NCGA Tournament Golf Procedures During COVID-19 Pandemic

The following policies will be in effect for all NCGA events and are subject to change based on current county and state guidelines. Realizing each golf course has different capabilities of service, NCGA staff will work with the golf courses to create safe playing opportunities for participants. Players or spectators failing to adhere to the following policies will be removed from the event and asked to leave the premises. In addition to the following procedures that will be enforced by the NCGA, we ask that you use the following precautions:

* If you have a fever, cough or other symptoms of COVID-19, please stay home. Any player or spectator with noticeable symptoms will be asked to go home.
* Avoid touching your mouth, nose, lips and eyes.
* Wash your hands frequently. If you are unable to wash your hands, use hand sanitizer.
* Please familiarize yourself with and follow the best practices published by the [Center for Disease Control](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) (CDC), [World Health Organization](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019) (WHO) and [California state and county ordinances](https://covid19.ca.gov/).

**General Sanitation Guidelines for Participation in NCGA Events**

* Except as expressly permitted on property by the Committee, absolutely no gathering or loitering at any location on the property before or after a round.
* Players are to maintain at least a six-foot distance minimum from other people (except for household members) while on property whenever possible.
* Mask/facial coverings must be worn when six-foot minimum distance cannot be met, when indoors or otherwise in accordance with government ordinance.
* There will not be an awards ceremony. Except as expressly permitted on property by the Committee, players are required to leave as soon as possible after completing their round.

**Caddies**

* Caddies are not permitted until further notice.

**Spectators**

* Spectators are limited to one per player plus that spectator’s household members. Spectators are expected to maintain a reasonable distance from players during the round as they are not caddies.
* Permitted spectators must maintain at least six-foot distance minimum from people while on property.

 **Groupings**

* Groups are required to stay away from the starting area until the previous group has cleared the tee.

**Practice/Warm-Up**

* Players should arrive on property no earlier than 20 minutes prior to their starting time and limit range time to 10 minutes to allow others the opportunity. Any stretching or other warm-up activities should be done beforehand in the parking lot.
* The practice putting green is only available to players 10 minutes prior to their starting time.

**Starter Interaction and Material Distribution**

* Starter box materials will be minimal (tees and pencils) and will be safely distributed by the starters. Players should supply their own ball-marking pens and divot repair tools.
* Pace of Play / Hard Card and Hole Locations / Notice to Players will be provided online with the Player Information.
* Scorecards will be safely distributed by the starters to designated markers. See below for specific scoring procedures.
* Hand sanitizer will be made available at the starter table.
* Only a clock will be at the Starter Table displaying the Official Time.
* Starter directions will be given while spread 6 feet apart.

**Carts**

Cart sanitation policies are subject to county ordinance and will be maintained by host facilities. Other cart policies may vary based on county ordinance and cart availability. See event Player Information for specific cart policies.

* Carts are limited to single-riders.

**Bunkers**

* There will be no rakes on the course.
* Players are encouraged to smooth the surface of the bunker with their foot or club before exiting the bunker.
* When a player’s ball lies in a bunker, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing it from this relief area: reference point – spot of the original ball; size of relief area measured from the reference point – one club-length from the reference point, but with limits; limits on location of relief area – must not be nearer the hole than the reference point and must be in the same bunker.

**Scorecard and Scoring Procedures**

* Players will verbally give hole-by-hole scores to the scoring official at the completion of the round at an outdoor scoring area from a safe distance and verbally certify scores.