



MGA COVID-19 Guidelines for Championships

Due to the ever-changing COVID-19 situation, the MGA continues to follow guidelines provided by the CDC and local governments to provide the utmost safety for each participant, spectator, club member or staff and MGA staff. The MGA has introduced these guidelines which each participant and spectator must adhere to during MGA-sanctioned events. Upon entering an MGA event, players agree to the Rules and Regulations established by the MGA. The Rules and Regulations have been modified to incorporate all the guidelines included in this document in addition to the standard Rules and Regulations all players agree to upon registration (included at the end of this document). Thank you for your cooperation!

The MGA reserves the right to penalize a participant under the [MGA Code of Conduct](#) who knowingly and willingly disregards these policies put into place. **These guidelines are in effect as of August 4, 2020 and are subject to change at the discretion of the Rules & Competitions Committee throughout the season.**

MGA Participants must adhere and be aware of the following guidelines to promote Social Distancing at each MGA Event:

Self-Screening

- All players, spectators, staff, and volunteers are required to self-screen prior to being on-site at MGA administered events. The questions players need to review ahead of their round include:
 - o Within the last fourteen (14) days, have you...
 - Traveled outside the United States?
 - Been diagnosed with COVID-19 or been in close contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19?
 - Been personally requested to quarantine by a doctor or other medical authority?
 - Run a fever over 100.4° Fahrenheit?
 - Experienced shortness of breath?
 - Experienced abnormal coughing symptoms?
 - Experienced loss of taste or smell, chills, shaking, sore throat or muscle aches?
 - Experienced any other unusual flu-like symptoms?
 - o As of Tuesday, August 4, there are currently 35 states that meet the travel advisory criteria. If you have traveled from within one of the designated states with significant community spread, you must quarantine for 14 days from the last travel within such designated state, provided on the date you enter into the state that such state met the criteria for requiring such quarantine.
 - Alabama (added 6/24/20), Alaska (added 9/1/2020), Arkansas (added 6/24/20), Colorado (added 9/29/20), Delaware (added 9/8/2020), Florida (added 6/24/20), Georgia (added 6/30/20), Guam (added 8/25/2020), Iowa (added 6/30/20), Idaho (added 6/30/20), Illinois (added 7/28/20), Indiana (added 7/21/20), Kansas (added 7/7/20), Kentucky (added 7/28/20), Louisiana (added 6/30/20), Minnesota (added 9/22/20) Mississippi (added 6/30/20), Missouri (added 7/21/20), Montana (added 9/1/20), Nebraska (added 7/21/20), Nevada (added 9/22/2020), North Carolina (added 6/24/20), North Dakota (added 7/21/20), Oklahoma (added 7/7/20), Puerto Rico (added 9/15/20), Rhode Island (added 9/22/20), South Carolina (added 6/24/20), South Dakota (8/11/20),

Tennessee (added 6/30/20), Texas (added 6/24/20), Utah (added 6/24/20), West Virginia (added 9/8/20), Wisconsin (added 7/14/20), Wyoming (added 9/22/20). [Click here](#) for additional information.

- If you have a fever, cough, shortness of breath or display any symptoms of COVID-19 or you answered yes to any of the above questions, please stay home. Full refunds will be issued to encourage your safety and if questions arise regarding these topics, please reach out to the Championship staff prior to the event.
- All players will be required to participate in self-screening prior to arriving at the event and upon arrival, participating in a questionnaire.

MGA Staff and Volunteers

- All MGA staff and volunteers will be required to get their temperature checked once they arrive on site.

Player Arrival

To help control the flow of players on the putting green and practice range, all players will only be permitted on property 30 minutes prior to their tee time.

- Players are asked to check-in upon arriving on property with the designated MGA staff member.
- Each player will be required to answer a few basic health questions upon arrival and remain in the car until their designated practice time begins.

Face Coverings/Masks

- All players are required to have their own face mask/covering while they are on property at an MGA event.
- Players are required to wear the mask while checking in with MGA staff, at the starting tee prior to teeing off, at the scorecard verification area, and in any other situations where a player is unable to adequately socially distance.

Player Supplies

- Players must bring all the equipment they need for their round. The MGA will not distribute any tees, pencils, ball markers, etc. at the Starting Tees.

Tournament Information

- Each player will be provided with Tournament Information, which includes Hole Locations, Notice to Players and Scorecards via email and text message the day prior to each event.
- There will be no physical documents or paperwork at the event. Players may print out and bring their own materials if they would like a physical copy.
- The MGA will provide one physical copy of the Hole Location Sheet and Notice to Players on the first tee so players may take a picture before their round.

