



June 4, 2020

2020 RETURN TO PLAY

Alberta Golf Provincial Competition Protocols

The following protocols have been prepared to facilitate the protection of the health and safety of players, Alberta Golf staff, host facility staff and volunteers. These protocols are to be used in conjunction with normal operating procedures for Alberta Golf events. Protocols may change based on government/facility regulations at the time of the competition.

COMPETITION OPERATING PRINCIPLES

- Strictly adhere to government and NAGA-AB Guidelines as well as industry best practices. Information is regularly updated on [Alberta Golf's Covid-19 Resource Page](#)
- Strictly adhere to host facility standards
- Control the flow of players and restrict gatherings
- Minimize the risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19

WAIVERS:

All players, staff and volunteers must agree to follow all protocols and sign the **Alberta Golf Tournament Waiver and Release** before completing the registration process and agreeing to participate in the event. A copy of the waiver is available at the end of this document and is managed electronically through Alberta Golf's paid DocuSign® subscription.

ILLNESS:

If any player, staff or volunteer is showing signs of illness they should stay home. If they become ill while at a facility, they should leave the facility in a manner intended to address the safety of the player and others. If an Alberta Golf Official becomes aware of a player who appears to be ill while at a facility, the Alberta Golf Official may require the player to leave the facility in a manner intended to address the safety of the player and others. Players who become ill should go to a COVID-19 Assessment Centre. If a player or volunteer tests positive for COVID-19 they are asked to advise Alberta Golf and cooperate with Alberta Health in identifying close contacts. If Alberta Health deems there to be a risk to other players, volunteers, or staff, Alberta Golf will cooperate with Alberta Health in identifying and contacting those individuals.

FIELD SIZES:

Competition fields will be limited to help reduce the number of players on course at any given time. Draws will be segmented by AHS region to the extent it is possible to do so, in order to support cohort grouping.

**FIRST TEE STARTS:**

All championships will start from the first tee only to ensure social distancing on practice facilities prior to tee times and during weather delays.

LIVE SCORING:

Live scoring checkpoints will be reduced to the 9th and 18th greens only.

CADDIES:

Caddies will not be permitted at any all championships and qualifiers.

SPECTATORS:

Spectators will not be permitted to attend any championships or qualifiers.

FLAGSTICKS:

For the 2020 season, Alberta Golf will be using various methods, as determined by each host club, to restrict players from reaching into the hole to retrieve their ball. Players must not touch with their hand, or remove, the flagstick at any time. Removing or touching the flagstick will be a violation of the Alberta Golf Code of Conduct policy and may result in penalty.

BUNKERS:

All bunker rakes will be removed from the golf course. Players may lift, clean and place their ball within one club length of where their original ball lay that is not nearer the hole and in the same bunker. Players are encouraged to smooth their footprints (with foot and/or club) to the best of their ability when exiting the bunker.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING:

Players and their golf bags must maintain a minimum six (6) feet of distance between themselves and other players. This includes when they are preparing for a shot, walking down the fairway/rough, on the teeing ground, on the putting green, and in the scoring area. Players not maintaining physical distancing will be in violation of the Alberta Golf Code of Conduct policy which may result in penalty.

GATHERINGS:

No gathering of any kind is permitted at an Alberta Golf competition. All scoreboards (manual and electronic) will not be used. Players must leave the facility immediately after their round. Some exceptions may apply for playoffs (players will be notified). Players must not gather (multiple groups) on any tee deck if a hole is backed up. Physical distancing must be maintained.

**PRACTICE ROUNDS:**

Players will be responsible to arrange their practice round date and time directly with the host facility based on availability. During the practice round, players must follow the operating procedures of the host facility, including protocols relating to their practice facilities. For more information please visit the tournament website.

FACILITY ARRIVAL:

Players must check in for every round with the Alberta Golf greeter as soon as they arrive at the facility. Players are asked to arrive at the course no more than 45 minutes prior to their starting tee time. Players arriving earlier will be asked to remain in their vehicle.

PRACTICE FACILITIES:

To help reduce congestion on practice facilities, players will be assigned 20 minutes of warm-up time on the driving range and 15 minutes on the putting/chipping green prior to their tee time. This will be managed by host club staff. Driving range stalls will be spaced to allow for physical distancing, balls will be set out, and holes will be removed from practice putting and chipping greens. Practice after rounds will be prohibited.

CLUBHOUSE:

Depending on government and host facility guidelines, the clubhouse may be closed to all players and accompanying adults with the exception of washroom use. Lockers will not be available. Access to pro shop is based on host facility protocols.

REGISTRATION:

Championship registration will be conducted immediately prior to the player's first round tee time for the competition.

FOOD & BEVERAGE:

Traditional player meals will not be available before or after the round. Boxed lunches or meal vouchers will be provided. There will be no on course water stations, players are encouraged to bring their own water bottles or purchase beverages from host facility.

