



Code of Conduct

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Comments, queries or suggestions may be submitted via
10bc.tenerife@gmail.com

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1. Scope and Application

(i) The 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club is the local backgammon club responsible for the governance of the game of backgammon within its social plays, tournaments, and other events in the Tenerife, Canary islands, Spain and this Code of Conduct is adopted and implemented as part of the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club's continuing efforts to maintain the public image, popularity and integrity of backgammon by providing:

(a) An effective means to deter any participant from conducting themselves improperly at or away from the board or in a manner that is contrary to the spirit of the game; and

(b) A robust and proportionate disciplinary procedure pursuant to which all matters of improper conduct can be dealt with fairly, with certainty and in an expeditious manner.

(ii) This Code of Conduct applies to:

a. any person, irrespective of 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club membership, participating in, or organising:

i. any game or event recognised by the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club for rating purposes; or

ii. any other game or event conducted by or for the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club; or

iii. any other game or event otherwise endorsed by or affiliated with the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club.

b. Any 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club member in conducting themselves publicly.

(iii) The 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club recognise that private games or events do not necessarily fall within the scope of paragraph 1(ii) above (the "Scope"), and while the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club encourages the ethos of this Code of Conduct to be taken up by all players, it does not claim to have any jurisdiction over games, events or conduct outside those covered by the Scope.

(iv) It is not possible in this Code of Conduct to precisely define each and every circumstance or standard of conduct expected of players, tournament directors and spectators involved in a game or event or to list everything that would amount to a breach of this Code of Conduct and lead to disciplinary action. Persons otherwise uncertain of the conduct expected of them or who require advice on conduct observed should contact the official or organisers of the event or contact the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club.

(v) By becoming a 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club member and/or by their participation in any game or event in the Scope, the player, official or spectator shall be deemed to have agreed:

a. to be bound by and comply with all of the provisions of the Code of Conduct; and

- b. that it is their personal responsibility to familiarise themselves with all of the requirements of the Code of Conduct, including what conduct constitutes an offence under the Code of Conduct.

(vi) The 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club will be responsible for promoting Code of Conduct awareness and education amongst all players, event organisers, and officials.

2. Code of Conduct Offences

(i) Backgammon owes much of its appeal and enjoyment to the fact that it should be played not only according to the rules, but also within the *spirit of the game*. There follows a non-exclusive list of behaviors and attitudes which the Code of Conduct expects:

- a. Showing your opponent respect and playing by the rules;
- b. Respecting the rights, dignity, and worthiness of all people irrespective of age, gender, race, disability, or any other protected characteristic;
- c. Refraining from verbal, emotional or physical abuse toward any other player, tournament official or spectator.

(ii) There follows a non-exclusive list describing conduct which breaches the *spirit of the game* and therefore, if committed by a 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club member, player, official, organiser, or spectator, shall amount to an offence under the Code of Conduct:

- a. Repeatedly or grossly violating the rules of backgammon, or generally accepted backgammon etiquette, or the rules or conditions applicable to a particular event;
- b. Cheating, or attempting to cheat, in relation to a game or event;
- c. Failing to comply with normally accepted standards of courtesy, behaviour and respect for all people both at and away from the board;
- d. Engaging in violent, threatening or other unseemly behaviour in relation to a game or event;
- e. Making unjustified accusations towards other players, officials, organisers, or sponsors of an event;
- f. Engaging in conduct likely to injure the reputation of the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club, its events, officials, organisers, participants or sponsors;
- g. Whilst holding the position of an organiser, tournament director or other official of an event: failing to perform the functions in relation to that event in an impartial and responsible manner or failing to honor financial commitments relating to the event.
- h. Whilst representing the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club in a team or delegation, as a player, official or accompanying person, behaving in any manner likely to disrupt either (i) the organization of event concerned or (ii) the performance or preparation of fellow or opposition team/player or delegation members.

3. Reporting an Alleged Offence Under the Code of Conduct

(i) Offences under the Code of Conduct can take place;

a. during or in connection with a game or event:

i. Any alleged offence under the Code of Conduct during a game or event should in the first instance be brought to the attention of the tournament director or other authorised official of the event, who may impose an appropriate penalty in line with the rules or conditions applicable to that particular event.

1. Where a penalty is imposed upon a player during any game or event, the tournament director must report it to the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board or officially register it as soon as practicably possible thereafter. This report must be by email and must include a full report of the incident and action taken.

