



PGA

North Florida Section

To: Section Members, Associates and Guests
From: North Florida PGA Leadership
Date: June 1, 2020
RE: NFPGA Back2Golf

Getting our Members back to playing and networking is important. However, it needs to be understood that a return to tournaments does not mean our tournaments will be operated traditionally. As such, a strict set of guidelines and protocols were developed. The NFPGA Back2Golf Tournament Playbook consists of the protocols required for all Section and Chapter Tournaments. The Playbook's number one priority is the health of our members, staff, hosts, and partners. Moreover, the Playbook is consistent with the Opening up America, Re-Opening Florida, and Back2Golf.

Social Distancing & Gatherings

Social Distancing is critical to NFPGA Back2Golf. Strict social distancing practices will be required at all Section and Chapter tournaments. Also, this means players need to not gather in groups at registration, practice facilities, clubhouse, and scoreboard area.

PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES

Player Sanctions

Any player who purposely disregards policies outlined in this memo or fails to notify the Section Executive Director they have been diagnosed with COVID-19 shall be subject to Code of Conduct review by the Section's Board of Review.

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No Play & Pre- Event Screening

Players must take their temperature before heading to the course. If they have a temperature of 100 or higher, they must stay home. Also, if players have a cough and/or trouble breathing, they must stay home. Players diagnosed with COVID-19 or know they have been exposed to COVID-19 are not permitted to participate in any Section or Chapter tournament for 14 days regardless of symptoms.

Reporting Illness/Exposure

Players after being at a Section/Chapter tournament that becomes ill or learns they had been exposed to COVID-19 should immediately contact the Section Executive Director at (386) 871-3067.

Warm-up

Players shall arrive at the practice area no earlier than 1 hour before their scheduled starting time. It is recommended that players should use the range for 30 minutes and then use the putting green for the remaining time.

Leaving Facility

Players should leave the facility upon completion of their round. Exception: if following the final round of the tournament, a player is in contention for first place or a qualifying position.

Hydration

Players should bring their water bottles for proper hydration. Restrictions are lifted for personal coolers containing water. If a course has pre-wired water stations to fill water containers, players shall use their gloved hand for water access.

Personal Protection Equipment/Supplies

Players should bring with them their hand sanitizer/wipes. Also, players are encouraged to bring their face mask and wear when interacting with players and staff when social distancing is challenging.

Handshaking

The handshake is a great tradition of golf. However, it is strongly discouraged, and players should consider an alternative greeting or end of round recognition.

- Tipping of the Cap
- Thumbs Up
- Display Peace Sign
- Fist to heart
- Namaste Greeting

Practice Facilities

Practice facilities may be open. Range stations will be set at least 8 feet apart, and the course must have enhanced practice ball sanitation protocol in place. No more than 50 people may be on the Range Tee and must follow strict social distancing. Short game ranges may be open, but all flagsticks, rakes, and the like must be removed, and players must use their balls. Putting Greens holes should be filled and have flagsticks removed. Alternatively, cup-less flagsticks could be used. The number of players using the short game range and putting green will vary by size. Players must use their balls and only one per hole. All practice facilities are closed to players after their round. The exception is if a player qualifies for a play-off. Strict social distancing must be followed.

Cart Riding

Only one person may ride in a golf cart at a time unless the cart has a plexiglass shield or transparent plastic barrier, players wear a mask when in the cart, and the driver remains the driver, and passenger remains the passenger. In Pro-Pro and Pro-Am events, players in approved pairings can share a cart, but no switching of driver and passenger role. Under no circumstances will spectators be allowed to ride in a player cart.

Spectator Carts

Spectator carts will be allowed at tournaments based on availability. Only individuals living in the same household will be allowed to ride together in a spectator cart. Spectators will be allowed to provide transportation to players only during a weather evacuation.

Starting Area

When arriving at the starting area, players shall stand in front of a red stake. Scorecards and player information will be handed out in a prepacked plastic bag. The Starter will be wearing a face mask and sanitize their hands when all players have arrived. The scorecard handed out will be for the player you are assigned to be the Marker. Note: no traditional starter box will be available, so be prepared and bring your bug spray, sunscreen, sharpies, band-aids, pain relief medicine. Water will be available in the starting area and distributed by the Starter upon request.

Money Games

Money games like skins, player pools, and 50/50 will continue. Cash will not be accepted. To participate, a player will pay using the Venmo APP. Alternatively, some Chapters will require payment done at the time of entry.

Scoring

After completion of the round, the Player and Marker, while observing social distancing, should review the scorecard before entering the scoring queue. When the Scoring Area is open, Players should stand on the BLUE X. The Marker will read scores in 3-hole segments, e.g., 4 4 3 to the Scoring Official. The scorecard is considered returned when the player whose scores were read confirms it is correct. Once all players in the group have reported their scores, scorecards must be placed in the designated scorecard box, and they must leave the scoring area. For the protection of players, the scorecard is considered returned when they have left the clubhouse.

Weather Evacuation

When a play is suspended for a dangerous situation, the players will have the option of going to their car or going to a designated area inside the clubhouse or other indoor structure. A Weather Evacuation plan will be created for all events and document the designated areas in the clubhouse, e.g., players on holes 1-6 (Zone A), holes 7-12 (Zone B), holes 13-18 (Zone C). Digital messaging will be used to communicate during any suspension, as well as sharing the plan for resumption. It is the player's responsibility to ensure the BlueGolf APP has their mobile phone number.

RULES of GOLF

The integrity of competitions is important. However, there will be temporary modifications to the Conditions of Competition and Local Rules allowed under the Rules of Golf.

Flagstick

The Flagstick shall not be touched or removed from the hole. If a player accidentally removes the Flagstick, there is no penalty. If a player deliberately touches or removes the Flagstick, they are subject to the Model Penalty Structure as outlined in Rule 1.2b, First Breach - Warning, Second Breach - 1 stroke, Third Breach - General Penalty, Fourth Breach - Disqualification.

Bunkers

If a player's ball touches or is in a bunker where sand has been disturbed by another player, the player may mark, lift and clean their ball without penalty. Before lifting, they must mark the position of the ball. The player must then place the ball on a spot within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay but must remain in the bunker.

A player may place his ball only ONCE, and it is in play when it has been placed (Rule 14.2a). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was placed, Rule 14.2e applies. If the ball, when placed, comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed, and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty, and the ball must be played as it lies unless the provisions of any other Rule apply.

If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, he incurs a penalty of one stroke.

Scorecards

A player's verbal confirmation is considered to be the player's signature, and the scorecard is considered returned after the player has left the defined scoring area.

Caddies

Caddies are not allowed.