



## GAME OF GOLF OPENING PROTOCOL INTRODUCTION

Guidelines for Safe Recreational Golf (COVID19)

The general recommendations of the Health Authorities have priority.

The measures described here are the result of contributions from the whole of Spanish golf: the Royal Spanish Golf Federation (RFEG) and the Regional Golf Federations, the Spanish Golf Course Association (AECG), the Spanish Association of Greenkeepers (AEdG), the Spanish Association of Golf Managers (AEGG) and the Professional Golf Association (PGA). They also take into account the recommendations of international bodies in the world of golf.

The purpose of this guide is to design the main applicable measures and recommendations for golf players in order to guarantee social distance and minimize the risk of contagion (Covid-19). It is divided into three parts: PLAYERS, GOLF COURSES and INDUSTRY.

The game of golf has some specific peculiarities that make its practice accessible and safe after the Covid-19. Among them, the following stand out:



• It is a sport that **is played outdoors**.



• It is not a contact sport.



It is easy to maintain a great social distance of many meters.



You can book and pay on-line, therefore you do not have to go through the Club House or any premises.

Many countries already allow the practice of golf, as is the case in the USA. (in more than 30 States), Germany, Australia, Japan, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Singapore, etc. where safety protocols similar to those described in this document have been applied.

The opening of golf courses in Spain could promote the Spanish brand abroad and use the image of golf as a healthy, open-air, Covid-free sport that will help to a soon reactivation of tourism.











### GAME OF GOLF OPENING PROTOCOL PLAYERS



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# **Before playing**



#### RESPECT

Respect all the security measures indicated by the Club.



#### **GREENFEES**

The payment will be made preferably on-line or by telephone with a credit card. The Club House will be open and complementary facilities will remain closed except the toilettes.



#### **GAMES**

Games may be played by 4 persons who must keep social distance during the game game.



#### **AVOID**

Avoid physical greetings shake hands, etc.



#### **BUGGIES**

The use of buggies by two people is allowed under the same conditions established by Health Authorities for the use of private vehicles. They will be disinfected before and after each use.



#### **GOLF OUTFIT**

Players must come dressed for the game as the club facilities will remain closed.



#### **BOOKINGS**

Must be made on-line or by phone.



#### **TROLLEY**

Manual and electric trolleys for individual use will be disinfected by Club staff before and after each use.



#### **TEE TIMES**

Players will be requested to go from the parking lot to the starting Tee directly 5 minutes before tee time.







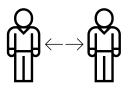




### GAME OF GOLF OPENING PROTOCOL PLAYERS

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## **During the game**



#### **DISTANCE**

Social distance should be maintained always.



#### **FLAGS**

The flags on the holes must always remain in place, they cannot be removed or touched.



#### DO NOT TOUCH

Not allowed to touch fountains, benches, etc they will remain closed.



#### **BUNKERS**

Bunkers will be repaired in the best possible way by the player without the use of rakes.



#### HOLES

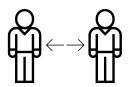
The holes must have a cap that prevents the ball from going down completely at the end of the hole. The player will pick up the ball with as much prevention as possible.



#### **GAME**

Ready Golf, play fast. If you give way to another party, you must respect social distance.

# After playing



#### **FAREWELL**

Avoid long farewells and any physical contact.



#### **CLEANING**

Golf clubs and shoes are not allowed to be cleaned.



#### **PARKING**

It is recommended to go directly from the golf course to the parking.











### GAME OF GOLF OPENING PROTOCOL GOLF COURSES



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### Introduction

This document describes the steps to be taken on the Golf Courses in order to reopen them for recreational golf, and covers the whole range of facilities on a standard golf course.

Each course must accommodate the measures applicable to its characteristics, always in accordance with the general limitations imposed by the Health Administration.

All employees of the facility must be informed of the compliance of the described protocols and the requirement to apply them.

The protocols contemplated are divided into two parts: Facilities and Maintenance.

### **Facilities**



#### **RECEPTION**

- Minimize the use of reception.
- All reservations must be channelled preferably on-line or by telephone.
- Payment of the services will be made preferably by credit card or online.



