



**WOODFORD GOLF CLUB**  
**Matrix of Offences and Penalties**  
**for Code of Conduct**

## OFFENCES and PENALTIES FOR CODE OF CONDUCT BREACHES

### Foreword:

The committee believes that there needs to be in place some form of guide for offences ranging from a relevantly minor disciplinary issue to a high grade disciplinary issue. The committee has provided the following Matrix, however it needs to be stressed that this is a **guide only** and committees may determine what penalties will apply on a case by case instance. This Matrix will form part of the Club's By Laws.

The Matrix is divided into various grades for members and visitors including all players, i.e.:

<b>Grade 1:</b>	Members and Visitors
<b>Grade 2:</b>	Members and Visitors
<b>Grade 3:</b>	Members and Visitors
<b>Grade 4:</b>	The Board and Committee Members
<b>Grade 5:</b>	Players

### NOTES

1. All Suspension periods must have Board approval.
2. All Suspension periods must be served in full.
3. There will be no suspended suspensions.
4. All Suspension periods will have a probationary period attached to them.
5. A breach in a probationary period will result in serving an additional period of suspension equal to that of the initial suspension.
6. The Disciplinary Committee will comprise of one board member and two members.
7. To be read in conjunction with the Constitution and By Laws of the Woodford Golf Club

## **GRADE 1- OFFENCES and PENALTIES FOR MEMBERS and VISITORS**

### **Guide**

1. If a member or visitor is found guilty of a Grade 1 offence, the penalty is decided by the Disciplinary Committee.
2. Grade 1 suspensions can include disbarment from the course and/or the club and/or competitions for a period of up to one (1) month.
3. A minimum three (3) months probationary period applies to all Grade 1 suspensions. A breach in a probationary period will result in serving an additional period of suspension equal to the initial suspension.
4. Clubs of visiting players will be notified of any breach of the Code of Conduct.
5. Any criminal offences are to be reported to the police or relevant authority for investigation.
6. Any or a combination of the following Grade 1 penalties are to be applied for a Grade 1 offence.

### **Grade 1 Offences**

- a) Uses offensive language towards another person or staff member.
- b) Utters audible obscenities in the hearing of others.
- c) Undermines the health and safety of others.
- d) Does not comply with Club Constitution or By Laws.
- e) Fails to comply with dress regulations.
- f) Repeatedly smokes in a non-smoking designated area.
- g) Allows children to behave in an unsafe manner and/or without consideration for others well-being.
- h) Fails to follow the directions of a staff member or does not comply with Club Signage.
- i) Brings food or alcoholic beverages into the clubhouse without approval.
- j) Behaves in a manner detrimental to the good name and reputation of the Golf Club.
- k) Fails to comply with the Club Constitution, By-Laws, policies or codes.

## **Grade 1 Penalties**

- a) A written warning issued.
- b) A counselling session with the Disciplinary Committee.
- c) The Member/visitor must apologise in writing to the membership and all impacted parties for the alleged conduct by a set date.
- d) Up to one (1) month's suspension from the Club and/or the course and/or the Club competitions plus a three (3) month probationary period.
- e) Suspension of the player's Australian Handicap. "S" Status.
- f) An order that the player should pay compensation to the person, the association or business who suffered loss as a result of any damage.

## **GRADE 2- OFFENCES and PENALTIES FOR MEMBERS and VISITORS**

### **Guide**

1. If a member or visitor is found guilty of a Grade 2 offence, the penalty is decided by the Disciplinary Committee comprising of the Chairperson and three (3) Members.
2. Grade 2 suspensions can include disbarment from the course and/or the club and/or competitions for a period of up to three (3) months.
3. A minimum of a six (6) month probationary period applies to all Grade 2 suspensions. A breach in a probationary period will result in serving an additional period of suspension equal to that of the initial suspension.
4. Clubs of visiting players will be notified of any breach of the Code of Conduct.
5. Any criminal offences are to be reported to the Police or relevant authority for investigation.
6. Any or a combination of the following Grade 2 penalties are to be applied for a Grade 2 offence.

