



March 25, 2021

To our constituents in New York's golf communities,

The coalition of New York State Golf Associations first wishes to thank Empire State Development and the New York State Department of Health for its unwavering support of New Yorkers and our health and safety over the past twelve months. On top of the global pandemic and the volume of issues it presented, they were tasked with handling the innumerable inquiries from stakeholders and the development of reopening plans for businesses. Throughout that process they have been incredibly friendly to golf and golfers across the Empire State and we could not be more appreciative for the opportunity for our sport and industry to be a beacon of recreation and entertainment for people who struggled through the past year. As the new season approaches, we plan to continue offering a haven for New York residents under the continued responsible approach that they've empowered us to employ. With extensive assistance from Steve Malito and Nick Antenucci of Davidoff, Hutcher and Citron, we requested the State's consideration for updates and modifications to the current Sports and Recreational Guidelines for Golf in New York State, and we're pleased to announce the following has been adopted:

For golf courses and driving ranges, Responsible Parties should ensure players adhere to the following additional safety measures, in addition to social distancing and face coverings when such distancing cannot be maintained: (The guidelines can also be viewed by [clicking here](#))

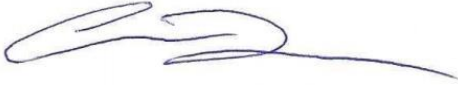
- Restrict use of golf carts to no more than two persons per cart; provided, however, that a person may request their own cart if they would otherwise be sharing with another individual who is not a member of their same family/household;
 - Responsible Parties must require face coverings be worn while cart is occupied with two persons and may consider installation of physical barriers between riders so long as they do not impede visibility or operation of the cart.
 - Responsible Parties must clean and disinfect carts in between each party's use.
- Keep golf bag in possession (e.g., walking or push cart), when possible, or use an assigned caddie who is required to wear a face covering and perform regular hand hygiene (e.g., hand washing or sanitizing) when in close contact with players and handling player equipment;
 - Responsible Parties may offer player equipment storage so long as caddies or handlers wear a face covering and perform regular hand hygiene when handling player equipment.
- Consider using remote check-in, with advance tee time reservations (by internet or telephone);
- Process payment of greens fee in a contact-free manner at the time of play by credit and debit card only (e.g. no cash) to the extent possible; courses should make efforts to take phone payments in advance;
- Allow the use of bunker rakes, ball washers, flagsticks, water coolers, and shared on-course equipment or amenities so long as they are cleaned and disinfected between each party's use or on a frequent, set schedule throughout the day when the course or range is open for play;
- Permit golf pros on the course, provided they do not touch players and keep six feet of distance at all times, unless wearing a face covering or are separated by a physical barrier;
- Encourage single-use of items, such as tees/scorecards/pencils/ball markers, and discourage sharing of such items among non-household members, unless such items are cleaned and disinfected between use;
- Only allow club and equipment rentals if it is cleaned and disinfected before and after player use;
- All retail and food services shall adhere to the State-issued guidance for such activities;
- All on-premises gatherings are subject to the social gathering limits set forth by the State; and
- Post messaging and facility signage to reflect interim rules of use.

Respectfully and gratefully submitted,
Coalition of New York State Golf Associations

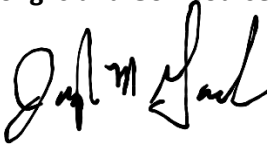
Central New York PGA, Alan Seamans, Executive Director



Hudson Valley Golf Course Superintendents Association, Chris Kemble, President



Long Island Golf Course Superintendents Association, Joe Gardner, President



Metropolitan Club Management Association, Sarah Kuhl, President



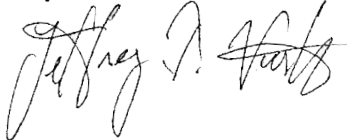
Metropolitan Golf Association, Brian Mahoney, Executive Director



Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association, Rob Alonzi, President; Mike McCall, Executive Director



Metropolitan PGA, Jeff Voorheis, Executive Director



New York Golf Course Superintendents Association, Brian Conn, President



New York State Club Association, Charles Dorn, President



New York State Club Management Association, Scott Ellender, President



New York State Golf Association, Bill Moore, Executive Director



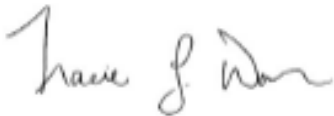
New York State Turfgrass Association, Stephen Whipple, President



Northeast Golf Course Superintendents Association, John Risler, President



Northeast New York PGA, Rich Scott, President; Tracie Warner, Executive Director



Rochester District Golf Association, Tim Vangellow, Executive Director



Western New York PGA, Steve Bartkowski, Executive Director



Women's Metropolitan Golf Association, Sarah Niemeier, Executive Director

