



## Membership Policy

**By becoming a member of the Melbourne Disc Golf Club Inc., (MDGC) you agree to uphold a standard of respect for the game of disc golf, the community that plays it, the environment in which it is played, and the broader community that interacts with it.**

### 1. Respect for the Game of Disc Golf

As a member, you commit to respecting the game by adhering to the [Australian Disc Golf \(ADG\) Respect Agreement](#) and the [Professional Disc Golf Association \(PDGA\) rules](#).

This includes complying with local bylaws and regulations applicable to the public or private property where disc golf is played. Such regulations may include restrictions on alcohol consumption and smoking. Conduct during ADG / PDGA sanctioned events is governed by the ADG Respect Agreement and the PDGA rules. Repeated violations during events may result in disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Ongoing violations that adversely impact other members, the wider community or the club's reputation will be reviewed by the MDGC Board and may be subject to a disciplinary process in accordance with the Model Rules (Constitution) of MDGC [Melbourne Disc Golf Club Inc. Model Rules](#).

Dependent on the outcome of the MDGC disciplinary process, the matter may be referred to the ADG and the PDGA for further action.

### 2. Respect for Other MDGC Members

Members are required to treat all other MDGC members, including players, officials, volunteers, and Board members, with respect both on and off the course, including in social settings and online. This includes all verbal, written, and social media communications.

While disagreements are natural, disrespectful or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated. Such behaviour will be reviewed by the MDGC Board if it harms the interests of disc golf. Examples of disrespectful behaviour include:

- Hostile, abusive, or denigrating language.
- Public criticism of another member in forums or online.
- Cyberbullying or online abuse.

MDGC aligns with legal protections against online abuse, including Section 474.17 of the Criminal Code Act 1995 (Commonwealth), which criminalises harassment or serious offense using the internet or phones. Reports of such behaviour will be reviewed.



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### 3. Respect for the Environment

Disc golfers are seen as custodians of the parks and environments where they play. Members are expected to enhance social amenities and leave environments better than they were found. Examples include:

- Avoiding littering, graffiti, and damage to public facilities, flora, or fauna.
- Reporting and addressing credible reports of such behaviour that may harm MDGC's reputation.

### 4. Respect for the Community

Members must show respect to the broader community, particularly in public parks where disc golf is played. The public always has the right of way. Members should:

- Never throw towards or near members of the public or other players; always wait until the area is clear.
- Politely explain the game to bystanders if needed.
- Refrain from using offensive language.
- Pick up litter and use bins appropriately.
- Comply with local laws regarding alcohol, smoking, and illicit substances.

### 5. Disciplinary Procedures

In cases of violations of this policy, the MDGC Board may instigate disciplinary procedures, in accordance with the [Melbourne Disc Golf Club Inc. Model Rules](#).

Dependent on the outcome of the MDGC disciplinary process, the matter may be referred to the ADG and the PDGA for further action.

This will include, but is not limited to;

- A review by the Board.
- Opportunity for all parties to provide input.
- Decisions made with appropriate action taken.

### 6. Agreement

By becoming a member of MDGC you acknowledge and agree to abide by this Membership Policy, demonstrating respect for the game, its players, the environment, and the community.