

NYSGA SPECTATOR POLICY



(Revised February 1, 2026)

Spectators at NYSGA championships are expected to abide by the following policies to ensure fair and safe play for all competitors. For the purposes of this document, "NYSGA" refers to the New York State Golf Association and its allied associations: the Buffalo, Capital Region, Triple Cities, and Syracuse District Golf Associations.

Spectators attend NYSGA events at their own risk and must adhere to the NYSGA Code of Conduct.

ON-COURSE CONDUCT

- Do not talk, move, or make noise near a player while they are preparing for or playing a shot.
- Walk with or ahead of the group you are watching. Do not delay the group behind you by walking slowly.
- Stay in the rough or near the cart path. Do not walk down the center of any fairway, or on any putting green, tee box, or bunker.
- Do not position yourself on or near a player's line of play.
- Do not pick up golf balls. If you help search for an errant shot, be careful not to touch a ball or alter a lie.
- Do not provide any advice, rulings, or coaching to players, either verbally or through signals.
- Do not engage with Rules Officials during a ruling unless specifically asked.

INTERACTION WITH PLAYERS

- Always maintain a reasonable distance from players and caddies to avoid any appearance of imparting advice or assistance.
- A spectator may briefly approach a player to exchange clothing, food, beverages, medicine, or umbrellas, but should not have prolonged conversations.

CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- Cell phones must be always set to silent while on the golf course.
- Do not take phone calls, use speakerphones, or play music in areas where it may distract players.
- Do not send messages or otherwise communicate with a player during the round.

GOLF CARTS

Spectators are not permitted to use golf carts during practice and competition rounds. Limited exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis for spectators with a disability who (1) complete and submit the 2026 NYSGA Golf Cart Request Form and (2) are approved by a member of the NYSGA staff.

DRESS CODE

Spectators must meet the dress code requirements of the host club. Tank tops, t-shirts, cut-offs, athletic or short shorts, and denim are generally not acceptable. Please check with the host club for specific requirements.

ENFORCEMENT

Spectators who violate this policy will be approached by an NYSGA official and asked to comply. Repeated or serious violations may result in the spectator being asked to leave the golf course.

If you have any questions, please direct them to a member of the NYSGA staff or committee.