## **Grade 2 Offences**

- a) Repeatedly carries out Grade 1 Offences
- b) Uses threatening behaviour to another person.
- c) Wilfully damages any Club property, the course, the car park, buildings, and any furniture and fittings including garden beds and flora.
- d) Wrongfully removes or damages property belonging to another player, an official, or a member of the public.
- e) Abuses in any way, a player, an official, or person.
- f) Uses abusive or profane language towards another player, an official, or person.

- g) Verbally threatens a player, an official or person whilst on Club property.
- h) Racially vilifies a player, an official or person whilst on Club property.
- i) Continually fails to comply with the Club Constitution, By Laws, policies or codes.
- j) Fails or refuses to co-operate with any investigation by the Disciplinary Committee.
- k) Behaves in a manner detrimental to the good name and reputation of the Club.

### **Grade 2 Penalties**

- a) A written warning issued
- b) A counselling session with the Disciplinary Committee or delegated Board member.
- c) The Member/visitor must apologise in writing to the membership and all impacted parties for the alleged conduct by a set date.
- d) Up to a three (3) month suspension from the Club and/or the course and/or the Club competitions plus a six (6) month probationary period.
- e) Suspension of the player's Australian Handicap. "S" Status.
- f) Payment of compensation to the person, the association or business who suffered loss as a result of any damage.

### **GRADE 3- OFFENCES and PENALTIES FOR MEMBERS and VISITORS**

#### **Guide**

1. If a member or visitor is found guilty of a Grade 3 offence, the penalty is decided by the Disciplinary Committee.
2. Grade 3 suspensions can include disbarment from the course and/or the Club and/or competitions for a period of up to six (6) months.
3. A twelve (12) month probationary period applies to all Grade 3 suspensions. A breach in a probationary period will result in serving an additional period of suspension equal to that of the initial suspension.
4. Clubs of visiting players will be notified of any breach of the Code of Conduct.
5. Any criminal offences are to be reported to the Police or relevant authority for investigation.
6. Any or a combination of the following Grade 3 penalties are to be applied for a Grade 3 offence.

### **Grade 3 Offences**

- a) Repeatedly carries out Grade 2 Offences.
- b) Repeated offences involving alcohol resulting in offensive behaviour or damage to property.
- c) Theft or misappropriation of funds.
- d) Carries, uses or sells illegal drugs.
- e) Assaults a player, Member, guest or member of the public.
- f) Engages in harassment or any behaviour which annoys, threatens, intimidates or alarms.
- g) Engages in discrimination against a person, including religion, race, sex and age.
- h) Carries a dangerous weapon/s.

### **Grade 3 Penalties**

- a) A written warning issued
- b) A counselling session with the Disciplinary Committee.
- c) The Member/visitor must apologise in writing to the membership and all impacted parties for the alleged conduct by a set date.
- d) Up to six (6) month suspension from the Club and/or the course and/or the club competitions plus a twelve (12) month probationary period.
- e) Payment of compensation to the person, the association or business who suffered loss as a result of any damage.
- f) Suspension of the player's Australian Handicap. "S" Status.
- g) Reported to the Police or relevant authority.
- h) Expulsion from the Club.

### **GRADE 4- OFFENCES and PENALTIES FOR BOARD and COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

#### **Guide**

1. If a Board member or a Committee Member is found guilty of Grade 4 offence, the penalty is decided by the President and three (3) Committee Members.
2. Grade 4 penalties include termination of directorship and/or termination of committee involvement.
3. Grade 4 penalties include suspension of all duties from the course and Club for a period of up to six (6) months.

4. A twelve (12) month probationary period applies to all Grade 4 suspensions. A breach in a probationary period will result in serving an additional period of suspension equal to that of the initial suspension.

5. Any criminal offences are to be reported to the Police or relevant authority for investigation.

6. The following Grade 4 penalties are to be applied for a Grade 4 offence.

#### **Grade 4 Offences**

- a) Commits any criminal offence.
- b) Physically or verbally abuses any Board Member, Member, employee, official, opponent, visitor, spectator or other person.
- c) Engages in conduct which brings discredit to the game of golf, the club or any other associated body.
- d) Uses profane or abusive language.
- e) Wilfully damages the golf course or golf club
- f) Wrongfully removes or damages property belonging to another.
- g) Indulges in excessive alcohol consumption unbecoming to a member of the Board.
- h) Divulges Club or Member information of a confidential nature to any unauthorised person or company.
- i) Engages in any transactions involving Club property or intellect which results in personal gain, financial or otherwise.
- j) Takes advantage of their position on the Board in any way.
- k) Engages in harassment or any behaviour which annoys, threatens or intimidates.
- l) Engages in discrimination against a person, including religious, racial, sex or age.

