

## **CONDITIONAL REOPENING OF GOLF COURSES AND DRIVING RANGE**

This procedure establishes formal guidelines for the conditional reopening of Laguna Woods Village golf courses effective May 11, 2020 (for residents only), and a procedure for operating the courses during the COVID-19 crisis in compliance with Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20, the Orange County Board of Supervisors, and other applicable rules and regulations.

The procedure reflects Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advice that older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Based on what we know now, those at high risk for severe illness from COVID-19 include people 65 years and older.

The golf operations manager, with support from the recreation and special events director, are responsible for these activities.

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

Golf courses and the driving range will reopen to Laguna Woods Village residents only. No guests are permitted on golf courses or the driving range.

The golf courses and the driving range are open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

Golf operations will remain closed (clubhouse, pro shops, restaurant, par-three course drop-in lounge and patio, and driving range patio and vending machines). Management will adhere to industry best practices for implementation that will allow for limited recreational access only to remain in compliance with state, county and other applicable safety requirements.

Rental golf clubs and pull carts are not available.

Upon completing the round and/or bucket of balls, individuals must proceed directly to their car/cart and drive away from the immediate area to avoid congregating in the parking lot.

#### **Safety Requirements**

- All touch points will be eliminated.
- Individuals must strictly adhere to the 6-foot social distancing requirement in all areas at all times. This will be enforced by golf course employees and course marshals.
- Face coverings must be worn in all areas until teeing off on the course and on the mat at the driving range. Face coverings also must be worn when finishing.
- Individuals should wash hands frequently with soap and water.
- Individuals should avoid touching their faces and refrain from shaking hands. Tip your cap for now.
- Individuals who are not feeling well should stay home.

## **GOLF COURSE**

### **Scheduling**

Strategic scheduling of tee times will occur to ensure there are no congregations of individuals waiting to start as well as to maintain social distancing on the courses. Initially, every third tee time will be held vacant. Scheduling may be adjusted by course management as needed to satisfy safety requirements.

### **Group size**

Groups will be limited in size to no more than four golfers who must maintain social distancing in the group throughout the course.

### **Distance Between Groups**

Groups are required to maintain at least 30 feet in distance between their group and the group in front.

### **Tee Times**

- Advance tee times required. No walk-ons permitted. No “going on rail” permitted.
- Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday tee times can be scheduled seven days in advance beginning at 6:15 a.m. by calling 949-597- 4336.
- Tuesday and Wednesday tee times can be made on Saturday prior after 10 a.m. by calling 949-597-4336.
- One tee time can be scheduled per telephone call.
- Each resident must have his or her resident identification number available when calling to schedule tee time.
- The resident scheduling the tee time is responsible for informing players in his or her group of the accurate name and time on the reservation so they can check in properly. Golfers unable to check in with proper information may lose tee time.

### **Payment**

To eliminate touch points, payment must be made using the “no-touch” point-of-sale system at the starters’ window. Residents are encouraged to place a credit card on file and/or purchase a gift card to make payment when scheduling tee time.

### **Course Check-in**

All players in the group will be asked to show resident identification cards at check-in and again on the tee they are starting on.

### **On the Course**

- Golfers must adhere to 6-foot social distancing requirement within group throughout course.
- Groups must maintain at least 30 feet between their group and the group in front.
- County guidance encourages walking with strict adherence to social distancing.
- Golfers must ride in carts alone or with living partner only. Cart rule is waived, but all carts must adhere to the 90-degree rule throughout the round. Cart fleet is limited and will be rented on a first-come, first-served basis.

- Do not touch flagstick.
- Cup will be turned upside down to prevent ball from falling into the cup. Players should agree on whether or not a ball that does not stay in the cup is considered holed.
- Bunker rakes will be removed. Golfers must smooth sand with foot as best as possible. If ball comes to rest in a footprint or divot, golfer may place it on clean lie in same bunker.
- Drinking water coolers will be removed from course. Golfers should bring own water to the course.
- Ball washers and benches will be removed from course.
- Golfers should not handle other golfers' balls, golf clubs, carts or other equipment.
- Golfers must wash hands with soap and water when entering and exiting facility. Adherence to six-foot social distance protocol required.