(ii). Once an event has been completed, and where the tournament director or other authorised official of the event has no further action to take, or is unable to take proportionate action, there may remain an unresolved issue or grievance.

1. In such a case any player, organiser, or official of the event may report an alleged offence under the Code of Conduct by petition to the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board.

b. unrelated to a game or event:

i. Where an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct has taken place outside of a formal game or event setting, then any directly involved person may report an alleged offence under the Code of Conduct by petition to the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board.

(ii) A petition to the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board should be by email to 10bc.tenerife@gmail.com and must include a full report of the incident, identifying the alleged offender and including as much proof and evidence of the alleged breach of the Code of Conduct as is reasonably possible.

(iii) Any petition to the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board must be made within 7 days of the discovery of the alleged offence having taken place. Only under exceptional circumstances will petitions received after this duration be considered.

4. Standards of Proof and Evidence

- (i) The standard of proof in all cases brought under the Code of Conduct shall be whether the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board is comfortably satisfied, bearing in mind the seriousness of the allegation that is made, that the alleged offence has been committed. This standard of proof in all cases shall be determined on a sliding scale from, at a minimum, a mere balance of probability (for the least serious offences) up to proof beyond a reasonable doubt (for the most serious offences).
- (ii) The 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board shall not be bound by judicial rules governing the admissibility of evidence. Instead, facts relating to an offence committed under the Code of Conduct may be established by any reliable means, including admissions.
- (iii) The 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board may draw an inference adverse to the person who is asserted to have committed an offence under the Code of Conduct based on his/her refusal, without compelling justification, after a request made in a reasonable time, to present their case in reply to the allegation, and/or to answer any relevant questions.
- (iv) For the avoidance of doubt, the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board will not act or be expected to act in an investigative capacity to obtain additional evidence not already presented but will only consider the evidence presented and make what additional enquiries in relation to such evidence as it believes is reasonably necessary to consider the matter. The alleged offender shall be given the right to make their representations on the matter in all cases.

5. Disciplinary Process, Penalties and Sanctions

- (i) Upon due consideration of a petition to the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board, where the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board determines that a breach of the Code of Conduct has occurred, it may impose a penalty, further penalty, or sanction against an offender.
- (ii) Penalties or sanctions that the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board may impose include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Suspension from playing in games or events to which this Code of Conduct applies for an appropriate period;
 - b. Suspension from performing the functions of a tournament director or official in, or in relation to, any event to which this Code of Conduct applies for an appropriate period;
 - c. Revocation of 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club membership, or rejection of a membership application;
 - d. Removal of a player's historical data from the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club ratings sites (select matches or in full);
 - e. Withholding permission to represent a 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club regional or national teams;

- f. Issuance of a warning by email, identifying the offence under the Code of Conduct. This warning will last 12 months. Issuance of further warnings within the duration of any existing warning may lead to the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board considering further penalties or sanctions.

(iii) Once the offender by email detailing the penalty or sanction and shall notify the WBGf (World Backgammon Federation) The UKBGF (United Kingdom Backgammon Federation) or any other governing body in the backgammon sector if deemed appropriate, once a decision has been reached, the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board shall notify the applicant.

6. Recognition of Decisions

- (i) Any decisions or adjudications under the Code of Conduct must be recognised and upheld where appropriate and necessary by any 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club recognised club, tournament or otherwise 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club sanctioned or affiliated event subject to this Code of Conduct.
- (ii) Details of penalties or sanctions imposed by the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board on any 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club member, player, organiser, or official, may be made available by the Board upon request.
- (iii) Tournament directors registered with the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club will be notified whenever penalties or sanctions are imposed by the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board on any 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club member, player, organiser, or official.

7. Appeals Against a Decision of the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board

- (i) Appeals shall be on the basis that there was a material error or omission in the making of the decision that has disadvantaged the applicant or disproportionately affected the offender, or that the original decision was perverse.
- (ii) An appeal must be made within 7 days of the applicant and the offender receiving notification of the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board's original decision.
- (iii) The 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board shall review the appeal and within 28 days determine and notify all relevant parties whether the original decision:
 - 1. stands; or
 - 2. is revoked; or
 - 3. is amended.

8. Amendment and Interpretation of the Code of Conduct

(i) The Code of Conduct may be amended from time to time by the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board. Such amendments shall come into effect on the date specified by the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board, but this date should not be retrospective.

(ii) Where any part of the Code of Conduct is subject to interpretation then the 10BC Tenerife Backgammon Club Board shall have the final say.

Backgammon, Fun & Respect!

www.10bc.club