

RIPON CITY GOLF CLUB - CODE OF CONDUCT

Ripon City Golf Club is committed to providing an environment that is free of discrimination, harassment and intimidation for members, employees and guests.

All Members and Visitors are reminded that an acceptable standard of behaviour must be maintained at all times, both on the Course and within the Clubhouse.

This Code of Conduct is applicable to all Members of Ripon City Golf Club, Guests and Visitors.

Unacceptable behaviour towards a member of staff will not be tolerated, and disciplinary procedures will be considered in all such cases.

In the Clubhouse

Members, guests and visitors are reminded that their conduct should be respectful of fellow golfers, members, visitors and employees at all times. Please note that:

- Any form of discrimination, harassment or intimidation is regarded as unacceptable behaviour.
- Drunkenness will not be tolerated. Please do not be offended if service is refused.
- The use of foul or abusive language such as swearing has no place in the clubhouse and any member, guest or visitor heard using unacceptable or offensive language will be asked to stop or leave the premises.
- Smoking or the use of e-cigarettes is not permitted within any of the Club buildings or on the balcony.
- The taking of illegal substances will incur immediate suspension and loss of membership.
- You may use a mobile phone provided that it does not cause distraction or annoyance to fellow members or visitors.

Whilst acknowledging that adult “banter” contributes to creating a healthy atmosphere among members, these rules are designed to safeguard others who find such banter offensive or intimidating.

This Code of Conduct is not intended to create a bureaucratic, regulatory environment, but rather to promote and enhance our Club’s values.

On the course

All golfers are reminded that they must:

- Avoid slow play, apply Ready Golf principles and allow other golfers to play through as appropriate, waving the following group through when searching for lost balls and maintaining the speed of play by keeping up with the group in front.
- Adhere to the dress code and R&A and local rules of the course.
- Demonstrate fair play both on and off the course.
- Always follow established golf etiquette respecting the course, such as:
 - Repairing pitch marks;

- Replacing divots;
- Raking bunkers.

- Not taking trolleys onto or across teeing grounds or other areas where trolleys are not permitted, including the greens and areas between greenside bunkers and the green.

- Visiting golfers are not permitted to share golf bags unless they are playing in a competition organised by the Club.

- Show the necessary respect to fellow golfers at all times, including:
 - No shouting on the course,
 - No use of foul or abusive language;
 - No misuse of equipment (i.e., throwing clubs in frustration, damaging signage, tee markers, flagstick or rakes etc.);
 - No aggressive behaviour;
 - Conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and not knowingly cheat, disrespect employees, officials, or fellow players.
 - Switch mobile phones to silent on the golf course and only use them for voice calls in emergencies.

Social Media

Members shall not misuse social media platforms, including the Club forum, to make disparaging or abusive comments about other members, employees, or officers of Ripon City Golf Club.

Covid 19

Members, Visitors and employees are required to follow all Club guidance in force in respect of pandemic and infectious disease precautions.

Complaints and Protests

- A complaint may be made by any person including a competitor, member, visiting guests, other associated golf club members, and members of the public.

- A complaint must be made in the first instance to the Ripon City Golf Club Manager within 3 days of the alleged incident or knowledge of the same by the complainant.

- The complaint must be then followed up promptly in writing to the Club Manager and in any event within 28 days of the alleged incident or knowledge of the same by the complainant.

- Once received, the complaint will be investigated to determine whether further action is required.

- If action is required, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the Club's Disciplinary Procedures.

Conduct Constituting Gross Misconduct at Ripon City Golf Club

For clarity, conduct of the nature and type listed below will be treated as Gross Misconduct and is likely to result in offending members being subject to a range of punishments including a reprimand, warning, suspension, fine or expulsion and offending visitors being reprimanded or banned from the Club.

The list is not exhaustive and there may be other types of conduct of a similar gravity that could constitute Gross Misconduct.

- Theft and all offences of dishonesty;
- The taking or use of performance enhancing or prohibited (illegal) substances in the game of golf or otherwise.
- Fighting, as the aggressor, or assault and/or battery on another person on or within the course, car park, curtilage, or clubhouse of the Club.
- Inappropriate conduct towards others, including but not limited to intimidation, sexual or racial harassment, bullying, unlawful discrimination, threatening, abusive and insulting or other offensive behaviour on or within the course, car park, curtilage, or clubhouse of the Club.
- Misuse of Social Media: Publicly disrespecting others or the Ripon City Golf Club via public social media platforms including the Ripon City Golf Club forum.
- Maliciously or deliberately damaging any property within the course, car park, curtilage, or clubhouse of the Club.
- Serious breaches of the R & A rules (Cheating)
- Negligent or deliberate action, leading to a serious breach of health and safety, that may endanger oneself or others on or within the course, car park, curtilage, or clubhouse of the Club.
- Corrupt or improper practice on matters undertaken on behalf of or purportedly for the Club
- Conduct which would bring the Club into serious disrepute including serious breaches of Club Policy and Rules.
- Unauthorised access and/or release of information from the computer systems of the Club.
- Breaches of confidentiality in respect of Club matters or Members including the unauthorised use or release to another party of any Member's personal information or commercial information of the Club.
- A failure: (i) to provide full or true information or evidence to the Club and or Committee appointed by it pursuant to these Guidelines; or (ii) to respect, recognise, abide by and/or comply with any decision made under these regulations.
- The cumulative effect of repeated minor misconduct and/or disregarding previous disciplinary warnings.

Ripon City Golf Club Limited

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