

Disciplinary Policy

Disciplinary action may be taken in respect of conduct reflecting unfavourably on the game, whether it occurs on or off the course.

Disciplinary Committee

1. The Aorangi Golf Association Board shall appoint a Disciplinary Committee of no less than three members, at least one of whom shall be a Board member, and one of those shall be designated as the Chairperson.
2. If a conflict of interest occurs relating to a matter before the Disciplinary Committee this must be declared prior to participation in the hearing. The Board may appoint a replacement.

Definitions

1. 'Board' means the Board of Aorangi Golf Association
2. 'Club' has the same meaning as in the Constitution of New Zealand Golf.
3. 'Competitor' means a person who participates as a player in any golfing event or activity of, or sanctioned by , the International Golf Federation, New Zealand Golf, a District association or any affiliate of those bodies or a member of an affiliated club or team.
4. 'District Association' has the same meaning as in the Constitution of New Zealand Golf.
5. 'Official' means a board member, administrator, manager, coach, referee, caddie or any other person contributing to or associated with golf in any formal capacity other than only as a competitor or only in the course of business.
6. 'Participant' means any competitor or official.

Jurisdiction

The Disciplinary Committee shall have the power and authority:

1. To hear and determine complaints out of or relating to programmes, events or activities conducted by Aorangi Golf or attended by teams or individuals representing Aorangi Golf.
2. Without deviating from the broad general scope of the jurisdiction conferred, matters of discipline likely to reflect unfavourably on the game include:
 - a. Dishonesty, including cheating in the course of any event;
 - b. Unsportsmanlike conduct and unnecessary gamesmanship
 - c. Breach of codes of conduct applicable to participants.
 - d. Abuse of officials
 - e. Physical violence and threatening behaviour.
 - f. Criminal conduct.
 - g. Inappropriate use of Social Media.
 - h. Failure to comply with any penalty imposed under these rules.

All matters relating to doping will be dealt with in accordance with the anti-doping policy of Drug Free New Zealand.

Procedure

Complaints

Complaints in the first instance are to be made to the Chairperson of the Aorangi Board.

Complaints are to be in writing and may be made by any person including a Board member, club/club member and members of the public.

The incident to which the complaint relates must have occurred within 28 days of the date of the receipt of the complaint.

Upon receipt of any complaint the Chairperson will consult with the Board, and may take legal advice and, if satisfied upon reasonable inquiry that there is sufficient evidence of conduct that may give rise to the need for disciplinary action:

- i. if the matter is of a minor nature, may deal with it by way of a warning or reprimand, whereupon the matter will be closed.
- ii. otherwise the Chairperson of the Board, subject to the legal advice received, shall gather such written evidence as is reasonably available and within 21 days of the receipt of the complaint give notice of hearing as hereinafter provided.

Appeals

Appeals may be made to the Disciplinary Committee of New Zealand Golf if requested by Aorangi Golf.

Hearings

Notice of any hearing of the Disciplinary Committee shall be given to the person or persons the subject of the complaint and the complainant.

The notice shall specify the date, time and place for the hearing and shall be accompanied by such material as will give the person to whom it is sent adequate notice of the subject matter of the hearing.

The hearing date shall be fixed no earlier than 7 days from the date the notice is dispatched.

The notice shall advise parties to whom it is sent whether the hearing is to be conducted on written submissions or whether the parties are to be entitled to appear in person or by representatives to give oral evidence. The hearings will be in private.

The procedure for the hearings will be determined by the Disciplinary Committee but it is expected that both or either parties may attend with appropriate support or representation.

Penalties

If a complaint is upheld by the Committee, it shall give its decision in writing within 5 working days, with reasons, and it shall have the power to impose on the defendant one or more of the following penalties:

Competitors:

- . a letter of warning or a letter of censure;
- . removal from a team
- . disqualification of eligibility for a team;
- . suspension from participation in district and or club events for a finite period;
- . a total ban from the game for a period;
- . any other penalty deemed appropriate by the Committee.

Officials

- . a letter of warning or a letter of censure;
- . suspension from office for a period;
- . removal from office;
- . termination of appointment, eg manager, coach etc;
- . removal from a committee;
- . any other penalty deemed reasonable or appropriate by the Committee.

The defendant also be given notice in writing of any penalty imposed. The Disciplinary Committee will determine to whom the decision shall be distributed.