



# Covid-19 Policies and Procedures

(Ohio Golf Association & Columbus District Golf Association)

Please be aware and understand that the ability to conduct events relies on following these policies. Please take every precautionary measure to keep all involved in the event as safe as possible.

If you are showing any symptoms related to COVID-19 please do not attend the event. Full refunds will be issued. If at any time during your round, you begin to feel any symptoms we ask that you withdraw and leave the property immediately.

These policies will be in place until further notice and could be altered without notice based on recommendations from the CDC, WHO and Ohio Department of Health.

Physical distancing is the concept of staying six feet from another person when possible as suggested by the Ohio Department of Health. If persons are from the same household, physical distancing is not required.

Ohio Golf Association staff, host club staff, and volunteers have the authority to ask you to maintain physical distancing.

## Arriving at an event

- Participants should not arrive at the facility more than 30 minutes prior to their tee time unless otherwise noted. If you do, please wait in your car until 30 minutes prior to your tee time.
- Participants should follow all host club instructions when entering buildings.

## Prior to tee time

- Practice facilities will be available 30 minutes prior to each participant's tee time unless otherwise noted. Stations on the driving range will be set up adhering with the appropriate physical distancing guidelines. PLEASE do not create your own spot.
- Other practice areas may be available, but we ask that you respect physical distancing and avoid areas that already have 9 people. No gatherings of 10 or more!
- Carts will be available for those that MUST use a cart to participate. Note: Some facilities may be allowing 2 person per cart if players choose. In separate event emails we will be asking players if they can walk (sometimes push carts will be permitted), If riding with others is okay or if they require a cart alone. The responses will dictate field sizes.
- In a 4-person team event, each team will receive two carts, but each cart will be limited to one driver. If able to sanitize properly the driver may be switched. Note: Some facilities may be allowing 2 person per cart if players choose.

## **Starting Hole**

- Physical distancing must always be maintained.
- Participants should refrain from shaking hands or giving hugs
- Hand Sanitizer will be available, and we encourage you to use hand sanitizer periodically.
- Physical scorecards will not be handed out. All scoring will be available through the USGA TM powered by Golf Genius mobile app. Please download the USGA Tournament Management app from your store.
- Rules/Hole Location Sheets will be emailed to players the evening before and also available for pickup at your starting hole. We advise to use hand sanitizer after receiving your sheets.

## **During the Round**

- Physical distancing must be maintained throughout the round. This includes players and caddies.
- Push carts will be allowed if they are permitted by the host facility. We will include this in the pairings email.
- A condition of the competition will be in place for the flagstick to remain in the hole. We will use a ball retrieval system to eliminate the need for reaching into the hole with your hand.
- Rakes will be removed from the golf course. Players are encouraged to smooth out the sand when exiting the bunker with their foot and/or club. A Local Rule will be in effect to lift, clean and place your ball within a relief area as defined on the Local Rules.
- On course rulings will be done while maintaining physical distancing. With limited on course officials, mobile phone numbers will be listed on the Local Rules. These numbers may be used to address rulings.

## **Scoring Area**

- Physical distancing must always be maintained.
- Hand Sanitizer will be available in the scoring area.
- One group allowed in the scoring area at a time!
- After players agree on the scores that are entered into the USGA TM app, each player will verbally confirm with the staff that the hole by hole scores for themselves or their team are correct.
- After all players/teams have verbally confirmed the scores, all persons must leave the scoring area immediately.
- There will not be a handwritten scoreboard. Live Leaderboards will be available online.

## **Post Scoring**

- Players may stay and dine following all host club policies. No congregating!
- Any events where a playoff is needed to determine a winner or qualifiers, we ask players not to congregate in groups of more than 10.
- The practice range will only be open if the host club has not closed the practice range for the day.

- Other practice facilities may be open, but if that area has 9 people, please avoid. No gatherings of 10 or more!

### **Discontinuance of Play**

- During any delay prior or during the round, we ask all players to return to their cars. Texting, Email and website updates on the event portal will be used to communicate information.
- All practice facilities will be closed during weather delays and will not open prior to resumption for those who have already begun their round.