

# **BACK2GOLF: GUIDELINES FOR OPENING UP THE GOLF COURSE DURING COVID-19**



# GUIDELINES FOR ALL PHASES: INDIVIDUALS

- Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer, especially after touching frequently used items or surfaces.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.
- Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.
- Maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet.
- Strongly consider using cloth face coverings when social distancing can't be observed.

#### CONTINUE TO PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE – PEOPLE WHO FEEL SICK SHOULD STAY HOME

- Do not go to work.
- Contact and follow the advice of your medical provider.

#### GUIDELINES FOR ALL PHASES: EMPLOYERS

Develop and implement appropriate policies, in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations and guidance, and informed by industry best practices:

- Maintain 6 feet social distancing and protective equipment.
- Temperature checks for staff.
- Testing, isolating, and contact tracing.
- Sanitation of maintenance equipment, hand tools, etc.
- Disinfection of common and high-traffic areas.

Monitor workforce for indicative symptoms. Do not allow symptomatic people to physically return to work until cleared by a medical provider.

Develop and implement policies and procedures for workforce contact tracing following an employee a positive COVID test.

# PHASE (1)

Avoid gathering in groups of more than 10 people

## PHASE (2)

Avoid gathering in groups of more than **50** people

### PHASE 3

Resume
UNRESTRICTED
STAFFING levels

#### **HOW TO CLEAN EQUIPMENT AND SURFACES**

Employers are required to increase regular cleaning and sanitizing of common-touch surfaces.

Employers must:

- Establish a housekeeping schedule to address regular, frequent, and periodic cleaning.
- Provide appropriate and adequate cleaning supplies for scheduled and spot cleaning and cleaning after a suspected or confirmed coronavirus case.
- Ensure floors, counters, and other surfaces are regularly cleaned with soap and water, or other cleaning solution, to prevent build-up of dirt and residues that can harbor contamination.
- Make sure high-touch surfaces are properly disinfected on a frequent or periodic basis using a bleach solution or other EPA-approved disinfectant.

www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/ list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2

- Be sure employees follow effective cleaning procedures and use protective gloves and eye/ face protection (face shields and/or goggles) when mixing, spraying, and wiping with liquid cleaning products, like diluted bleach.
- Make sure shared utility vehicles are sanitized after each different person's use.
- Keep Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) for all disinfectants on site.
- Don't mix chemicals many are incompatible; and be sure to dilute and use chemicals per manufacturer label directions.
- Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may be used.

**Diluted household bleach solutions may also be used** if appropriate for the surface.

- Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection, and ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Some bleaches, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing or for whitening, may not be suitable for disinfection.
- Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.
- Leave solution on the surface for at least 1 minute.

#### To make a bleach solution, mix:

- 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water OR
- 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water

For electronics, such as tablets, touch screens, keyboards, irrigation controls, and remote controls:

- Consider putting a wipeable cover on electronics.
- Follow manufacturer's instruction for cleaning and disinfecting.
  - If no guidance, use alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol. Dry surface thoroughly.

#### ON COURSE SETUP

#### **Bunker rakes**

Depending on your operation, use one of the following practices for golfers to mitigate spread of the virus:

- Supply one bunker rate per cart. Supply each golfer with CDC recommended disinfecting wipes to wipe down the rake handle before and after each use. Then, sanitize the rake after each round and at the end of the day.
- If rakes have been placed back on the course, supply each golfer with CDC-recommended disinfecting wipes to wipe down the rake handle before and after each use. Then sanitize all rakes at the end of the day (or multiple times a day).
- If the other options are not possible at your facility, do not return rakes to the course and have golfers continue to use their shoes to smooth out bunkers.

#### **Flagsticks**

- Supply each golfer with CDC-recommended disinfecting wipes to wipe down the flagsticks before and after each use. Then sanitize all flagsticks during course set up the next day (or multiple times a day).
- If you are unable to provide wipes, do not remove cup inserts.
   Maintain a "no touch" flagstick with the use of cup inserts.

#### Watercoolers

 At this time, do not return coolers to the course. Supply bottled water or encourage golfers to bring their own individual water containers.

#### Benches and other course amenities

 At this time, do not return benches, ball washers, etc. to the course to minimize touch points.

#### **EQUIPMENT, UTILITY VEHICLES, HANDTOOLS**

- Sanitize all hand tools prior to and after use.
- Assign staff pieces of equipment/carts to eliminate sharing.
- No one should ride together in maintenance vehicles, carts etc. Single riders only.
- **Spray all equipment** with CDC approved disinfectant on all touch points (steering wheels, gear shift, keys, switches etc.).
- **Disinfect** fuel pump handle after each use.

#### GUIDELINES FOR GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE

- No outside visitors permitted; employees, contractors, vendors and deliveries only.
- Increase communication with your team. Utilize apps such as WhatsApp or GroupMe.
- Restrict access to certain areas of the building, e.g. only equipment managers should be allowed in equipment repair area.
- Stagger shifts to minimize the amount of staff on property at any given time.
- Assign each team member a spray bottle of sanitizer.
- Block doors open to avoid touching doorknobs.
- Place hand sanitizer throughout the maintenance area.
- Supply cloth face coverings to your team.
- Eliminate time clocks or assign management/one individual the responsibility of punching employees in/out.
- Use appropriate disinfecting practices for telephones, computer keyboards, tablets, etc after each use.

- Eliminate the use of refrigerators, coffee machines, microwaves.
- Hold team meetings outside or in the equipment maintenance area where appropriate 6-foot separation can be maintained.
- Consider moving job board out of break room to equipment storage area or use a web-based job board.
- Adjusting break/lunch times to limit contact between employees.
- Consider setting up seating areas outside for employees to take breaks and lunch.
- Remove all personal items from employee lockers.
- Only 1 employee in the bathroom at a time. Disinfect after each use.
- Sanitizing touchable surfaces/carts/equipment/bathrooms/ breakrooms daily (or multiple times a day).