compliment extraordinary performance, show sincere respect in pre- and post-game formalities.
- Conduct:** Do not engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual or racial nature, trash talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the game.
- Respect:** Treat tournament officials with respect; do not complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after a game.

RESPONSIBILITY

have a serious commitment to succeed and the character to represent your country and the Association honourably

- Role:** Remember that participation in sports is a privilege, not a right; represent your country, Association, coach and teammates with honour, on and off the course; consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model.
- Appearance:** Be neat, clean and dress in good taste [see note below].

Self-Control: Exercise self-control; observe personal and official curfew times; do not fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.

Health: Safeguard your health; do not use any illegal or unhealthy substances including alcohol, tobacco and drugs or engage in any unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight; observe the anti-doping code which prohibits doping or trafficking; remember that the Association discourages the smoking of cigarettes during any of its national competitions and expects its athletes to conform to this also when playing competitions abroad.

Alcohol: The laws of Malta set the minimum age for drinking and purchasing alcohol to 18 years; officials and athletes who are older than 18 are prohibited from purchasing and selling alcohol to those under the minimum age; in addition those of legal age are expected to use good critical thinking skills in making decisions regarding alcohol consumption

Integrity: Protect the integrity of the game; do not gamble on the outcome of a game of golf.

FAIRNESS

Be fair: Live up to high standards of fair play; be open-minded; always be willing to listen and learn.

CARING

Concern: Demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behaviour that might cause injury to yourself or others.

Teammates: Help promote the well being of teammates by positive counselling and encouragement or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches or officials.

CITIZENSHIP

Rules: Maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game and competition rules; continue your participation in the competition until the last putt of the last hole of the last round.

Spirit: Honour the spirit and the letter of rules; avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship and the game of golf.

Suspension or termination of the participation privilege is within the sole discretion of the Association

Note: Females may wear only button or post type earrings (all other types of earrings are prohibited) and only one button or post earring in an ear, which should be worn in the ear lobe. Nose, lip, tongue and eyebrow rings and studs are prohibited. Males are not permitted to wear any earrings or studs. Males and females may wear necklaces, however, they must be worn under the shirt and not be visible. Other jewelry may be worn in accord with standards of good taste. Visible tattoos are prohibitive.