

Rivertowne Country Club Code of Conduct Policy

The Rivertowne Country Club (RTCC) expects all players and competitors to adhere to Rule 1.2, “Standards of Player Conduct”, in the USGA Rules of Golf (see page 2). In addition, as allowed in Rule 1.2b, the Handicap/Golf Committee (The Committee) has also set its own standards of player conduct. The **Rivertowne Country Club Code of Conduct Policy** was adopted by the RTCC professional staff, the Men’s Golf Association (MGA), and the Ladies Golf Association (LGA) in February, 2025 as a Local Rule, effective as of that same date.

Rivertowne Country Club requires all players and competitors, including all MGA and LGA members, social members, members at large, and guests, to adhere to the RTCC Code of Conduct Policy. Any of the following actions constitutes a violation of the RTCC Code of Conduct:

- Willful damage of the golf course or golf course property
- Failure to rake bunkers or repair ball marks
- Littering on the golf course
- Club throwing, unnecessary club tossing, or banging clubs on the ground or other surfaces
- Offensive or unbecoming language
- Public criticism of the golf course
- Verbal or any abusive behavior to other players, RTCC staff, officials, or volunteers, whether on or off the golf course
- Potential endangerment of others
- Conduct deemed unbecoming
- Willful disregard for the rules of golf
- Failure to honor your tee time without notifying the RTCC pro shop
- Failure to post scores for handicapping purposes
- Manipulation of scores posted for handicapping purposes

Code of Conduct Violation Penalties: Incidents of serious misconduct or actions deemed to be detrimental to the image of RTCC or any of its members or guests, or contrary to the spirit of the game, are grounds for penalties. Any Code of Conduct violation is subject to the following:

- First breach – warning
- Second breach – general penalty
- Third breach or any serious misconduct can be any one or combination of the following:
 - *disqualification from a tournament
 - *prohibition from playing in MGA/LGA leagues and/or tournaments
 - *removal from MGA or LGA membership

USGA Rule 1.2 Standards of Player Conduct

a. Conduct Expected of All Players

All players are expected to play in the spirit of the game by:

- Acting with integrity – for example, by following the Rules, applying all penalties, and being honest in all aspects of play.
- Showing consideration to others – for example, by playing at a prompt pace, looking out for the safety of others, and not distracting the play of another player. If a player plays a ball in a direction where there might be a danger of hitting someone, they should immediately shout a warning, such as the traditional warning of “fore!”.
- Taking good care of the course – for example, by replacing divots, raking bunkers, repairing ball marks, and not causing unnecessary damage to the course.

There is no penalty under the rules for failing to act in this way, except that the Committee may disqualify a player for acting contrary to the spirit of the game if it finds that the player has committed serious misconduct.

“Serious misconduct” is player behavior that is so far removed from what is expected in golf that the most severe sanction of removing a player from the competition is justified.

Penalties other than disqualification may be imposed for player misconduct only if those penalties are adopted as part of a Code of Conduct under Rule 1.2b.

b. Code of Conduct

The Committee may set its own standards of player conduct in a Code of Conduct adopted as a Local Rule.

- The Code may include penalties for breach of its standards, such as a one-stroke penalty or the general penalty.
- The Committee may also disqualify a player for serious misconduct in failing to meet the Code’s standards.