

COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GOLF COURSES:

During this time of uncertainty, we all need to do our part to respect expert advice and make the right decisions to protect each other. Some courses may choose to temporarily close (or be required to by the authorities), and some may choose to stay open by implementing the suggestions below to minimize any possible exposure to coronavirus. Each course should decide for itself how it will best protect its players and staff, recognizing that the recommendations and restrictions are changing day by day.

- Spread out tee times to wider intervals
- Reduce check-in interaction, allow credit card and mobile payments only
- Encouraging golfers to walk, or ride in a cart with family only
- Prohibit shotgun starts
- Cancel/postpone all group classes and golf academy events
- Cancel/postpone all events and tournaments until further notice (no groups larger than 10)
- Extra cleaning and sanitizing golf carts after each use
- Limit cart staff from handling golf bags
- Remove pins from practice greens
- Remove bunker rakes, ball-washers, and other frequently touched course items
- Encourage (or require) golfers to leave the flagstick in when putting
- Encourage use of hand sanitizer for players
- Raise all cups one inch above the surface, or adding a foam insert to the cup, to avoid touching flagstick
- Stagger shifts of staff, maintain social distancing (at least 6 ft)
- Encourage staff to wash hands frequently, sneeze or cough into shoulder/elbow, do not touch face, stay home if sick (without penalty), stay home if someone in household has tested positive
- Close the clubhouse restaurant, allow take out only
- Expand outdoor seating areas, to include more space between tables/chairs
- Sanitize all frequently touched surfaces often
- Encourage players to post scores using the app or online, instead of the kiosk



There could also be other ways to protect your patrons and community. Please be responsible and use good sense. You can also visit the [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for more ideas and recommendations.



As of March 20, 2020, the USGA has temporarily made allowances to scores played where the course has made COVID-19 adjustments, such as those in the picture above. Scores will still count for handicap purposes in many instances using Most Likely Score and other guidelines. For more information, see the “USGA COVID-19 Rules and Handicapping FAQs” posted at www.msgagolf.org/club-tools.