

## ARTICLE IX - CODE OF CONDUCT

### **Section 1.01 General**

The Philadelphia Section PGA Tournament Committee expects the conduct of its professionals and amateur contestants to adhere to the PGA Code of Ethics and the traditional etiquette expected from ladies and gentlemen.

Each PGA of America Member or Apprentice Participant ("Participant") acknowledges the right and authority of the Philadelphia Section PGA to (i) fine and suspend from tournament play; and/or to (ii) fine and permanently bar the Participant from Section Tournaments. Any Participant in a Section event hereby releases the Philadelphia Section PGA, the PGA of America, the PGA Tournament Corporation, Inc., rules officials, each director, officer, member, employee, agent or representative of any of the foregoing jointly and severally, individually and in their official capacity, of and from any and all claims, demands, damages and causes of action whatsoever, in law or equity, arising out of or in connection with any such decision or action by the Philadelphia Section PGA, PGA of America or any appellate body.

Any Participant that is found guilty of more than three offenses for violating code of conduct may, at the sole discretion of the Philadelphia Section PGA, be permanently prohibited from participating in all Philadelphia Section PGA and PGA of America tournaments and also may be subject to PGA of America Code of Ethics charges. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Philadelphia Section PGA reserves the right to pursue Code of Ethics charges against any PGA Member/Apprentice for conduct charges related to the conduct of any Participant at Philadelphia Section PGA golf tournaments and related events at the sole discretion of the Philadelphia Section PGA in compliance with the procedures for Code of Ethics hearings as set forth in the PGA of America Bylaws.

If any Participant engages in any of the following (but not limited to the following) activities or behavior at the site of a Philadelphia Section PGA tournament before, during, or after the actual competition, he or she shall be considered in violation of the Philadelphia Section PGA Code of Conduct, and this shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action:

### **Classes of Violations & Penalties**

#### Minor Penalties

(i) Throwing clubs

Gambling

Excessive drinking

Disrespect for tournament officials, host professional, sponsors, etc.

Vandalism

Loud, cruel language

Contacting a tournament sponsor for an exemption

Organizing or Competing in non-sanctioned event

Failure to withdraw from an event in a timely manner

Professionals withdrawing from an event for a non-emergency situation

Using a prohibited communication device and/or excessive use of Cellular device

(b) Minor Penalty Fine Schedule

First offense: Fine up to \$250

Second offense: Fine up to \$400 and/or suspension of one points event

Third offense: Fine up to \$600 and/or suspension up to one year of tournament play

Minor Penalties are Cumulative for a twelve (12) month period starting with the date of the first offense.

In the case of a habitual offender the Committee may escalate what is considered a Minor Penalty into a Major Penalty.

(c) Major Penalties

Serious infraction of any Minor Penalty/infraction (multiple complaints)

Dishonest play, cheating

Player taking undue advantage of the rules of golf or a fellow competitor

No player may compete as a partner of, or verify the handicap of an amateur when knowingly incorrect

Major Penalty Fine Schedule:

First offense: Fine up to \$350  
Second offense: Fine up to \$600 and/or suspension of one points event or pro-am event

Third offense: Fine up to \$1,000 and/or suspension up to one year of tournament play

Major penalties will be cumulative over the offender's time as a PGA Member and/or Apprentice.

Note: Fines are due and payable within thirty (30) days of the Tournament Disciplinary Committee's rendering of a decision. Unless the penalty includes a Suspension, the Participant will be eligible to play until the due date. In the event the Participant has made a written appeal and the appeal is denied, the fine will be due and payable immediately following the denial and the Participant will be ineligible to participate in any Philadelphia Section PGA tournament and any other PGA of America tournaments and the tournaments of any other PGA Section until said fine is paid in full.

Note: Violations of The Rules of Golf do not require the Tournament Committee to follow the procedures outlined under Article X.

Note: The Tournament Disciplinary committee has the right to recommend to the Philadelphia Section PGA Executive Committee suspension or expulsion from the membership of the Association subject to the procedures outlined in Section 10.04 below.