



April 1, 2020

Dear Georgia Golf Stakeholder,

We wanted to provide you with a quick update on advocacy efforts undertaken by Georgia's allied golf associations—the Georgia Chapter of Club Management Association of America, Georgia Chapter of Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Georgia Section of the PGA of America and the Georgia State Golf Association, in support of our state's nearly 400 golf facilities and the resulting impact from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

We continue to stay in regular contact with Governor Kemp's office to remain proactive should any statewide mandates be forthcoming that would impact golf courses. In the last week, we have seen numerous cities and counties across the state put ordinances into place requiring that citizens shelter in place for those communities. Most of those mandates have provided for outdoor activities to remain permissible, but if not, we have developed resources that can aid facilities with engaging their local leaders to share what efforts golf facilities are going through to communicate that golf can be a safe recreational activity. These resources were recently used by a facility that had been mandated to close by their local municipality, and after further discussion, the course was allowed to reopen this past Saturday.

As we shared last week, we sent a follow up communication to Governor Kemp's office stressing how golf courses are abiding by government regulations and precautionary measures, enabling individuals to practice safe social distancing while also getting exercise and supporting the local economy.

That said, we request that facilities across the state assist these efforts by continuing to do your part to ensure that proper social distancing is taking place on the course and other preventative measures are being implemented. Many facilities have taken the following steps, for example, to prevent the spread of COVID-19 while remaining open for play:

- Limiting access to walking only or requiring only one individual in a golf cart if carts are permitted
- Removal of items such as ball washers, rakes and water coolers from the golf course to minimize touch points
- Ensuring flagsticks are sanitized and remain in cups at all times
- Cup inserts have been raised above the putting green, installed upside down or have an insert to restrict the ball from fully entering the hole, minimizing contact with surfaces

Additionally, staying in touch with your HOA, POA or community at large to communicate what specific measures your facility is undertaking to promote safe social distancing and helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19 while you remain open for play may be beneficial.

Last week we shared the following websites which provide important information and links to best practices and industry-led education efforts regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. These online portals have proven to be great resources for facilities across the state.

As Georgia's allied golf associations, we ask for your help to make sure we continue to be responsible parties that are promoting a safe and healthy environment for golfers to enjoy playing the game they love.

Thanks for your help. Please stay safe and know that your allied golf associations continue to work hard and advocate on your behalf.

Sincerely,

Georgia Chapter of Club Management Association of America  
Georgia Chapter of Golf Course Superintendents Association of America  
Georgia Section of the PGA of America  
Georgia State Golf Association