



SPORTSPERSONLIKE CONDUCT POLICY

Updated: December 2025

POLICY STATEMENT

USA Archery (USAA) and its members are committed to acting in a sportspersonlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct. **USAA** and its members are also committed to fair competition and respect for the members of other teams, their coaches and staff as well as all spectators and others who participate at any event, training camp or competition sanctioned by **USAA** or the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC).

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

It is a violation of **USAA** policy for any **USAA** member to exhibit unsportspersonlike conduct at any **USAA** Event.

DEFINITION OF UNSPORTSPERSONLIKE CONDUCT

Unsportspersonlike Conduct is defined as any conduct that is inappropriate for an athlete, coach, judge or other official participating in a **USAA** Event, that evidences a lack of respect for such person's teammates, competitors, officials, spectators or the sport of archery, that intends to detract from the ability of a teammate or competitor to attain peak performance, that is not fitting behavior for a representative of the United States of America and the sport of archery or that is contrary to the generally understood principles of sportspersonship.

EXAMPLES OF UNSPORTSPERSONLIKE CONDUCT

Examples of Unsportspersonlike Conduct include but are not limited to the following:

- Openly disputing or arguing with any decision by a judge or other official
- Using obscene or vulgar language that detracts from the ability of a teammate or competitor to attain peak performance, even if it is not directed at a particular person

- Intentionally disrupting or distracting a competitor in the course of competition
- Intentionally inaccurate scoring of any round of shooting
- Taunting of competitors, coaches, officials or others by means of baiting, ridiculing, threatening physical violence or physical violence
- Wagering on Olympic, Paralympic, and other USAA and/or USOPC sanctioned events and on athletes where they are participating in those events.
- Promoting Olympic or Paralympic Wagering;
- Facilitating or otherwise supporting Olympic or Paralympic Wagering;
- Knowingly sharing confidential athlete, team, or competition information with a person or entity involved in Olympic or Paralympic Wagering; or
- Attempting to influence the course or result of any competition in connection with Olympic or Paralympic Wagering

GUIDANCE ON NOISEMAKERS AT SANCTIONED EVENTS:

- Spectators, athletes, coaches and team representatives are encouraged to use natural body-voice support (cheering, clapping) but should refrain from disruptive noise that would violate this policy.
- No artificial noisemakers or live band music shall be used in the spectator seating, staging, or competition area during the live shooting period. This includes but is not limited to air horns, electronic noisemakers, sirens, thunder-sticks, metal objects, amplified whistles or other devices which create abrupt or high-level noise. Event hosts will be permitted to play event music as coordinated with USA Archery event staff.

Enforcement:

- Event officials (judges, tournament director, event staff, venue operations) shall have authority to request cessation or removal of any noisemaker or amplified noise if, in their judgment, it interferes with or jeopardizes the safety and security of the competition.
- Spectators failing to comply may be asked to leave the spectator area or venue. Athletes/coaches/team representatives failing to comply will be given a verbal warning and if the behavior continues, event officials will have the authority to remove the individual from the venue (in the event the individual was a team member scheduled to shoot, the team will forfeit that round of competition).

FALSE AND MALICIOUS ACCUSATIONS

Any person who makes a false and malicious complaint of unsportsmanlike conduct, as opposed to complaints, which, even if erroneous, are made in good faith, will be subject to disciplinary action.

COMPLAINTS, INVESTIGATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

A person wishing to file a complaint may do so as set forth in the Disciplinary Proceedings and Grievance Policy, which can be found at www.usarchery.org.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For guidance and questions regarding the USAA Sportspersonlike Conduct Policy please contact the CEO of USAA at ceo@usarchery.org.