



PGA

Metropolitan Section

COVID-19 Tournament Policies

The Metropolitan PGA will adhere to all state/county/local health official's guidelines and regulations when conducting tournaments in an attempt to minimize risk of exposure to its participants. This plan was developed by using recommendations from global health partners and working in conjunction with the Back2Golf plan, an industry-wide collaboration of the PGA TOUR, PGA of America, USGA, LPGA, IAGA and allied golf associations. Thank you for reviewing, and adopting, these practices to protect all stakeholders at events.

Tournament Guidelines will be reviewed and adjusted in accordance with changing government guidance.

SAFETY PROCEDURES

All Met PGA staff, players, caddies, and spectators may be required to wear a facemask when engaging in accordance with CDC and host facility policies.

All players/guests are responsible for their own facemask.

PRE-ROUND POLICIES

PRE-ROUND WARM UP:

A normal warm up routine might not be accommodated prior to the round. Players must understand that fact before arriving on property.

Practice Facilities

The Met PGA will work responsibly with each host facility to ensure social distancing will be maintained on all practice areas prior to the round.

Locker Room

Locker room availability will be dictated by the host facility. If the locker rooms are not available, a men's and a women's bathroom will be made available.

TEEING AREA:

Starting times and or shotguns for all events will be based on CDC and host facility policies.

We will no longer provide these items: tees, pencils, sharpies, or ball markers. **Players should come prepared with these items.**

There will be a starter at the first tee to review the rules of the day and safety protocols.

Players will be provided their official scorecard for use during the round.

ON COURSE TOUCH POINTS

GOLF CARTS:

The Met PGA will abide by local guidelines to determine cart availability on an event-by-event basis. If the facility doesn't have enough carts in their fleet to accommodate all players, participants will be asked to walk and carry their clubs or use a push cart. Players are responsible for bringing their own push cart. The Met PGA and host facility will not provide push carts.

DIVOT MIX/BALL WASHER/ON COURSE BENCHES:

Players using divot mix, a ball washer and any other on course touch points do so at their own risk. Players are encouraged to sanitize their hands immediately after using any of these or other common touch points on the course.

BUNKERS:

The Met PGA will work with the host facility to determine the status of bunkers. Bunkers may be considered in play, ground under repair or part of the general area.

FLAGSTICK:

Prior to making a stroke, the player can have the flagstick left in the hole, attended or removed. If a lifter attached to the flagstick is in the way, the flagstick may be turned so it is out of the way if the player wants to keep the flagstick in the hole. If a lifter is deliberately moved so that the ball will hit it and the ball strikes the lifter, Rule 11.2 applies (the player gets the general penalty and the ball must NOT be played as it lies - see Rule 11.2c for where to play from).

If we choose to let players remove the flagstick, players are responsible for using the appropriate PPE to remove, replace and clean the flagstick.

WATER/SNACKS:

The Met PGA will NOT be providing water or snacks on course at any event. Players should plan accordingly and bring their own. Food service and availability will be based on local government guidelines.

POST ROUND POLICIES

SCORING AREA:

All Met PGA staff, players, caddies, and spectators may be required to wear a facemask when engaging in accordance with CDC and host facility policies.

Only one group will be allowed in the scoring area at all times.

Players may be asked to verbally read hole by hole scores to their marker, and insure they agree on all scores. Player or marker may be asked to read hole by hole scores to staff member entering scores in the computer.

Any rules questions must be asked and resolved with the scoring official while the group is in the scoring area.

When the player leaves the scoring area, their score is official.

POST ROUND:

In the case of a tie or a playoff all contestants are reminded of their responsibility to keep informed regarding the possibility of playoffs due to ties. The method for resolving ties will be posted at the scorer's table, if applicable. Playoff will start when all scores have been posted.

Once the round is complete, all players must leave the facility. Practice on putting green, short game areas, and driving range following the completion of play is prohibited.

Award ceremonies will be conducted in accordance with CDC and host facility polices.

WEATHER DELAYS

In the event of an extended suspension of play due to weather, players must proceed to their cars. All players must wear masks during a weather delay of any length.

Met PGA staff will communicate suspension of play updates to players via email and text messages.

Following a weather delay, players will not be permitted to practice unless approved by Met PGA staff.

SPECTATORS/CADDIES

Spectators and caddies will be allowed in accordance to CDC and host facility polices.

GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

- If you have a fever, cough or other symptoms of COVID-19, please stay home.
- Please familiarize yourself and follow best practices as published by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO) and state / local governments.