CHAMPIONSHIP HEADQUARTERS:

Players and parents must call or e-mail the Tournament Director with any questions or concerns and should refrain from physically visiting Championship Headquarters. Contact information can be found on the tournament website.

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE):**

Players will be provided with access to adequate hand sanitizing stations throughout the facility and will be encouraged to bring and use their own PPE (masks, gloves, sanitizer, etc). Alberta Golf will provide masks and gloves for use by staff and volunteers.

EVACUATIONS:

In case of inclement weather, players will be asked to return to their vehicles. If the clubhouse is open, players without access to a vehicle will be able to seek shelter inside the clubhouse while still maintaining social/physical distancing. If shuttling players off the course is required, staff/referees/volunteers will be equipped with appropriate PPE given that physical distancing may be more challenging in such circumstances. At minimum, the driver and passenger will both be required to wear a mask. Instructions to resume play will be provided via email notifications to all players.

VOLUNTEERS:

Essential operational volunteers will be recruited to execute Alberta Golf events. Volunteers should arrive no later than 20 minutes before their assignment and must leave the facility immediately after their assignment.

CHAMPIONSHIP DOCUMENTS:

Hole location sheets, official yardages, pace of play and the notice to players will only be available through the tournament website. A link to these documents will be e-mailed to all players in the field in advance. We encourage all players to familiarize themselves with this information prior to the start of the Championship.

SCORECARDS & STARTING:

Scorecards and pencils will be provided by Alberta Golf.

SCORING:

At the conclusion of a round, players are asked to refrain from the traditional handshake or hug. Players must proceed to the scoring area to verify their scores with the scoring official. Scorecards will not be exchanged at the scoring area, scores will be read to the player by the marker and then verbally attested. Only two (2) people (the player and marker) will be permitted in the scoring area at a time (while maintaining physical distancing). Players will be asked to leave the facility upon the completion of play. Players will not be permitted to use the practice facilities after their round. Some exceptions may apply for playoffs.

AWARDS PRESENTATION:

The awards presentation following each event will be brief and will be limited to the final six groups (18 players) participating in the event. Awards and trophies will be sanitized prior to



players receiving them. Gift certificates for players who are unable to remain onsite will be mailed out by Alberta Golf.

In addition to the information provided in this document about Alberta Golf's Return to Golf Protocols, the Golf Industry in Canada has released [Golf's Playbook](#) to assist golfers navigate the golf experience through the Covid-19 pandemic.

Golfers may also benefit from reading and understanding the [Guidance for Golf Course and Driving Range Operators](#) document available through Alberta Health Services.

For more information: **Alberta Golf**
22 – 11410 27 Street SE, Calgary, AB, T2Z 3R6
403.236.4616
info@albertagolf.org



Alberta Golf Event Waiver and Release

Every staff member, volunteer and participant **MUST** read and understand this waiver and release before attending or participating in any Alberta Golf competition or event.

1. By clicking 'I agree to the waiver' below, I confirm that I am the individual whose application is being submitted, and that I have read and understand this waiver and release.
2. I understand that this waiver and release is made for the benefit of **Alberta Golf**, and each of its directors, officers, employees, volunteers, coaches, referees, business operators, agents and site property owners or occupiers (collectively, the "Organization").
3. I understand that there are inherent risks associated with each of the following activities:
 - The game of golf
 - The use of golf equipment and/or power carts, whether rented or purchased from the Organization, or on my own
 - The use of the Organization's facilities
 - Participation in sport, fitness, instruction, food and beverage services, and other activities, services, programs or events provided or organized by the Organization.
4. I am aware that the risks include, but are not limited to, the potential for serious personal injury, death or property damage. I understand the risks may be relative to my own state of fitness and health (including physical, mental and emotional), and to the awareness, care and skill with which I conduct myself.
5. I freely accept and fully assume all responsibility for all risks and possibilities of personal injury, death, property damage and other loss resulting from my participation in the above described activities. I accept these risks and agree to the terms of this waiver and release, even if the Organization is found to be negligent or in breach of any duty of care or any obligation to me in my participation in the activities.
6. In addition to consideration given to the Organization for my participation in activities, I and my heirs, next of kin, executors, administrators and assigns (collectively my "**legal Representatives**"), agree:
 - a. To waive all claims that I have or may have in the future against the Organization;
 - b. To release and forever discharge the Organization from all liability for all personal injury, death, property damage or other loss resulting from my participation in the above described activities due to any cause, including but not limited to negligence (failure to use such care as a reasonably prudent and careful person would use under similar circumstances) either passive or active, breach of any duty imposed by law, breach of contract or mistake or error of judgment of the Organization;
 - c. To release and forever discharge the Organization from all liability for all personal injury, property damage or other loss resulting from any infectious disease, virus, bacterium, or other microorganism (whether asymptomatic or not); or



