



The Industry COVID Safe Plan for Outdoor Sports Recommendations

The Industry COVID Safe Plan for Outdoor Sports is a generic sports plan. Golf Australia in conjunction with Golf Queensland provides the following COVID-19 Safe Plan Guidance for all golf clubs and facilities in Queensland to utilise.

1. GOLF OPERATIONS

Based on the Queensland Government announcement loosening COVID-19 restrictions within Queensland, Golf Australia provides the following recommendations.

Please note, this information should be read in conjunction with Play Management guidelines that are located at <https://www.golf.org.au/club-guidance-managing-play-in-the-covid-19-environment>

- Golf can be played in groups of four
- All bookings should be made online, via phone or via text message. There should be no 'roll-up play'.

For clubs/facilities with online time sheets, these bookings should be strictly enforced to ensure no congregation in the pro shop or around the first tee. For those without online time sheets, it is recommended that bookings are made via phone.

- Club competitions can be run
- Shotgun starts should be avoided to avoid gatherings of more than 20 people
- Consideration should be given to the submission of scorecards via non-contact measures as outlined below:
 - o MMS
 - o App
 - o E-Mail
 - o Phone call
 - o Scorecards, if in use, should be distributed and collected using PPE.



2. General hygiene principles required, including cleaning of facilities

Clubs and facilities staff and volunteers should exhibit a heightened awareness of personal hygiene as has been encouraged by state and federal health departments and they should display a heightened regard for the sanitation of surfaces, of which their cleaning chemical provider will be able to provide guidance on.

Golf Australia has provided Club & Facilities with specific easy to implement changes to regular operations to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19. These include:

- Placing social distancing signage around the clubhouse along with hand sanitisers
- Sanitise motorised carts, rental clubs, push buggy and sand bucket handles and air compressor

handles before and after use on all occasions.

- Sanitise all greenkeeping machinery before and after use on all occasions
- Removal of rakes from bunkers
- Remove small pins from practice putting greens
- No dollar bets
- No hand shaking
- Two (2) people per golf cart permitted.
- Multiple tee starts should only be considered by clubs that can ensure the prescribed gathering and social distancing guidelines are met.

Please note, especially with regards to sanitation of motorised carts and rental clubs, that if clubs/facilities are not confident in ensuring adherence to COVID-19 hygiene principles then consideration should be given to not offering these options to players.



3. TEMPORARY MODIFICATIONS TO THE RULES OF GOLF

On 19/3/2020, the R&A (who are the ruling authority of golf throughout the world except in north America)announced a series of temporary measures to combat the hygiene implications associated with some of the requirements of the Rules of Golf. These temporary measures allow the Rules of Golf, and Model Local Rules, to be modified as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

This information can be accessed at <https://www.golf.org.au/club-guidance-managing-play-in-the-covid-19-environment> and it is recommended that clubs/facilities familiarise themselves with these modifications.

When considering these new options, clubs should be mindful of the following:

- In order to take advantage of these new Local Rule options, your club will need to announce which options it is bringing into effect for play at your facility – these options do not automatically come into effect at your facility as a result of the R&A announcement.
- Scores returned from competitions with any of the new Local Rules in effect must be processed through GOLF Link unless your club has been instructed otherwise by Golf Australia or your State Association.
- These Local Rule options are temporary and are related to COVID-19 concerns. They will be available to clubs until Golf Australia advises otherwise.