

ARKANSAS STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Arkansas State Golf Association (ASGA) takes great pride in the quality of its players, host facilities and volunteer involvement at each tournament. In order to continue to make ASGA junior tournament enjoyable for everyone, the ASGA expects all junior members to adhere to a reasonable Code of Conduct. The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to help all ASGA junior members improve and mature by understanding and accepting the consequences of their actions. The basic Rule of Golf is to "play it as it lies". Similarly, the basic rule of the Code of Conduct is to behave in a sensible, courteous and proper manner, both on and off the golf course.

1. **Prohibited Conduct on the Golf Course.** Violations of the Code of Conduct on the golf course include abusive language, club throwing, cheating, disrespectful actions toward volunteers, officials, or other competitors, abuse of the golf course, smoking or chewing tobacco products, use of drugs or alcohol, failure to adhere to the dress code of the ASGA or host club, leaving the course during a competitive round without permission, except for good cause such as emergency medical situations, and any other improper conduct not becoming of a well-behaved individual.
2. **Prohibited Conduct off the Golf Course.** Violations of the Code of Conduct off the golf course include use of, or association with, drugs or alcohol, abuse of the clubhouse or other club facilities, vandalism or abusive behavior at a local hotel or restaurant.
3. **Dress Code.** Proper attire is required at all times on the golf course and practice facilities, as well as in and around the clubhouse. The dress code prohibits short shorts, tank tops, T-shirts, and jeans, as well as earrings worn by males. All hats must be worn properly, collared shirts must be worn and shirts should be tucked in.
4. **Local Rules.** The host club may impose additional rules, including additional dress code requirements, and participants are expected to abide by all local rules and policies.

5. Conduct of Family Members. The ASGA rules prohibit a parent, grandparent, brother or sister from caddying in ASGA junior events for their child, grandchild, brother or sister. In addition, although it is nearly impossible for participants and family members not to communicate during a round, the Rules of Golf provide that a player may not receive advice or coaching during a competitive round from any person other than the player's caddy. Accordingly, receiving advice or coaching from family members during a competitive round is considered a major violation.

The Code of conduct should be interpreted with common sense in order to achieve its stated objective. For example, improper use of drugs would not include use of prescription drugs as prescribed by a licensed physician, "good cause" for leaving the golf course during competitive round would not include poor play, and a dress code violation would not include proper swimming attire as an invited guest at the host club's swimming pool.

The ASGA Tournament Committee, or upon approval of the ASGA, the host PGA Golf Professional, may assess any of the following penalties based on the severity of the Code of Conduct violation:

1. A warning given to the player;
2. A one stroke penalty; or
3. Disqualification.

In the event of disqualification, a letter will be written to the parent/guardian explaining the violation. A letter also may be written to the parent/guardian if multiple warnings are given to a participant. This Code of Conduct policy will be in effect at all ASGA junior tournaments and ASGA-PGA Junior Tour events. Repeated failure to comply with the ASGA Code of Conduct may result in suspension or revocation of membership in the ASGA.

Good Luck, and remember, as the famous sportswriter Grantland Rice noted years ago, "When that one Great Scorer comes to mark against your name, He writes not whether you won or lost, but how you played the game."