

Austin Senior Golf Association

Honors Violation Policy

1. Purpose

The Austin Senior Golf Association is built on honesty, integrity, and respect for the game. This policy outlines how ASGA handles accusations of honors violations to ensure that every member is treated fairly and that the integrity of competition is protected.

2. Definition of Honors Violations

An honors violation is any intentional action meant to gain an unfair advantage during play.

Examples include:

- Recording incorrect scores or signing an inaccurate scorecard
- Moving or improving the position of a golf ball in violation of the Rules of Golf
- Tampering with scorecards or electronic scoring
- Misrepresenting a handicap or prior scores
- Colluding with another player to influence match results or standings

Accidental rule breaches are not considered honors violations but should always be reported and corrected immediately.

3. Player Responsibilities

- Integrity: Members are expected to be truthful and transparent in all aspects of play.
- Respect: All players and officials should be treated with courtesy, regardless of disagreements.
- Accountability: Every member shares responsibility for upholding the spirit of the game.

4. Reporting a Concern

If a Member suspects a violation has occurred, it's up to the folks in that group to point it out to the offending player immediately.

- If the player agrees that a violation has occurred, they can rectify the situation in real time.
- If the player does not believe that a violation has occurred, you should let that player as well as the rest of your group know that you will be contacting the Honors Committee on this ruling.

Everyone in the group must understand why you feel there is a violation and why the other player does not. The point of this is not to determine who is right, but simply to make sure everyone understands what happened. Without your group's on the spot understanding of the situation, any accusations after the fact are essentially hearsay. We want to do better than that. You then should contact the Event Chair within 24 hours and advise him/her of the situation in writing, using the Report Form. [Click here](#) for the form.

If the incident directly involves the Event Chair, you should report the concern to the Immediate Past President.

All reports are treated seriously and confidentially. False or malicious accusations will not be tolerated.

5. The Review Process

Confidentiality: Allegations are handled privately to protect all parties involved.

Initial Review: The Event Chair will review the facts and determine whether a formal investigation is needed.

Investigation: If a formal investigation is necessary, the Honors Committee (consisting of the Immediate Past President, Event Chair, & Handicap Chair) may speak with the players involved and review scorecards and witness accounts.

Decision: The Committee will decide whether a violation occurred and what action, if any, is

appropriate.

Notification: Both the complainant and accused will be informed of the outcome in writing.

6. Possible Outcomes

<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Example Outcome</u>
Informal Warning	For minor or accidental rule misunderstandings	Verbal or written reminder of proper procedure
Formal Warning	For repeated carelessness or poor judgment	Written warning; review of conduct expectations
Suspension or Expulsion	For deliberate or serious misconduct. Or repeated acts of honor violations	Loss of playing privileges for 1 or more matches and possible permanent expulsion

7. Appeals

Members who believe a decision was made in error may submit a written appeal to the ASGA Board within 10 days of the decision notice. The Board will review all available information and issue a final ruling. No further appeal will be considered.

8. Confidentiality

All discussions, evidence, and outcomes are handled privately. Only the ASGA Board and involved members will be informed of case details. The league will not publicly announce disciplinary actions unless necessary for transparency.

9. Retaliation

Members must never retaliate against anyone who raises a concern in good faith. Retaliation—including verbal abuse, threats, or exclusion—will result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and/or expulsion.

10. Member Acknowledgment

Participation in ASGA events is deemed as understanding and acceptance of this policy.