



BOONAH GOLF CLUB DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES

1. A "Participant" bound by the Boonah Golf Club Code of Conduct performs an action that (if officially assessed) has the potential to be classified as a breach of the Boonah Golf Club Code. [Note: A "Participant" is a member engaged with that Event as any of the following: a competitor, a caddie (as defined in the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited), a family member or friend or supporter or associate of a competitor or caddie, a team official or support official, a spectator, a person who comments digitally or otherwise in a public domain on an Event or on another Participant of an Event, and anyone else considered by Boonah Golf Club at its absolute discretion to be a Participant.]
2. The action is brought to the attention of Boonah Golf Club in any way. Boonah Golf Club will promptly determine whether it is appropriate to officially investigate the incident. Boonah Golf Club is not obliged to investigate.
3. If an official investigation is conducted, it is performed by an authorized Boonah Golf Club official/s. In most cases the investigation may be limited to consideration of brief verbal witness reports. In most cases there will be no requirement for the person who performed the action being investigated (ie the Respondent) to be consulted as a part of the initial investigation, although in some cases it may be useful to do so. (The Respondent will have the opportunity to present additional information should they decide to contest the initial assessment of the incident once it has been made.)
4. The findings of the official investigation will be reported to the Match Committee either verbally or in written format. The Match Committee should promptly consider and discuss the findings of the official investigation. This discussion may take place for example in person, or by phone, or text message, or email, or skype, etc.
5. If the Match Committee considers that a Minor Breach or a Serious Breach has been committed, it will promptly categorise the Breach, and assess a penalty with reference to the table of guidelines. The Match Committee has the flexibility and discretion to assess sanctions that differ from the table of guidelines.
6. The evaluation of the Match Committee will be promptly communicated in writing to the Respondent together with a description of the Respondent's options and potential sanctions. (NOTE: Any communication proposed to be sent under this document to a person under the age of 18 must first be sent or communicated to the person's parent or legal guardian. In all communications made under this document the interests of any recipient under the age of 18 must be taken into account.)
7. Communication of the decision to the Respondent is to be recorded by the Match Committee.



8. The decision by the Match Committee is final.

CATEGORIES OF BREACH

There are three levels of breach severity as follows:

1. **Nominal Breach of the Code** – A breach of the Code that does not warrant any further sanction against the Respondent, other than any sanction that might already have been imposed under the Rules of Golf, Local Rules, or Conditions of Competition.
2. **Minor Breach of the Code**
 - (i) **Best Efforts:** Playing in a manner (with no ulterior motive) that creates negative exposure for Boonah Golf Club or the Event, or upsets or distracts fellow Participants.
 - (ii) **Etiquette:** Examples of actions that may warrant such consideration include but are not limited to any of: non-raking of a bunker, dropping litter on the course, lack of verbal warning when hitting a ball close to spectators.
 - (iii) **General Misbehaviour:** General abuse of Event, course, or golf equipment or the like, use of audible obscenities, minor incidents resulting from drunken or otherwise socially unacceptable behaviour by a Participant, repeated breach of practice regulations. A display of clear but minor abusive behaviour towards, or clear but minor disrespect of, another Participant or of an official of any of the following: Boonah Golf Club, the event, a Member Association of Boonah Golf Club, a venue club/facility, another participant. Repeated breach of dress, smoking, alcohol or other event policies. (Note: Any sanctions that may be applied to the player for causing damage to something which is not their own property should not preclude consideration of the player being invoiced for the cost of repairs.)
 - (iv) **Injurious Conduct:** Actions or comments that may harm or discredit officials, fellow Participants, sponsors, promoters, volunteers, third-party contractors, Boonah Golf Club, a venue facility/club, or the Event generally but which does not or is unlikely to create significant or long-term damage (reputational or otherwise) to any of the aforementioned entities.
 - (v) **Failure to Report a Breach of the Code:** A failure to report a breach of the Code by a fellow Participant or to fully and properly assist in an enquiry regarding such a breach.
 - (vi) **Rules of Golf:** A breach of the Rules of Golf which is found to be a careless or negligent infringement of the Rules of Golf and where it is considered that disqualification from the Event at which such breach has taken place is not a sufficient sanction on the Participant.
3. **Serious Breach of the Code**
 - (i) **Best Efforts:** Failure to give best efforts in an attempt to contrive a result.
 - (ii) **Etiquette:** An example of an action that may warrant such consideration is dangerous play leading to, or which could have led to, material third-party injury.



(iii) Significant Misbehaviour: Significant abuse of Event, course, or golf equipment or the like. Significant use of audible obscenities, material incidents resulting from drunken or otherwise socially unacceptable behaviour by a Participant. A display of significant abusive behaviour towards, or significant disrespect of, another Participant or of an official of any of the following: Boonah Golf Club, the Event, a Member Association of Boonah Golf Club, a venue club/facility, another Participant. Significant breaches of dress, smoking, alcohol, or other event policies. (Note: Any sanctions that may be applied to the player for causing damage to something which is not their own property should not preclude consideration of the player being invoiced for the cost of repairs.)

(iv) Injurious Conduct: Actions or comments that may harm or discredit officials, fellow Participants, sponsors, promoters, volunteers, third-party contractors, Boonah Golf Club, a venue facility/club, or the Event generally and that does cause or is likely to cause significant or long-term damage (reputational or otherwise) to any of the aforementioned entities.

(v) Rules of Golf: A breach of the Rules of Golf which is found to be a deliberate infringement of the Rules of Golf or where the Participant's actions or omissions to act are reckless to the extent that they should have known that a breach of the Rules of Golf would occur.

The above list is for guidance and for illustrative purposes only and does not prejudice Boonah Golf Clubs discretion to determine the seriousness of an alleged breach of the Code on a case by case basis in accordance with the relevant facts and evidence obtained.

SANCTIONS

1. **Extension of Sanction Period Due to Eligible Prior Breach/es**
Sanction penalties may be extended (as set out in the below sanction tables) when a Respondent has an Eligible Prior Breach during the previous 18 months.
2. **Nominal Breach of the Code.** The matter is completed, no further action is taken against the Respondent.
3. **Minor Breach of the Code.** The respective sanctions are as follows:

Number of Eligible Prior Breaches (not including current breach)	No of Days
0	7 days
1	14 days



2	30 days
3	60 days
4	120 days
5	240days

4 **Serious Breach of the Code.** The respective sanctions are as follows:

Number of Eligible Prior Breaches (not including current breach)	No of Days
0	30 days
1	63 days
2	126 days
3	252 days
4	504 days
5	1008 days

Note: If in its absolute discretion the Match Committee considers such action to be warranted, it may choose to either reduce or extend the suggested time period for these sanctions, or to have the sanction be served during a specific upcoming event/s.

(ACTIONS THAT REQUIRE DETERMINATION OF MORE SEVERE SANCTION PERIODS)

More severe sanction periods may be determined in cases where actions reported include:

- **bullying or threatening behaviour,**
- **vilification on the basis of gender or race or sexual orientation,**
- **acts of violence against another person,**
- **seeking to manipulate the result of a competition,**
- **cheating,**
- **acting with considered intent to cause damage to the course or to equipment of the Event or the venue facility or the like,**
- **criminal acts or the like.**


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