



# GOLF OPERATIONAL RESTRICTIONS

## RESTORE ILLINOIS

A Public Health Approach To Safely Reopen Our State

### PART OF PHASE 3 OF RESTORE ILLINOIS PLAN

APPLICABLE TO EACH REGION UPON TRANSITION TO PHASE III | EFFECTIVE MAY 29, 2020

The Recovery Phase of the Restore Illinois public health approach to reopening the Illinois economy includes returning people to work, businesses reopening and group gatherings of 10 or fewer. We must all continue to social distance, frequently wash our hands and cover our faces to maintain progress in overcoming COVID-19.

**With the precautions and operational restrictions outlined below, golf shall be permitted as a recreational activity, effective 6:00AM, May 29, 2020. In addition to the general social distancing standards set forth in the Stay at Home Order, golf courses and golfers need to abide by the following controls.**

## GOLF CLUBS AND MANAGEMENT RESTRICTIONS

1. Encourage online or telephone bookings.
2. Players may be grouped in foursomes.
3. Tee-times must be spaced a minimum of 10 minutes apart.
4. Signage describing operational changes including: no congregating in groups larger than 10, increased frequency of cleaning, no handshakes, and maintain social distancing between players.
5. Driving ranges, practice ranges, chipping greens, and putting greens are permitted with 50% capacity.
6. Golf carts are permitted. Individuals not members of the same household shall use individual carts. Golf courses shall sanitize each cart after each use.
7. Individual caddies are prohibited. One forecaddie per group is permitted to perform contactless activities, such as provide yardage, read greens, locate golf balls, and repair divots and ball marks. The forecaddie shall not carry golf bags, ride in golf carts, touch golf clubs/balls, rake sand traps or remove pins. The golf club must have updated parental consent for all forecaddies under 18. Caddies shall not congregate in groups larger than 10.
8. Elevate the "bottom" of the cup:
  - a. This can be done by placing the cup upside down so that the new bottom is roughly an inch below the lip of the hole. Golfers could retrieve their ball without having to put their hand in the bottom of the regular cup.
  - b. Alternatively, place Styrofoam in the bottom of the cup.
9. Flags cannot be removed from the cup.
10. Clubhouses should remain closed.
11. Proshops may reopen so long as they comply with the retail guidelines.



12. Halfway houses are permissible for takeaway service and outdoor seating consistent with the outdoor restaurant guidance.
13. Elimination of on-course and practice facility touchpoints (i.e. bag drop, benches, ball washes, bunker/sand trap rakes, rental equipment, and water coolers).
14. Hand sanitizer and soap in all restrooms, including those on the course. Restrooms shall be sanitized regularly.
15. No indoor events.
16. Tournaments and shotgun starts are prohibited.
17. Restaurants can remain open for takeaway service and outdoor seating consistent with the outdoor restaurant guidance. The indoor dining room should remain closed.
18. Outdoor golf lessons are permissible for individuals and groups of 10 or less, including the golf instructor(s). Individuals should remain a minimum six feet apart during the lesson, or wear face-coverings when within six feet of each other. Individuals should only handle their own golf clubs.

## PLAYER RESTRICTIONS

1. Any players with any symptoms of COVID-19, should not play.
2. In addition, any players from a household with someone with symptoms of COVID-19 should not play.
3. Bring your own supply of balls, tees, ball markers, and any other equipment needed to play golf.
4. Insist on social distancing on tees, greens, and throughout the round.
5. Players shall maintain adequate physical distancing between each other.
6. Golfers should pick up their own ball.
7. Handle your own scorecard.
8. Do not use the public drinking fountain or ball cleaner.
9. Leave the flag in place while putting.
10. Put on your golf shoes at your vehicle.
11. Bring hand sanitizer with you and use during your round and at the end.
12. No handshakes at the beginning of the round or at the 18th hole.



**If you have questions or need additional support:**  
 Please call our hotline at 1-800-252-2923  
 or e-mail us at [ceo.support@illinois.gov](mailto:ceo.support@illinois.gov)  
 or return to [illinois.gov/businessguidelines](https://www.illinois.gov/businessguidelines)