



**Dr. Kurt Hitzeman, President**  
**Pete Fritts, Vice-President**  
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*In an effort to complete the 2021 high school golf season as safely as possible, the Georgia High School Golf Coaches Association has developed a plan designed to promote social distancing, sanitation, and minimal contact on and around golf courses.*

*We will always adhere to any and all protocols set forth by the individual golf courses as we are their guests and are very lucky to be able to use their facilities this season especially.*

*Coaches - please try to discuss any and all regulations with your home golf courses prior to the season and collaborate with the clubhouse and golf officials.*

#### ON COURSE:

No rakes will be used in bunkers (refer to course official).

Options can include but are not limited to: Preferred lies in bunker, scorecard length LCP

Flag sticks will remain in the hole at all times (refer to course official).

Players must keep social distance from each other during play. Players should use their own equipment and golf balls. Players should not touch other players' equipment or golf balls.

Players are not required to wear cloth face coverings while in play, but may do so if they desire. Coaches and others are encouraged to wear masks, especially when not able to maintain social distancing. Spectators, workers, and others are encouraged to wear masks and they are expected to follow social distancing guidelines provided by the golf course.

\*\* Masks and other social distancing guidelines may be required by certain courses, especially inside their respective clubhouses. Anyone associated with Georgia high school golf teams will adhere to all guidelines set forth by the host golf courses.

#### SPECTATORS AND MEDIA:

Spectators must remain on cart path AND remain at least 15 yards from the players. Spectators – Spectators should practice social distancing between different household units and accept personal responsibility for public health guidelines.

Media – All local social distancing and hygiene guidelines for spectators should be followed by media members planning to attend meets. Media members should contact host school administrators prior to arriving. Local schools shall determine which personnel should be in the designated press area.

Only essential personnel are permitted on the course. These are defined as players, coaches, athletic trainers, and officials. All others, i.e., managers, video people, media photographers, etc. are considered non-essential personnel and are to be in the gallery remaining by the cart path (when present) or remaining at least 15 yards from the players.

#### SANITATION AND HYDRATION:

All players shall bring their own water bottle. Water bottles must not be shared. Hydration stations (water cows, water trough, water fountains, etc.) should NOT be utilized.

Players, coaches, and officials are encouraged to provide their own hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) and/or sanitizing wipes. It is recommended that players use hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) before and after each at round and when going out to, and coming in from, the course. Additionally, emphasize to all to avoid touching their face.

#### PRE/POST ROUND:

Practice Range and Greens – Coaches are responsible for ensuring social distancing is maintained between players as much as possible. This means additional spacing between players while playing, chatting, or changing drills so that players remain spaced out, and no congregating of players while waiting to hit. Workouts should be conducted in ‘pods’ of students, with the same 5-10 students always working out together. This ensures more limited exposure if someone develops an infection.

Carting - Players, Coaches and Spectators from the SAME SCHOOL should be in carts together. For instance, prior to a shotgun start, it is often the practice to cart players out to holes. The practice of mixing players in the same cart should be eliminated for this season, to ensure accurate contact tracing in the case of a positive COVID test.

No congratulatory handshakes - player to player, coach to player, etc. -- use fist bumps and/or tip caps.

Suggestions for scorecard checking will include but are not limited to:

- No scorecard exchanges at the end of round. Scorecard CHECKED by players, scores reported verbally to official or coach for recording and confirmed by other players verbally.
- Scorecards dropped into a basket or bin (by player scoring) as a paper record in the case of a later dispute or rules issue.
- For tournaments, no gatherings for scoring or award presentation unless it is socially distanced. Some suggestions for this would be:
- Designate areas w/ distancing. -- set up 3 individual small scoring tables at the scoring area. We use small tables that look like tv tray tables. Can set them 6 feet apart. Awards - just do a picture of low medalist (not entire all-tournament team) and winning team (players separated but still fit in picture on a wide-shot).