



## **GolfRSA Parent & Spectator Guide:**

### **Introduction:**

GolfRSA takes great pride in the quality of its players, host Club facilities and community involvement at each tournament. In order to make GolfRSA tournaments enjoyable for everyone GolfRSA requires all members and parents to adhere to the GolfRSA Code of Conduct & Ethics Code, which can be found on the GolfRSA website [www.golfrsa.co.za](http://www.golfrsa.co.za). The below guides are additional expectations from parents & spectators.

### **What GolfRSA expects from Parents:**

- Remain a reasonable distance from players at all times and do not engage with players regarding their games during the round.
- Parents are not allowed to give any advice by verbal, signs or any other form of advice during any official round in a tournament. "Advice is any council or suggestion which could influence a player determining his play, the choice of club or the method of making a stroke."
- Allow the GolfRSA Rules officials to administer rulings. You will be brought into the situation ONLY if the Rules official asks you for clarification of a situation.
- When on the golf course all mobile phones and pagers to be turned off or else set to "silent mode".
- Adhere to GolfRSA and the host club's dress regulations. Many courses do not allow Jeans, T-Shirts, and Slip Slops etc.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- Remember that your child participates in sport for their own enjoyment, not yours.
- Focus on your child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Never ridicule or shout at your child and other children for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- Show appreciation for good performance and skilful play by all players (including opposing players).
- Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with or in the vicinity of persons under 19 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
- Respect the official's decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Do not physically or verbally abuse or harass anyone associated with the sport (player, coach, manager, rules officials and so on).
- Be a positive role model.
- Respect the rights of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Encourage your child to write thank you notes to those people who contributed to the respective event.

### **GolfRSA Spectator Guidelines:**

In golf customs of etiquette and decorum are just as important as rules governing play. It is appropriate for Parents and Spectators to applaud successful strokes, but in order to secure the spirit of the game, we ask parents and spectators to please adhere to the following guidelines.

- "Advice is any council or suggestion which could influence a player determining his play, the choice of club or the method of making a stroke."
- Keeping the above statement in mind, please keep your conversation with the players to words of encouragement as long as advice is not given.
- All spectators attend GolfRSA events at their own risk.

- GolfRSA does not allow spectators or parents to use carts. (Doctors certificates not acceptable) unless specifically stated as allowable.
- All players, parents and spectators are not permitted to ride on the back of a Golf cart at any time during *GolfRSA* events.
- Spectators and parents are allowed to assist in the search for lost balls.
- Where possible, spectators and parents should stay on the cart paths. In the absence of cart paths, we ask that they stay in the rough. **Please stay off Fairways, Tees and Greens.**
- Spectators and parents may not give rulings. Please seek a Tournament Rules Official if the need arises.
- Spectators and parents are allowed to carry medicine, cool drinks, food etc.
- For your own personal safety, we ask you exercise caution at all times.
- When inclement weather moves into the area, GolfRSA will suspend play by sounding sirens or air horns. Accordingly, you must seek shelter immediately. GolfRSA will evacuate players from the course first.
- GolfRSA officials may assess a penalty based on the severity of the violation. If a serious breach has occurred, the spectator or parent may be asked to leave the course or in cases of serious breach the spectator or parent may not be permitted to attend another GolfRSA event.
- GolfRSA may discuss the spectator and parent guidelines at tournament's players meeting where applicable or post a copy of this document for players and spectator.

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