#### **Grade 4 Penalties**

- a) The Board Memberr must apologise in writing to the membership and all impacted parties for the alleged conduct by a set date.
- b) Termination of Directorship and/or Termination of Committee involvement.
- c) Up to six (6) month Suspension from the Club and/or the Course and/or the Club Competitions plus a twelve (12) month Probationary Period.
- d) Payment of compensation to the person, the association or business who suffered loss as a result of any damage.
- e) Suspension of the player's Australian Handicap. "S" Status.
- f) Reported to the Police or relevant authority.

## **GRADE 5 - OFFENCES and PENALTIES FOR GOLF PLAYERS**

### **Guide**

1. If a member or visitor is found guilty of Golf offence, the penalty is decided by the Club Captain or the Ladies Captain and/or the Match Committee. If the offence is considered serious enough, the deliberation shall be passed onto the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee.
2. Grade 5 suspensions can include disbarment from the course and/or the club and/or competitions for a specific period.
3. The player is unable to make bookings during the suspension period.
4. A twelve (12) month probationary period applies to all golf player suspensions. A breach in a probationary period will result in serving an additional period of suspension equal to that of the initial suspension.
5. Any or a combination of the following golf penalties are to be applied if a Grade 5 offence is committed.

### **Golf Player Offences**

- a) Fails to comply with specified dress regulations.
- b) Fails to play without undue delay.
- c) Fails to carry a sand bucket when playing to fill in divots and continually fails to repair pitch marks.
- d) Fails to adhere to the cart policy, cart path policy and directions.
- e) Deliberately breaks a rule (as defined in the Rules of Golf)
- f) Deliberately returns a false score card.
- g) Throws or deliberately or in anger breaks golf equipment (including golf balls) during a competition.
- h) Wrongfully damages the facilities, including the course and the clubhouse of the competition golf course.
- i) Continually misses a tee time.
- j) Does not advise booking cancellation to the Golf Shop or Match Committee (No Show Policy).
- k) Uses a radio, recorder or mobile phone during the course of competition play without authority.
- l) Fails to comply with any other Constitution, By laws, directions or instructions as specified by the Match Committee or any other authorised official for that Competition.
- m) Wrongfully removes or damages property belonging to another player, an official, the tournament organiser or the competition golf club.
- n) During a competition, deliberately seeks to manipulate the player's Australian handicap.
- o) Withdraws from a competition without providing reason.



- p) Commits an act to deliberately disqualify themselves or another player from a competition.
- q) Utters audible obscenities during a competition.
- r) Verbally threatens a player, an official or person during a competition.
- s) Uses abusive or profane language towards another player, an official, or person during a competition.
- t) Physically attacks or abuses in any way, a player, an official, or person during a competition.
- u) Racially vilifies a player, an official or person during a competition.
- v) Behaves in a manner detrimental to the performance of other players.
- w) Fails or refuses to co-operate with, or obstructs any investigation by the Investigative Officer, of the Player's conduct or the conduct of another person.
- x) Fails or refuses to co-operate with, or obstructs a hearing by the Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Committee.

### **Golf Player Penalties**

- a) Two (2) stroke penalty applied for the competition.
- b) Disqualification from the competition.
- c) A written warning issued.
- d) Attend a counselling session with the Club Captain or appointed Board member. Recorded and noted on the Incident Register.
- e) The Member/visitor must apologise in writing to the membership and all impacted parties for the alleged conduct by a set date.
- f) An order that the player pay compensation to the person, the association or business who suffered loss as a result of any damage.
- g) Suspension from the Club and/or the Course and/or the Club Competitions for a specified period plus a Probationary Period.
- h) A recommendation to the Player's District and Zone Associations that the player be suspended from all District and Zone competitions.
- i) Suspension of the player's Australian Handicap. "S" Status.

**Annotations**

**14/06/2022**

**Adopted by the Committee to be made available to members**