



## **OPTIMIST JUNIOR GOLF CODE OF CONDUCT**

Optimist International takes great pride in the quality of its players, host facility and volunteer involvement. In order to continue making Optimist Junior Golf events enjoyable for everyone, the Junior Golf Committee requires all players to adhere to a set of guidelines known as the Code of Conduct. Its purpose is to help participants grow and mature by understanding and accepting the consequences of their actions. The Code of Conduct is to be followed throughout the player's stay at the tournament. Tournament play will be conducted in accordance with USGA rules, the following Code of Conduct and local course rules. Participants are expected to conduct themselves in proper fashion both on and off the course for the duration of the event.

### **Violations of the Code of Conduct on the Course**

- Unsportsmanlike conduct, including abusive language, club throwing, disrespect to volunteers, officials or fellow competitors, or abuse of golf course property.
- Use of drugs or alcohol, smoking or chewing tobacco products—a zero tolerance policy is in effect.
- Not adhering to the dress code during practice round or tournament play.
- Use of any type of electric cart in any age division not approved by the Committee.

### **Violations of the Code of Conduct off the Course**

- Any use or association with drugs or alcohol, smoking or chewing tobacco products—a zero tolerance policy is in effect.
- Abusive behavior to any volunteer or tournament official.
- Gambling is not permitted. Any games involving the exchange of money are strictly prohibited.

### **Dress Code**

- Proper golf attire is required at all times during the practice round and tournament play. Questionable attire will be reviewed by the Tournament Director. Players in violation of the dress code will not be permitted to tee off and may be assessed stroke penalties.
- Hats/visors must be worn with brim forward.
- Collared shirts must be worn and tucked in at all times with the following exceptions: women's shirts without a collar must have sleeves. Men's shirts without a collar must have a tight neck fit. T-shirts are prohibited.
- No tank tops, short-shorts, denim shorts, cut-off shorts, gym shorts, t-shirts or jeans.

### **Code of Conduct Violation Penalties**

- One stroke penalty for each act of unsportsmanlike behavior on the golf course.
- A serious act of unsportsmanlike behavior on the course may result in the player being immediately disqualified from the tournament, subject to review of the Rules Committee. Any Code of Conduct violation off the course may also result in the player being disqualified from the tournament and immediately sent home subject to review of the Tournament Director.

### **Optimist Junior Golf Withdrawal Policy**

This policy will allow for withdrawals for medical reasons or for emergencies. The medical reason must be verified and approved by the Tournament Director. If a player cannot continue play within 15 minutes they will be considered withdrawn from the tournament with the approval of the Tournament Director. If it is determined that the player is healthy enough to continue and the player refuses, the player will be disqualified. The entire group involved will be held at the point of stoppage and other groups will play through. A tournament official will restart the group. All play must comply with all current tournament rules and policies. The player must notify and receive approval of a tournament official prior to leaving the course. The decision of the Tournament Director is final. If a family emergency, on or off site occurs, the Tournament Director may allow a player to withdraw. The reason or reasons must be verified by the Tournament Director. All printed and published results at the end of the tournament will reflect a withdrew status.

### **Optimist Junior Golf Disqualification Policy**

Disqualification will occur if during a competitive round of the tournament a player refuses to continue play after the Tournament Director releases the player to continue play. Failure to report for your tee time, leaving the course without the notification and approval of a Rules Official, or any other already published reason will also be automatic disqualification. All printed and published results at the end of the tournament will reflect a disqualified status.

### **Spectator Code of Conduct**

Spectators of Optimist Junior Golf tournaments are welcome and are free of charge. Spectator rules will be in effect for all non-participants. Carts are available to spectators for all practice & tournament rounds. The Optimist Junior Golf Program requires all spectators to adhere to a set of guidelines known as the Spectator Code of Conduct. Its purpose is to allow Optimist Junior Golf players to compete on a level playing field with other competitors. It will also promote the game of golf and help our players grow and mature by understanding and accepting the consequences of their actions. The Spectator Code of Conduct will be in effect during all tournament rounds.

- Remain a minimum of 50 feet from all participants while following play.
- No advice is to be given to any player. A violation of this rule may result in stroke penalties or disqualification of the player.
- Do not walk or drive carts in the fairways.
- Help spot golf balls.
- Allow rules officials to administer rulings. You will be brought into a situation only when a rules official asks.
- When on the course, turn off cell phones or turn ringers to the silent or vibrate mode.