#### **ADMINISTRATION**

• Administration services will be offered preferably by telephone or on-line.



#### **GOLF BAG STORAGE ROOM**

• The use of the golf bag storage room must be carried out with the required sanitary precautions.











### GAME OF GOLF OPENING PROTOCOL GOLF COURSES



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### **Facilities**



#### **GOLF COURSE**

- Fountains, sinks, benches, etc. must be closed.
- Fit the holes with a system that prevents the ball from falling into them.
- Remove the rakes from the bunkers.



#### **DRIVING RANGE**

- Social distance must be guaranteed.
- All elements of the driving range area must be regularly sanitized
- Payment for this service will be made preferably on-line or by card.
- Golf professionals will **follow the protocols** during their work.
- Group and private lessons are authorized.



#### **PUTTING GREEN**

- Social distance must be guaranteed.
- Fit the holes with a system that prevents the ball from falling in.



#### **BUGGIES AND MANUAL AND ELECTRICAL TROLLEYS**

• Buggies and trolleys should be disinfected before and after use by staff of the club.



#### **DRESSING ROOMS AND TOILETS**

- Dressing rooms and toilets may be opened in accordance with the sanitary protocols required in each phase.
- The cleaning and disinfection of the dressing rooms and toilets should be reinforced.
- Automatic water, soap and dryer dispensers are recommended.



#### **PRO-SHOP**

• The pro-shop may be opened in compliance with the rules established by the Health Authorities for small commerce.



#### **RESTAURANT / COFFEE SHOP**

• Will remain open to the public according to the conditions established by the Health Administration for each phase.











### GAME OF GOLF OPENING PROTOCOL GOLF COURSES

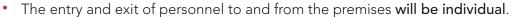


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### **Maintenance**



- Social distance between all workers must be guaranteed.
- Differentiated work teams will be established in the maintenance staff.
- Work entry and exit will be staggered.
- Machinery, vehicles and tools will be disinfected between shifts.
- Vehicles and machinery shall preferably be for individual use, and if this is not possible, the standards required by the Health Authorities for the use of vehicles must be observed.



- The assignment of work will be done telematically.
- Meetings, breaks and group meals will not be held.













## GAME OF GOLF OPENING PROTOCOL INDUSTRY



# Spanish golf in figures



#### **MEMBERS**

**273.000** registered members.



#### **GLOBAL**

First international golf tourism destination worldwide.



#### **GOLF DESTINATION**

First golf destination in Europe.



#### **TURISM**

**1.4 million tourists** choose Spain to play golf



#### **FACILITIES**

**400 facilities** spread all over Spain.



#### **GREEN AREAS**

**32.000** hectares of green areas.



#### **INCOME**

Total income of **2.5 billion euros**.



#### **EMPLOYMENT**

More than **30,000 direct and indirect jobs** are generated.











## GAME OF GOLF OPENING PROTOCOL INDUSTRY

## Demands of the golf courses

Given the business damage that the crisis of the Covid-19 has generated to the Spanish golf courses, the group of facilities has demanded from the Spanish Government exceptional measures identical to those that are going to be adopted for the tourist sector because of the crisis of the Covid-19:

- Consider golf courses as tourist infrastructure.
- Application of the reduced VAT, from tax rate 21% to 10%.
- Extension of the ERTE figure due to force majeure and the extraordinary and exceptional measures established in RDL 8/2020 due to tourist traffic restrictions.
- Review cadastral valuations of golf courses.
- Economic support measures:
  - Exemptions or, alternatively, postponement of tax payments: IBI, IAE, VAT, etc.
  - Assimilation of the demand from the agricultural sector: contracting the term of electrical power.
  - Access to recycled water without infrastructure costs.
  - Mortgage Payment Moratorium.
  - Postponement of supply payments.

In anticipation of the progressive release of the State of Alarm decreed by the Spanish Government, thanks to the remission of the pandemic that is sweeping Spain and which will largely allow the recovery of normal activity, the golf courses are preparing to reopen their facilities for the practice of this sport and to contribute to the economic recovery of our country.



















