

## **GOLF SPECTATOR GUIDELINES**

1. Be advised that all host golf courses have the right to prohibit spectators.
2. Spectators **MUST** stay on the cart paths or in the rough (when cart paths are not evident).
3. You must maintain at least a 50-foot distance between you and the nearest player. This includes when the players are on the putting surface.
4. Be certain to stay out of the peripheral vision of the golfers.
5. Avoid standing in landing areas for the golfers behind your group.
6. Spectators **MAY NOT** speak in private with the competitors. Only the designated coach is allowed this option. If you do speak with the player, it may be construed as the giving of advice and a player penalty may result.
7. Applause and positive comments for golfers (i.e.: “nice shot”) are encouraged.
8. Spectators are not to pick up any golf balls on the course during the match. The owner may be a competitor who hit from a different fairway.
9. You may assist in the search for a lost ball but you may not be in front of the players to watch where their balls land. When a player calls the search off, you must respect that decision and quit searching.
10. **DO NOT** attempt to give rulings to any competitors. Ask a coach or rules official.
11. Violation of spectator guidelines could result in the following consequences:

1st violation - warning to spectator and player.

Both will be advised by either the GMC coach present or the meet host of the consequences/sanctions associated with a second violation. If the spectator continues to violate these guidelines or becomes confrontational, he/she will be told to leave the golf course immediately. The Athletic Director from the school which the spectator is affiliated with will send a letter to the ejected spectator reminding him/her of these spectator guidelines and the possible consequences of a second violation within the season. Copies of this letter will be sent to all the GMC schools and the Conference Commissioner.

2nd violation - The spectator will be asked to leave the golf course. Moreover, the spectator will be prohibited from attending the remainder of GMC meets for the season. The Conference Commissioner will send a letter informing the violator of this sanction and send copies to all the GMC schools.

GMC coaches and/or meet hosts accept the responsibility of monitoring behavior and informing both the violators, their schools' Athletic Directors, and the Athletic Director in charge of golf of the sanctions imposed so that appropriate action can be taken.

IT IS CRITICAL THAT WE, AS ADULTS, BE POSITIVE ROLE MODELS AND ENCOURAGE SPORTSMANSHIP BY SHOWING RESPECT AND COURTESY TOWARD ALL PLAYERS, COACHES AND SPECTATORS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IN MAKING THIS A CONSTRUCTIVE EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR GOLFER.