



The LGF Championship Committee (further - Committee) present is responsible for updating and reserves the right to configure the Code of Conduct at any time of the year. It is composed of the R&A and EGA recommendations. The Code of Conduct of the LGF is in effect for all events held by the Latvian Golf Federation.

### TYPES OF CODE OF CONDUCT BREACHES

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There are two types of Code of Conduct breaches in which the Committee may classify an action of misconduct.

- **Serious misconduct** These are actions that are so far removed from the expected norm of behaviour in golf that the most severe sanction of removing player from the competition is justified. This includes but is not limited to deliberately damaging the course, dishonesty, cheating, deliberately interfering with another player's rights or play, insulting and endangering competition staff, other players and one's own safety.
- **Minor misconduct** These are actions that are generally less significant, but the Committee may choose to deem such actions as serious misconduct if it is ruled that the player has carried them out deliberately with wilful intentions or if they occur repeatedly.

*\*A breach is deemed to occur "during a competition" if it occurs during Competition Play, during a suspension of play or involves the tournament staff, other players playing in the competition and occurs on the tournament course, clubhouse or other course facilities.*

### EXAMPLES AND PENALTIES OF CODE OF CONDUCT BREACHES

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#### SERIOUS MISCONDUCT

Such breaches include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal threatening, abuse or impoliteness, use of vulgar or offensive language, psychological interference or intimidation to a large extent to another player, tournament staff or any person;
- Physical attack, in any way, to another player, tournament staff or any person;
- Throwing a club at another player, tournament staff or any person;
- Hitting another player with a ball, when the player was aware that he/ she might reach the other player;
- Deliberately failing to play by the Rules of Golf;
- Deliberately failing to report possible Rules of Golf violations to other players or the Committee;
- Deliberately causing serious damage to the competition course (including course property and facilities); Wrongfully removing or damaging property belonging to another player, an official, the golf club or any person;
- Consumption of illegal substances on the competition course (including course property and facilities);
- Gambling which may consciously interfere with one's own play and result;
- Disagreeing with the course setup and taking it on him or herself in moving Teeing Area markers, boundary stakes, direction posts, advertising boards;
- Committing an act to deliberately achieve disqualification of another player from a competition;
- Using a handicap that has been established for the purpose of providing an unfair advantage or using a competition round to establish such a handicap.



## PENALTY FOR SERIOUS MISCONDUCT

As all of the above stated examples of serious misconduct are far from the expected etiquette and behaviour norms of the players, the only applicable penalty for such breaches is **disqualification** from the competition. In case if the committee believes that the particular situation including that act is not as far from the expected player etiquette and behaviour as that breach would normally be, the penalty for serious misconduct may be diminished to a **two-stroke penalty**.

## MINOR MISCONDUCT

Whilst generally less than significant, can qualify as serious misconduct if is determined to have been done with a wilful intention and/ or is deliberate. Such breaches include, but are not limited to:

- Club throwing; dropping the club behind back on the follow-through, slamming club into the ground, throwing a golf ball in anger and other forms of shown disrespect to the course, abuse of clubs or other equipment;
- Swearing or using obscene vulgar language or gestures; displaying poor attitude;
- Failure to care for course including but not limited to raking bunkers, not replacing divots, not repairing pitch marks and littering;
- Failing or refusing to co-operate or obstructing any investigation of any player's Code of Conduct or rules breach;
- Other such behaviour that falls short of the standards of etiquette and behaviour outlined in Rule 1.2a of the Rules of Golf.

## PENALTIES FOR MINOR MISCONDUCT

“Minor Misconduct” infractions are carried through the entire championship. For example, a player who breaches the Code of Conduct with a Minor misconduct the first time during the first round, will receive a further penalty of one stroke in the second round for the second Minor misconduct.

1. Breach      Player will be warned by an official and told that if the he or she has a further minor misconduct breach he or she will be penalised

	<u>Stroke play</u>	<u>Match Play</u>
2. Breach	One stroke penalty	One stroke penalty
3. Breach	Two stroke penalty	Loss of hole
4. Breach	Disqualification	Disqualification

## SANCTIONS

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Albeit the highest penalty for a breach of the Code of Conduct of LGF is a **disqualification** from the competition, if the Committee believes that a breach is very far from the expected behaviour norms of players, it may further choose to extend the disqualification to a half-year or year-long period, from all the events ran by the Committee.

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