Golfers must proceed directly to their car/cart and drive out of the immediate area to avoid congregation in the parking lot.

## **PAR-THREE GOLF COURSE**

### **Scheduling**

Golfers will tee off in 10-minute intervals.

### **Group size**

Groups will be limited in size to no more than four golfers who must maintain social distancing within group throughout the course.

### **Check-In**

Golfers must check in one at a time at the starter shack. Golfers must wait their turn in designated lines in front of starter shack, adhering to 6-foot social distancing requirement at all times.

### **Payment**

To eliminate touch points, payment must be made using the "no-touch" point-of-sale system at the starter shack. Residents are encouraged to place a credit card on file and/or purchase a gift card to complete all purchases.

### **Queuing**

Groups waiting to play must stand away from teeing ground and clubhouse while adhering to 6-foot social distancing requirement. Groups must take tee when starter calls group.

### **Practice Areas**

Practice areas, including hitting cages, are not available.

### **On the Course**

- Golfers must adhere to 6-foot social distancing requirement within group throughout course.
- Groups are required to maintain one hole between their group and the group in front.

- All touch points associated with the recreational aspect of golf must be eliminated.
- Do not touch flagstick.
- Cup will be turned upside down to prevent ball from falling into cup. Retrieve ball with fingers only.
- Benches, bag racks, water fountains and ball washers will not be available.
- Golfers should not handle other golfers' balls, golf clubs, carts or other equipment.
- Occupancy is restricted to one person at a time. Wait in designated spot until restroom is vacant. Golfers must wash hands with soap and water when entering and exiting facility. Adherence to 6-foot social distance protocol required.

Golfers must proceed directly home and avoid congregating.

## **GOLF DRIVING RANGE**

### **Access**

Access to driving range is available by golf cart only through Gate 16 and the golf path to the south. For security purposes, Gate 16 is closed to vehicular traffic during the COVID-19 crisis.

### **Limited Use**

For adherence to 6-foot social distancing requirement, every other mat has been removed from range. Eight stalls will be available.

### **Scheduling**

Strategic scheduling of practice times will occur to ensure there are no congregations of individuals waiting to practice and maintain social distancing on the driving range. Reservations will be in 30-minute increments throughout the day. Tuesday and Wednesday mornings before 11 a.m. will be reserved for ladies' and men's clubs respectively.

### **Reservations**

- Reservations required. No walk-ons permitted.
- One reservation can be scheduled per telephone call. To maximize opportunity for all, golfers are limited to one bucket of balls per visit.
- Each resident must have resident identification number available when calling to make reservation.

### **Payment**

To eliminate touch points, payment must be made using range cards, gift cards and on-file credit cards. No cash or regular credit card transactions will be possible. Please follow staff direction when making payment.

### **Arrival Time**

Range patrons may not arrive at the range more than five minutes before their reservation time and must be clear of the hitting station immediately after their time has expired.

### **Practice Duration**

Practice in timely manner. Range staff has authority to ask range patrons to finish session.

**On the Range**

- Golfers must adhere to 6-foot social distancing requirement at all times.
- All touch points associated with the recreational aspect of golf must be eliminated.
- Ball washers, bag racks and benches will be removed from range area.
- Golfers should not handle other golfers' golf clubs, carts or other equipment.

**Sanitation**

Buckets will be sterilized after each use.

**Nongolfers Prohibited**

To comply with state, county and other applicable regulations, nongolfers are not allowed at the driving range.

**End of Practice**

Golfers must proceed directly to their cart and drive out of the immediate area to avoid congregation in the parking lot.

**Lessons**

Golf lessons are available with restrictions. Call the golf shop at 949-597-4336 for information.