



FNQGA JUNIOR GOLF

SPECTATOR AND BAG PUSHER BEHAVIOUR

Our commitment

Far North Queensland Golf Association Junior Golf (FNQGA JG) is committed to providing a safe environment for participation. Aggressive, threatening or other inappropriate behaviour by members, their families, their friends, and other sporting personnel while attending a game or event will not be tolerated.

These behaviours are outlined include but not limited to:

- using bad language.
- harassing or ridiculing players, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- making racist, religious, sexist or other inappropriate comments to players, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- any threatening behaviour or physical altercation between spectators and players, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- putting undue pressure on children, berating them or putting down their performance.
- drinking on the golf course or being drunk at a FNQGA Junior Golf event.
- smoking on the golf course during a FNQGA Junior Golf event.

What we will do

- Provide members, their parents and other sporting personnel with our Code of Behaviour and make clear what is expected and the consequences of non-compliance.
- Where possible, bind non-members by prominently displaying conditions of entry to grounds and facilities and by requiring parents to abide by club rules (e.g., by making parents associate members, signing our Code of Behaviour).
- Reinforce messages of fair and respectful behaviour by displaying signs and posters around our facilities and providing information on our website, in our newsletter and through other club communication.

Play by the Rules is supported by the Australian, state and territory governments.

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- Encourage our coaches and officials to complete training to develop their skills and confidence.
- Ban bringing alcohol on to the golf course during a FNQGA Junior Golf event.
- Ban smoking on the golf course during a FNQGA Junior Golf event.
- Consult with our local police and seek their support and advice on how to handle issues involving inappropriate behaviour by spectators prior to, at or after a game.
- Encourage the reporting of incidents and investigate inappropriate behaviours as outlined in this policy and take disciplinary or whatever other actions as are deemed necessary (e.g., appoint a ground official to monitor behaviour).
- Encourage our players, coaches, officials and spectators to call the police if they are concerned about escalating behaviour and their safety or the safety of others.

What we ask you to do

- Read and abide by the Parent, Spectator and Bag Pusher Guideline which is outlined below.
- Parents/Spectators to only smoke in the designated smoking areas around the clubhouse and carpark.
- Help create a positive atmosphere for players, officials and other spectators by showing respect for players, officials and other spectators.
- Abide by our Code of Behaviour and refrain from using bad language, harassing or ridiculing others or behaving in a threatening or violent manner.
- If you are aware of inappropriate spectator behaviour and you feel confident to do so, speak with the person and ask them to stop. If there is a Staff member, official or volunteer, ask for their assistance.
- Report any inappropriate spectator behaviour to someone in a position of authority.
- Call the police or a club official if you are concerned for your safety or the safety of others.

Non-Compliance

Parents or others found to have behaved inappropriately, and who are associate members or have agreed to abide by our Code of Behaviour and this policy, may face disciplinary action as outlined in our Member Protection Policy.

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Parent, Spectator and Bag Pusher Guidelines

FNQGA Junior Golf will not enforce an “exclusion zone” or ban parents and spectators from being within a certain distance of the players on the course, provided the following rules and guidelines are followed:

- Parents and spectators are to stay on the designated paths or walk along the tree line of a particular fairway to watch the players.
- Parents and spectators are encouraged to act as additional spotters for errant shots or help search for lost balls in long grasses and hazards.
- Parents and spectators are not to walk onto any teeing ground, in the middle of the fairway with the players, or onto the green for any reason.
- Parents and spectators are not to push a player’s golf bag, offer any advice or coaching throughout the round, or get involved with any rulings or scoring disputes.

There will be on course marshals, tournament staff, and designated rules officials available to assist and deal with any problems arising on the golf course.

Parents and spectators who are found to be crossing the clearly defined guidelines above will be given an official warning and may be asked to leave the course if the behaviour continues.

Players in the 9 Hole Divisions do have the option to use a "bag pusher" to help them get around the golf course. Bag pushers are purely there to help each golfer in the group with pace of play and help the entire group keep up with the group in front.

The bag pushers are not permitted to coach the players throughout the round, stand behind the players to line up shots or go onto the green to line up putts. The bag pushers can rake bunkers or attend the flag on the green, to help with the pace of play. The bag pushers are not rules officials and we don't want anyone getting into arguments with other parents and spectators following a particular group about any on course rulings or scoring.

Any bag pusher found to be crossing these clearly defined guidelines above will be given an official warning and may be asked to leave the course if the behaviour continues.