

# ALABAMA-NW FLORIDA PGA

## COVID-19 Tournament Policies & Procedures



**PGA**

Alabama - NW Florida Section

Below are guidelines for the **ALABAMA-NW FLORIDA PGA** 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** and removal from the facility. These are subject to change as information regarding COVID-19 changes.

- Do **NOT** play if you feel sick or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last two weeks. Refunds will be available to anyone who misses an event due to this reason.
- Stay at least six (6) feet away from everyone at all times.
- Do **NOT** touch or handle any tournament supplies or equipment that is not yours.

### GENERAL PLAYER INFORMATION:

- **ARRIVAL** – Players should **NOT** arrive to the host facility more than 45 minutes to 1 hour before their assigned tee time.
- **PAPERWORK** – All tournament paperwork, including hole location sheets, local rule sheets and scorecards, will be placed on the carts prior to the event. Also, all materials will be on the Alabama-NW Florida PGA website so a player may view them on their phone before or during the round.
- **GOLF CARS** – Golf cars will be single rider **ONLY**.
- **STARTING FORMAT** – All events will be tee times starts to reduce the number of people congregating in one area unless otherwise noted.
- **ONLINE ACCESS** – Players are encouraged to download the ALNWFL Blue Golf App.
  - This will allow a player to access online scoring, review hole locations, review local rules and access other important information. If anyone needs help with this please contact the Section Tournament Director (Wade Dockery).

### TOURNAMENT OPERATIONS:

- **PRACTICE FACILITIES** – Players should **NOT** arrive to the practice facilities more than 45 minutes to 1 hour before their assigned tee time.
  - Driving range stations will be spread out and limited to maintain social distancing.
  - Practice putting and chipping greens will have flagsticks removed.
  - Players should limit their time warming up to allow everyone an opportunity since space is limited.
  - Players must maintain six (6) feet of distance between themselves and other players at all practice facilities.
  - Players are prohibited from practicing after the round.
- **STARTING TEES** – Players will register on their starting tee five to ten (5-10) minutes prior to their starting time. It is the player's responsibility to know their starting time/starting tee and be there on time.
- **CADDIES** – Players are **NOT** permitted to use caddies.
- **SPECTATORS** – Spectators are **NOT** allowed on the golf course.
- **SCORING** – After completing the round, ONE group will be allowed to enter the "scoring area" at a time. Players will maintain six feet of distance between them and verbally agree to their hole-by-hole scores with their group and the scoring official.
  - After verbally verifying scores, players will sign the scorecard they have and place it in the box on the scoring table.
  - Scorecards will **NOT** be exchanged at **ANYTIME**.
  - Players must leave the scoring area as soon as all cards have been signed and placed in the box.
- **PLAYOFFS** – Playoffs will be conducted per the Conditions of Competition.
- **AWARDS** – Award ceremonies will **NOT** be conducted.
- **WEATHER DELAYS** – In the event of a horn blast signaling a discontinuing of play, all players must proceed directly to their vehicles. Communication regarding resumption of play will be sent via text message and email.

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### 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, when searching for a ball, on the teeing ground, on the putting green and all other locations.
- **BUNKERS** – All rakes have been removed from the golf course.
  - Players are encouraged to use their feet to smooth bunkers **AFTER** making a stroke from one.
  - Please reference the Local Rules for proper relief procedures.
  - Players who repeatedly fail to care for bunkers may be subject to a Code of Conduct penalty.
- **HOLING OUT** – All players **MUST** hole out on each hole. To allow players to remove the ball from the hole without touching the hole, PVC pipes, pool noodles or other devices will be used inside the cup. These devices will vary based on the host facility.
- **FLAGSTICKS** – Players **MUST NOT** remove the flagstick to putt. Also, tending of the flagstick as outlined in the Rules of Golf is **suspended** until further notice.
  - If a player removes the flagstick and putts their ball with the flagstick removed from the hole, they will incur a Code of Conduct penalty as follows:
    - First breach – one-stroke penalty
    - Second breach – general penalty
    - Third breach – disqualification

### FOOD & BEVERAGE:

- **CLUBHOUSE F&B** – Players will be notified prior to the event what will be available for F&B at each facility so they can make plans accordingly.
- **ON-WATER COOLERS** – Host facilities will remove all on-course water coolers.
  - If a facility should elect to have an on-course water cooler, the ALNWFL PGA accepts no liability for them and encourages players to use extreme discretion regarding their use.

### FACILITY / TOURNAMENT EQUIPMENT:

- **STARTERS BOXES** – Starting tees will **NOT** have a starters box.
  - Players are encouraged to bring writing utensil, ball markers and tees.
- **HAND SANITIZER** – The ALNWFL PGA will provide hand sanitizer on starting tees and in the scoring area.
- **BALL WASHERS & SAND BUCKETS** - If a facility should elect to have ball washers or sand buckets on the course, the ALNWFL PGA accepts no liability for them and encourages players to use extreme discretion regarding their use.
- **CLUBHOUSE** – The ALNWFL PGA will defer to facility practices on whether or not the clubhouse is open to guests or not. Players will be notified prior to the event what will be available at each facility so they can make plans accordingly.
  - The ALNWFL PGA will ensure that each host facility has at least one (1) male and one (1) female bathroom available.