



## **MIDDLE ATLANTIC PGA SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES**

Below are the following social distancing guidelines for all Middle Atlantic PGA events. These guidelines are based on recommendations from the local, state, federal governments, and the Back2Golf phasing. Due to the fluid situation, these guidelines may change, and a final set of guidelines may be created for each event. Any player who blatantly disregards these guidelines may be subject to disqualification and removal from the facility.

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

The following guidelines should always be followed:

- Do not play if you feel sick or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last two weeks.
- For players feeling ill after the deadline, but before the first round, a refund will be given.
- Staff will emphasize that players must not congregate anywhere on property.
- Stay at least six (6) feet away from anyone at all times.
- Players should not touch or handle any tournament supplies or equipment that do not belong to them.
- Food and Beverage offerings will be decided by each host facility. There will be no F&B as part of any Middle Atlantic PGA events until further notice.

### **BEFORE A PLAYER'S TEE TIME**

#### **Registration**

- All registrations and payments must be completed with a credit card through BlueGolf before arriving at the facility.

#### **On-Site Check-In**

- Players are not allowed on property until 45 minutes before their tee time. If a player arrives before that time, they will be directed to stay in their vehicle until they are allowed on property.
- Carts will be staged at least six (6) feet apart in the staging area. Single or double occupancy will depend on the current phasing stage and capacity of the golf course.
  - If double occupancy is allowed only one player will be allowed to drive the golf cart.
- We encourage players who are comfortable walking and carrying their own clubs to please do so. Please inform the Middle Atlantic PGA staff by the deadline of the event if you are planning to walk

#### **Practicing**



- Players may only practice at the facility within 45 minutes of their tee time. Players will be given 25 minutes on the range, 15 minutes on the practice putting green, and they will arrive at the starting tee 5 minutes before their given starting time.
- Wider than normal driving range stalls will be utilized to maximize social distancing.
- The practice putting green may have a limited number of players allowed on it at any one time depending on the size of the putting green. Players will be restricted to five (5) minutes on the putting and chipping areas when other players are waiting to access.
- Host courses will be required to remove flagsticks from the practice putting and chipping areas.
- Spectators are asked to not be on the practice areas (range, putting and chipping greens) to help with social distancing.

### Starting

- Tee time intervals will be a minimum of 12 minutes.
- Players may come to the 1<sup>st</sup> tee within five minutes of their tee time or once the previous group is off the tee if tee times are delayed. **Under no circumstance can more than one group be allowed at the starting tee.**
- Normal starter's box items (tees, pencils, markers, etc.) will not be available at the 1<sup>st</sup> tee.
- Only a scorecard and a combination of hole location/local rules sheet will be distributed on the 1<sup>st</sup> tee. They will be stapled together and given from the starter to a marker. There will be no exchange of paper between competitors.
- Each player will be a marker (scorekeeper) for another player in the group and will also be expected to keep their own score in the designated area on the scorecard they're keeping. It is highly recommended that scores are verified on each tee for the previous hole.

## DURING THE ROUND

### Social Distancing on the Course

- Take special precautions on the teeing area and the putting green as players will be in the closest proximity to the other players.
- If there is a backup or delay on any hole, please stay at least 50 feet away from any other group on the course.
- Caddies will be prohibited until further notice
- All spectators are asked to stay on the cart path or along tree lines when paths are not present. When helping players search for lost balls, spectators must maintain their distance when helping search for the ball.

### Golf Course Touchpoint Areas

- The EZ Lyft product will be used on all tournament flagsticks. This allows the ball to fall into the hole and be retrieved with a putter as opposed to a hand. Flagsticks will not be touched or removed in any circumstances.



- Rakes will be removed from bunkers and lift, clean and place within one club length, remaining in the bunker, will be utilized until further notice. Players are asked to smooth their footprints the best they can after playing from a bunker.
- Water coolers, ball washers, and other convenience items should be removed from the course but if they are not, please do not use them.
- Restroom facilities will be open at host courses but social distancing will be strictly enforced.

#### Severe Weather

- During a stoppage of play, players will drive their golf cart directly to their car in the parking lot (if possible) and get in the car for safety.
- If they do not have a car on the property, chairs will be spread out throughout the clubhouse to maintain social distancing.
- Texts and emails will be sent out when it is safe to return to the golf course.
- Due to social distancing guidelines, practice will not be allowed before the resumption of play.

### **AFTER THE ROUND**

#### Scoring

- There will be a scoring area outside near the 18<sup>th</sup> green when possible. There will be a table for the scorer and a separate table that will have a box for scorecards. Tape/paint will be on the ground to direct players where to stand during scoring.
- Players will not exchange scorecards. Instead, verbally confirm scores with their marker and then read off the scores to the scorer. If the scores are correct, the player will say the scores are correct and that will certify the scorecard.
- Once scores are confirmed, players will drop the scorecards in the box provided. These scorecards will only be referred to if there is an error with BlueGolf.

#### After Scoring

- Once scoring is complete, players will be asked to leave the facility as quickly as possible, the practice facility will be closed after play.
- All results and prize money allocations will be communicated to the field at the conclusion of the event through email.