- d. To release and forever discharge the Organization from all liability for all personal injury, death, property damage or other loss resulting from Coronavirus (COVID – 19) including any mutation or variation thereof; or
 - e. To release and forever discharge the Organization from all liability for all personal injury, death, property damage or other loss resulting from a pandemic or epidemic, as declared as such by the World Health Organization and any government authority; and
 - f. To be liable for and to hold harmless and indemnify the Organization from all actions, proceedings, claims, damages, costs, demands including court costs and costs on a solicitor and client basis, and liabilities of whatsoever nature or kind arising out of or in any way connected with my participation in activities.
7. In submitting this waiver, I understand and agree to the following:
 - a. The responsibility to read and understand how each of the Organization’s competition or event policies apply to this specific event;
 - b. To abide by local, provincial, or federal safety protocols, including practicing ‘physical distancing’ in defense and mitigation of Covid – 19; and
 - c. To receive email messages from the Organization, relating to events.
 8. In consideration for the Organization’s services in organizing the event, I hereby grant and assign to the Organization, without limitation, my individual television, radio, motion picture, print advertising, internet and all other related media rights with respect to my participation in the event.
 9. In case of a medical emergency during the event, I authorize a qualified medical doctor to take all necessary measures in the treatment of this applicant.
 10. For all junior competitors, where the applicant might be a minor, the parent and/or legal guardian certifies that the information contained within this entry is true, that they are aware of the applicant’s intention to participate in this championship(s), and that the applicant does so with their approval and consent.
 11. I agree that this Waiver and Release and all terms contained within are governed by the laws of the Province or Territory in Canada in which the activities occur. I hereby irrevocably submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of that Province or Territory. Any litigation to enforce this Waiver and Release must be instituted in the Province or Territory in which activities occur.
 12. I confirm that I have had sufficient time to read and understand each term in this Waiver and Release in its entirety and have agreed to the terms freely and voluntarily. I understand that this Waiver and Release is binding on myself and my Legal Representatives. I confirm that I have reached the age of majority in the Province or Territory in which activities occur or will occur.

Agree to the Waiver and Release by submitting this form electronically

Date:

Name:

Signature:



Alberta Golf Risk Acceptance Waiver

Every staff member, volunteer and participant **MUST** read and understand this waiver before attending or participating in any Alberta Golf competition or event.

Date:

Name:

This declaration and acceptance of risk must be signed prior to attending or participating in any Alberta Golf event. Failure to do so will result in the participant's inability to attend or participate in any championship or event. You agree to observe and fully abide by all rules and regulations prescribed by Alberta Golf. Any failure to do so will result in immediate disqualification from the championship or removal from the event. Covid – 19 can be transmitted by asymptomatic people and accordingly the statements made by participants contained in this document cannot provide certainty that the virus will not be transmitted. Alberta Golf is taking prudent steps to impose and enforce appropriate protocols to keep participants, family members, volunteers and club staff safe, but there can be no assurances that the virus will not be contracted by others. This is a risk that each participant must assess themselves, and if they choose to participate, takes the risk of either contracting the virus or transmitting it to others.

Initial: _____

By completing and submitting this declaration you agree to the following:

I hereby declare that neither I nor anyone in my household has experienced any cold or flu-like symptoms in the last 14 days (to include fever, cough, sore throat, respiratory illness, difficulty breathing or stomach cramps). If I or anyone in my household has experienced any cold or flu-like symptoms after submitting this declaration, I will then withdraw from the current event and any other events I am registered to attend within a 14-day period of time. This declaration will remain in effect until Alberta Golf declares the requirements in this declaration are no longer in effect.

Initial: _____

I hereby declare that I or any member of my household have not traveled to or had a lay-over in any country outside of Canada in the past 14 days. If I or anyone in my household travel to any country outside Canada after submitting this declaration, I will withdraw from the current event and any other event I am registered to attend for a minimum period of 14 days after date of return to Canada. This agreement will remain in effect until Alberta Golf declares the requirements in this declaration are no longer in effect.

Initial: _____



Alberta Golf Event Procedures

GENERAL

- To protect yourself and others: practice physical distancing; wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer; cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your elbow; avoid touching your face with unwashed hands; watch for COVID-19 symptoms: cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose or sore throat
- Participants must adhere to each host club's regulations in terms of access to facilities
- Participants are responsible for their own equipment at all times
- Congregating anywhere on host club property prior to or following the event is prohibited

EVENT PRE-ARRIVAL

- Waiver and Release, Risk Acceptance documents must be read, signed and submitted to Alberta Golf
- Check albertagolf.org for updates or notifications
- If applicable, have read all tournament regulations including Notice to Competitors

CLUB FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- The availability for participants to access the clubhouse, pro-shop and on-course rest rooms will be provided to all participants in advance by electronic means

ARRIVAL AND PREPARATION

- A greeter will be present to provide directions and will screen all participants
- Only registered participants are eligible to be onsite. Caddies and spectators are not allowed
- Players will be informed of all safety protocols in place in the event of inclement weather

As a participant in Alberta Golf events, I have read and understand the "Alberta Golf Event Procedures" as stated above. I will also stay updated with Alberta Golf announcements and adhere to policies as the season progresses.

Initial: _____