

Back2Golf South Florida PGA

COVID-19

Junior Tour Policies and Procedures

Back2Golf South Florida PGA Operations Playbook

The below playbook will be used to responsibly administer South Florida PGA Junior Tour events until it is safe to lift the restrictions in accordance with guidelines by county or state authorities. It is possible that individual counties will have more or less strict guidelines that could amend this playbook for a particular event.

This playbook will NOT supersede any Local, State, or Federal Executive Orders or Requirements as it relates to golf.

GENERAL

Social Distancing: Strict social distancing practices will be required at all tournaments. Six (6) feet of distance must be put between all players and spectators at all times while at an event. This includes but is not limited to: preparing for a shot, walking down the fairway/rough, on the teeing area and on the putting green. Interactions that are currently suspended include shaking hands and/or hugging prior to, during, and after any tournament round. All players will be required to carry a face mask in their golf bag at ALL times. Players will be required to wear the face mask in situations where social distancing is not possible (ie: weather evacuation shuttle).

Communications: All of the South Florida PGA Operations Playbook will be communicated to the Junior Tour Membership and Event Hosts through direct communications, registration pages, tournament pages, pre-event communications, and onsite signage. Should emergency information need to be communicated it will be done directly through email or text messages.

Field Size: Field sizes may be temporarily limited.

Starting Times: There will be no on-site registration or shotgun starts until mass gatherings are allowed by authorities. All events will be single or double tee starts until further notice.

PLAYERS

Site Arrival: Players must handle their own golf bags upon arrival until further notice. Players must not arrive more than one (1) hour before their official starting time. If players arrive more than one (1) hour prior to their tee time, they must stay in their vehicle. Please note that concessions will not be made for a player who is late.

PPE: Players will be required to bring their own sanitizers and masks. PPE other than masks will **NOT** be a requirement for players, however it is **STRONGLY** encouraged that players have additional PPE should be on-hand. It is the players' responsibility to bring their own PPE.

Stay at Home: In order to mitigate COVID-19, players should take their temperature before heading to the course. If they have a temperature of 100.4 or higher, have a cough, trouble breathing, exemplify any other symptoms known to be related to COVID-19, or it is known they have been exposed to COVID-19 within the past 14 days they should stay home.

Reporting Illness: If a player becomes ill after being at a Junior Tour event, they should immediately contact the Ellen Breighner 561-935-5019 and report their illness.

Hydration: Players will bring their own water for proper hydration. Restrictions are lifted for personal coolers containing water, gatorade, etc. On-course water stations may be used if you bring your own cup and it's allowed by authorities or the hosting facility. When available, volunteers who are wearing proper PPE will distribute water bottles to players.

Spectators: SFPGA Staff requests that only ONE (1) parent or guardian attends Junior Tour events. We understand that this is not always possible, as players may have younger siblings who must attend also. If an additional immediate family member such as a sibling must attend, they must also follow strict social distancing guidelines while on site at an event. This request will help limit the number of people on the golf course and on site at an event, limiting the potential risk of spreading or contracting COVID-19.

Spectator Carts: Individual spectator carts will be used if possible. Only one (1) spectator will be allowed per cart. If an additional IMMEDIATE family member is also in attendance, they may ride in a cart with another immediate family member. In the case of an emergency situation (e.g. lightning) multiple juniors may ride together to get to safety. In this instance, all juniors will be **required** to put on their PPE (Masks) in order to be quickly and safely evacuated from the golf course.

Practice Areas: Limited to 50 people or fewer and must follow proper social distancing.

OPERATION

Section Course Equipment: Staff will sanitize course equipment with spray when it is picked up from the course before it is stored. **Radios:** staff will wipe down radios with sanitized wipes before and after use. **Computers:** staff will wipe down with sanitized wipes computer keyboard before and after use.

Player Tee Gifts: All player tee gifts will be handed out using gloves. Distribution will be handled utilizing a tee gift table where one player at a time will be able to obtain their gift. This table will be monitored from afar so there is no human interaction during distribution.

Membership Kits: All membership kits will be put together in a sanitized environment using gloves before they are handed out. Shirts will be included in the player's bag based on the size they have noted in their membership registration. Exchanges can be made if noted.

