

ON-COURSE SAFETY MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

At the heart of returning to golf is providing a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone involved including participants, their parents and guardians, coaches, volunteers and the golf course's respective staff.

The open spaces of a golf course provide an optimal opportunity to promote physical health through exercise while maintaining government mandated physical distancing safety measures.

In addition, playing a round of golf promotes character development for each participant through the seamless integration of the First Tee's nine core values and healthy habits.

Safety Guidelines

The following guidelines must be adhered to by each participant. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in the removal without refund of a participant from on-course opportunities.

Participants are required to remain at least 6 feet from one another during the entirety of a golf round. Be mindful of where you walk and stand before, during, and after a round of golf.

Example: Teeing areas, putting greens, walking on the fairways.

Participants must refrain from any physical contact with fellow participants, coaches, or volunteers.

Example: High fives during a round, handshakes at the beginning and end of a round.

In accordance with local government mandate, participants and coaches must wear face coverings for the entirety of a golf round.

New check-in process

- Participants will arrive to the tee box 15 minutes prior to their tee time.
- Coaches will provide a specific place for participants to stand while waiting for their tee time.
- Until further notice, putting and chipping greens will be closed. Participants that use the driving range must follow safety regulations provided by the respective golf course.

On-course safety strategies

- To promote safety from beginning to end, coaches will oversee that the safety of players is being upheld.
- When general assistance is needed, get the attention of a coach by waving your arms or calling out.

-If you need rules advice, you may ask another competitor or your coach but be sure to maintain at least a 6-foot distance when asking a question or confirming your action.

In the teeing area

-If more than one competitor is playing from the same set of tees, participants must wait for the teeing area to clear before approaching.

-To maintain pace of play, participants should have their club, ball and tee ready while waiting for their turn.

In the general area

-If two or more competitor's balls are lying near each other, communicate who goes first then be sure to stand at least 6 feet from the other participant while waiting.

-Because there will be no rakes in bunkers, do your best to use your foot to smooth out the impact area and footprints left behind.

On the putting green

-The flagstick must remain in the hole.

-When putting out, be aware of where you stand to maintain your 6-foot distance between yourself and other participants.

Different types of holes on the putting green:

Raised cups:

-Holes may be raised above the putting surface and any impact with the cup will count as in the hole. Pick up your ball once this happens.

Holes with plastic rings inside the cup:

-Holes may contain a plastic ring to keep a ball from falling to the bottom of the cup. This is intended to keep golfers from touching the flagstick or the hole. Do your best to touch only your ball once holing out.

Completing your round

-As soon as your round is complete, please refrain from shaking hands or high fiving. You can offer an air high five or a tip of the hat as a safer way of showing end-of-round etiquette.

-Once round is complete, you must immediately proceed toward the exit of the golf course facility. Parents will be notified by a coach when a group is on the 9th hole via text or phone call to be prepared for participant pick-up.

Let's stay safe, have fun and enjoy this wonderful game. See you on the course!