Below are guidelines for MGA events. These guidelines are based on recommendations from the WHO, CDC, and Directive Health Measures from local, state, and federal governments. A player who blatantly disregards these guidelines may be subject to disqualification from the event and removal from the facility. These are subject to change pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order protocols and/or DNR Outdoor Recreational Guidelines.

- Do NOT play if you feel sick or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last two weeks.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from anyone at all times.
- Do NOT touch or handle any tournament supplies or equipment that is not yours.

GENERAL PLAYER INFORMATION:

- **Arrival** – The general policy is that players are NOT allowed to arrive at the golf course more than 45 minutes prior to their starting time. If a player arrives to the facility prior to this time, he or she should stay at one’s vehicle. The player may use the time to change shoes, stretch, get their push cart and/or golf bag ready and otherwise prepare for the round.

- **Registration** – There will be a registration area at all events for players to check in. This is to ensure players have their GGiD for the day, and to be made aware of any special instructions for the specific event.

- **Paperwork** – All tournament paperwork, including hole location and local rule sheets, will be provided electronically prior to the tournament. A player is encouraged to view and read these materials on their own before their round.
  - **NOTE:** Links to these materials will be sent to tournament participants and always may be found on the event landing page on the MGA website.

- **Scorecards** – Group online scoring is mandatory through the use of the USGA Tournament Management app.
  - If a player is unable to online score, the player is encouraged to bring his or her own score-marking materials (i.e., paper and pencil) as paper scorecards will NOT be given to players.

- **Golf Carts** – When allowed per the competition, one player per cart will be mandated unless two players live in the same household, or the host facility has dividers installed in the carts.

- **Online Access** – Players are expected to download the USGA Tournament Management app.
  - This allows a player to post scores and access online scoring.

TOURNAMENT OPERATIONS:

- **Practice Facilities** – the general policy below allows players a window of access to the practice facilities on a limited time, priority basis. The intent of the policy is to provide a flow through the practice tee, short game area (if available), and putting green. Every player should have a fair and equitable opportunity to warm up prior to play, and should be respectful of fellow players when preparing to play.
  - Players are first allowed on practice areas within 40 minutes of their tee time. The suggested flow should begin with the practice tee for 20 minutes, then to the short game area and/or putting green for the remainder of time before reporting to the tee. This will retain social distancing and prioritize access to each area.
  - The number of players allowed on the putting green or in short game area will be restricted as needed to allow for social distancing. Flagsticks will be removed from both the putting green and short game greens.
  - As the size and access to practice areas differs, this general policy may be adjusted for specific events. This will be communicated in the Notice to Competitors for each event.
  - Practice at the host facility after a player’s round is complete may be prohibited.
  - Warm up prior to players entering a playoff will be allowed pending the timing of the playoff.

- **Starting Tees** – Players should check in at their starting tee immediately after the group in front of them has left the teeing area.
  - Pencils, scorecards, tees, sharpies, and sunscreen and water bottles will **NOT** be available on the starting tees.
TOURNAMENT OPERATIONS (continued):

- **Caddies** – Players are NOT permitted to use caddies.
- **Spectators** – Spectators are allowed on the golf course, provided they follow appropriate social distancing guidelines.
- **Scoring** – After completing the round, ONE group will be allowed to enter the “scoring area” at a time. Players will maintain 6 feet of distance between them and verbally agree to their hole-by-hole scores with their group and the scoring official.
  - After verbally verifying one’s scores and leaving the scoring area, a player’s scorecard is deemed returned and the player will receive an email with his or her scorecard.
  - The only scoreboards will be through the USGA Tournament Management app or the MGA website.
- **Awards** – Award ceremonies may be conducted inside or outside, depending on the host facility space, and following social distancing guidelines.
- **Weather Delays** – In the event of a horn blast signaling a discontinuance of play for a dangerous situation, all players must proceed directly to their vehicles or the clubhouse. Shuttling of players will take place for groups a significant distance from the clubhouse. Players who take a shuttle will be provided face masks and hand sanitizer and then expected to use them prior to getting in the cart.
  - Communication regarding resumption of play will be sent by text message.

PLAYING THE COURSE:

- **Social Distancing** – Regardless of a player’s position on the golf course, a player must maintain six (6) feet of distance between themselves and other players.
  - This includes when preparing for a shot, walking down the fairway/rough, on the teeing ground, on the putting green, and all other locations.
- **Bunkers** – Rakes may be removed from the golf course at the discretion of the course. In the event rakes are present, the COVID-19 Local Rule remains in effect allowing for relief (for lie of ball or area of intended swing) from any damaged area in the bunker. (Please refer to the COVID-19 Local Rules for relief procedures.) Use of the rake by the player is not mandatory and at the discretion of the player. Players are encouraged to use their feet to smooth bunkers after making a stroke from one if they choose not to use the rake. If the player elects to use the rake, they should use a towel to grab the rake and/or use hand sanitizer immediately after using and replacing the rake.
- **Holing Out** – To allow players to remove the ball without touching the hole, a hole insert will be used.
- **Flagsticks** – Players must NOT touch the flagstick under any circumstance. Attending of the flagstick as outlined in the Rules of Golf is suspended until further notice. Please reference the COVID-19 Local Rules for penalty statements.

FOOD & BEVERAGE:

- **Clubhouse F&B** – If food and beverage service is available at the host facility, players should follow all social distancing guidelines in place as posted by the host facility.
- **Snacks/Water** – Snacks and water will NOT be provided by the MGA. However, the MGA will encourage the host facility to have easy access to snacks, bottled water and other beverages at the clubhouse, at the turn, as well as having a beverage cart on the course. Players are also encouraged to bring their own water for the round with them.

FACILITY EQUIPMENT:

- **Sand Buckets** – Host facilities will be asked to remove all sand buckets from Par 3’s.
- **Starter Boxes** – Starting tees will NOT have a starters box.
  - Players are encouraged to bring a writing utensil, paper, ball markers, and tees.
- **Hand Sanitizer** – The MGA will provide hand sanitizer stations on starting tees and in the scoring area.