STARTING AREAS & SCORING

Starting Area: A tent and table with a cover will still be set up in the Starting Area. Starters will be required to wear a face mask. The Starter will issue a player's scorecard directly to the marker. Player's WILL NOT exchange their scorecards or any other physical documents given to them. Starters box will

NOT be used. Tees, pencils, and sharpies will NOT be AVAILABLE. We strongly encourage players to adequately prepare for tournaments and supply themselves with these items as needed, knowing they will not be available at the tournament site.

Player Information: All Player Information will be published to BlueGolf and available via the SFPGA Junior Golf APP. Hole location sheets and the notice to players will be emailed out in PDF format the day before the event. Paper copies of the hole location sheets and notice to players will be available upon request at starting tee(s).

SCORING

- After completion of play, players are to report to the designated scoring area. The scoring area will be set up for appropriate social distancing with taped marks on the ground for the players to stand to review their scores.
- Scoring will not have chairs (except for the scoring official) or any community supplies such as pencils or the like.
- Players will first verify their scores with their marker(s) verbally. The marker will then read the hole by hole scores off to the scoring official. The scoring official will then verbally read the hole by hole, nine-hole totals, and 18 hole total to the player to check that the entered information is correct. The scorecard is considered returned when the player confirms that scores are correct and leaves the scoring area.
- The digital scoreboards will still be used for tournaments. Players and staff must follow strict social distancing around the scoreboard.
- Once all players in the group have reported and confirmed their scores, they are to drop their scorecards in a box provided by the section and leave the scoring area. Note: to protect players from scoring issues, the clubhouse and parking lot will be considered the scoring area.
- Playoffs for first place overall on the Challenge and Championship Tours will still be utilized to determine winners.

COURSE SETUP & EQUIPMENT

Flagsticks

- Flagsticks shall not be removed from the hole in accordance with the code of conduct.
- It is our recommendation that the hole not be filled with any material to restrict the golf ball from going into the hole. The ball must be holed in accordance with the rules of golf.
- If still required, all flagsticks will be equipped with a ball removal device so players won't have to reach into the hole. The device should be raised with the players club.
- If a player accidentally removes the flagstick before or after the ball is at rest there is no penalty. If the player purposefully removes the flagstick, it would result in a breach of the code of conduct and penalty(s) would apply.

Bunker rakes

- Rakes shall be removed until local / state authorities allow them back on the course. The following are procedures when a ball lies in a bunker. Players are encouraged to smooth the area of the bunker that they played from with their foot prior to exiting the bunker.

The player may lift, clean, and place the ball within 1 club length in accordance with the current SFPGA

Junior Tour lift clean and place policy. The ball must stay in the bunker and the player may NOT create a lie prior to placing the ball in it's new spot.

Junior Golf Tee Markers: Junior Golf tee markers will still be used. Course tee markers will be set up daily by SFPGA staff. Tee markers must be sanitized before they are put away.

Signage: Event signage will be placed on the practice facilities and course by staff. Staff will ensure equipment is sanitized before putting away.

Clubhouse Food & Beverage

Organized food service will be ordered from the menu or boxed. Indoor seating capacity will follow the current executive order. Outdoor seating must be set up for appropriate social distancing.

South Florida PGA Code of Conduct (Until further notice)

Flagsticks: Flagsticks shall not be touched or removed from the hole in accordance with the code of conduct. If a player accidentally touches or removes the flagstick before or after the ball is at rest there is no penalty. If the player purposely touches or removes the flagstick, the penalties are listed below.

Penalty Structure

- First breach of the Code of Conduct – one stroke penalty
- Second breach – general penalty
- Third breach – disqualification

Bunkers: Players may lift, clean, and place the ball within 1 club length in accordance with the current SFPGA Junior Tour lift clean and place policy. The ball must stay in the bunker and the player may NOT improve the conditions affecting their stroke prior to placing the ball in it's new spot. If it is known that a player has lifted their ball and improved conditions affecting their stroke (i.e. smoothing sand around the area of intended relief or on the line of play), that player will receive the **general penalty** for breach of USGA Rule 8.1a.