Player Scoring

- Participants will be required to record and enter hole-by-hole scores via the USGA Tournament Management Mobile App during play.
- Please refer to the [MGA Mobile Scoring Instructions](#) document for directions on how to prepare for this change.
 - o *Note: The MGA will not accept any printed out, physical copies of a scorecard as your official score. Scoring must be submitted via the USGA Tournament Management App.*

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- Upon completion of the round, the Player will verify their score at the scoring table verbally. Once those obligations are fulfilled, the player should verify that the score was properly updated online via the 'My MGA App' leaderboard. Once their score is correctly posted online, the player should return to their car and leave the property. If a player needs to stay on property for an extenuating circumstance, they must remain in their car.

Food and Beverage

- Standard food and beverage services will be eliminated from many MGA Competitions unless otherwise noted on the Memo to Players.
- Participants are responsible for bringing any food or snacks they may need on the course.

Bottled Water

- Players are encouraged to bring any water or snacks they may need for their round.
- The MGA will provide Nestle Water at each event, however, the ability to adequately provide water throughout the round will be limited.

Clubhouse

- The MGA will defer to host club facility practices on whether the clubhouse is open to guests or not. Players should reference the Memo to Players for additional information.

Flagstick

- Players may not touch or remove flagsticks during the round. Repeated or intentional violations of this Rule will be liable to penalty under the MGA Code of Conduct.
- The MGA will provide Flagstick Attachments/PVC inserts to allow the ball to come to rest in the hole and minimize player contact with the hole.

Bunkers

- No bunker rakes will be provided on course, please reference the Local Rules for proper relief procedures.
- Bunkers will remain 'in play'.
- Players must take reasonable action to care for the course by smoothing bunker sand with their feet following a shot from the bunker.

Caddies

- No caddies or forecaddies will be permitted at MGA events.

Spectators

- Spectators will not be permitted at one-day MGA administered events, [click here](#) for additional information.

Practice Rounds

- There will be **no** practice rounds for one-day MGA administered events. Practice Round opportunities will be communicated directly for the Championship Proper when the final field is set.

Awards Reception

- The awards receptions at the conclusion of Championships will be suspended until further notice. All prizes and gift certificates will be mailed to the player following the event.

Course Evacuation/Weather Delays

- During a suspension for a dangerous situation, players must immediately evacuate the course and head directly to their cars. Players will be required to walk to their cars or a designated evacuation area. Situations may arise where a player needs to take a ride on a golf cart or take shelter in an area where

they cannot adequately socially distance. Players must wear a mask in these instances. All updates will be provided via text message and on mgagolf.org

Additional Links

[*Code of Conduct Policy*](#)

[*Spectator Policy*](#)

[*MGA Mobile Scoring Instructions*](#)

Tournament Policies

Players are deemed to have read and agreed to the MGA Rules & Regulations and MGA Refund Policy prior to registering for a tournament. Questions regarding the Rules & Regulations, or the MGA Refund Policy should be directed to the MGA Championships Department at (914) 347-4653, or championships@mgagolf.org.

Rules and Regulations

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and The R&A govern play. These Local Rules and Terms of the Competition are in effect at all MGA championships and qualifying rounds. See applicable championship or qualifying round Notice to Players and Entry Form for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. The Committee reserves the right to amend this program before or during the Championship if considered advisable. Contestants entering the Championship shall be considered to have subjected themselves to the authority of the Committee, whose decision on all points shall be final. The Committee reserves the right at its discretion to disqualify or default any player at any stage of the Championship. No contestant may bring his own caddie unless specifically authorized on the event "Memorandum to Players."

Publicity and Promotion

The MGA may arrange for (i) promotion of the Championship, for radio, internet and television broadcasting and other exhibition and publication of the Championship or excerpts thereof in any and all media throughout the world, whether now known or hereafter developed, and (ii) the design, manufacture and sale of merchandise which commemorates or memorializes the Championship. By this application, the player consents to the use by the MGA, or persons authorized by the MGA, of his name, likeness, voice and references to him and photographs and other images of him and his play connected with his appearance in the Championship, or any portion(s) thereof, in connection with such media promotion, broadcasting and other exhibition and publication of the Championship and design, manufacture and sale of commemorative merchandise. The MGA may utilize the rights granted it here under in connection with the promotion and/or commemoration of the Championship as well as future Championships, other MGA Championships, and the MGA. The cooperation of players with authorized representatives of the media is required, provided that no pre-Championship activities outside of those activities which are part of the Championship will be required and provided that the player's Championship play is not unreasonably interfered with.

2020 Season - COVID 19

By agreeing to the Rules and Regulations you are acknowledging that an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attend the event, you and any guests voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19 and agree not to hold the Metropolitan Golf Association, its officers, board of directors, members, partners, employees, agents, sponsors, contractors, and all of their successors and assigns, as well as, all facilities hosting MGA activities, their respective officers, board of directors, members, employees and all of their successors and assigns harmless from all claims and damages, including any liability for any illness or injury.

Refund Policy

Entry fee, less \$25.00 service charge, will be refunded regardless of reason if the MGA Championships Department is notified by phone:(914) 347-4653 or email prior to the close of entries. Refunds, less service charge, for serious illness or injury after the closing of entries require written confirmation. No refund for any reason after the tournament date.

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