

GUIDANCE FOR GOLF COURSE AND DRIVING RANGE OPERATORS

Overview

Under current Chief Medical Officer of Health Orders, businesses and entities are required to:

- implement practices to minimize the risk of transmission of infection among attendees;
- provide procedures for rapid response if an attendee develops symptoms of illness;
- ensure that attendees maintain high levels of sanitation and personal hygiene;
- comply, to the extent possible, with the [COVID-19 General Relaunch Guidance](#), this guidance, and any other applicable Alberta Health guidance found at: <https://www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx>.

This document has been developed to support operators of golf courses and driving ranges in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among attendees (including workers, volunteers, patrons and the general public). The guidance provided outlines public health and infection prevention and control measures, specific to this settings.

Please see [Guidance for Indoor Recreation Entertainment](#) for mini-golf settings.

This document and the guidance within it is subject to change and will be updated as needed. Current information related to COVID-19 can be found: <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-information.aspx>

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

General Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage and facilitate attendees to stay up to date with developments related to COVID-19.• Notify attendees of the steps being taken to prevent the risk of transmission, and the importance of their roles in these measures.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ COVID-19 signage should be posted in highly visible locations:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ “Help prevent the spread” posters are available.▪ When possible, provide necessary information in languages that are preferred by attendees.• All Albertans must follow CMOH Order 05-2020, which establishes legal requirements for quarantine and isolation.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19; with a history of international travel in the last 14 days; or with close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days must remain at home.• Operators should develop a plan to provide isolation for an attendee if needed. <p>To support public health contact tracing efforts in the event that an attendee tests positive, organizers should consider collecting the names and contact information of attendees.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing information is voluntary for attendees. An organization must obtain an individual's consent and notify them about the purpose and legal authority for the collection.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Any personal information that is collected for COVID-19 contact tracing can only be used for this purpose• Information about attendees will only be requested by Alberta Health Services if a potential exposure occurs onsite.• For businesses/workplaces, this includes staff, workers and volunteers on shift.• Records should only be kept for 2 weeks. An organization must make reasonable security arrangements to protect the personal information.• For more information, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner has released Pandemic FAQ: Customer Lists about collecting personal information from customers during the COVID-19 pandemic.• For questions about your obligations under PIPA, please contact the FOIP-PIPA Help Desk by phone at 780-427-5848 or by email at sa.accessandprivacy@gov.ab.ca.
Screening & Response Plan	<p>Operators should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post signs that instruct those who may have been exposed to COVID-19 to not enter.• Consider implementing active screening of attendees (where applicable) and staff for symptoms of fever, sore throat, cough, runny nose or difficulty breathing.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Operators may choose to use the Alberta Health Daily Checklist.○ The Alberta Health Services COVID-19 Self-Assessment tool can be used by attendees. <p>A rapid response plan sets out a fast-action plan for operators when an attendee shows symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operators should develop a plan that includes appropriate policies and procedures based on the type of attendees specific to their services and settings.• Attendees should be familiar with and follow the operator's rapid response plan if an attendee starts feeling symptoms during a shift. This should include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Immediately isolating the attendee from others.○ Cleaning and disinfecting all surfaces that may have come into contact with the symptomatic attendee.○ Requiring hand hygiene and masking of the attendee.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The attendee must isolate as soon as possible.
Clubhouse and Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Power carts may carry two sets/bags of golf clubs; golfers should maintain appropriate distancing when accessing the bags. ● Power and pull carts should be cleaned and disinfected after each use. ● It is strongly encouraged that tee-times be booked and paid for via online means as a means to manage capacity and reduce the handling of payment equipment. ● Water fountains or water coolers may be open and should be cleaned and disinfected frequently. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Where disposable water cups are provided, place a lined garbage receptacle close by for any used cups.
Retail	<p>Operators with retail areas, such as those where accessories and clothing are sold, should refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● COVID-19 General Relaunch Guidance ● COVID-19 information: guidance for retail businesses
Food Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Operators are required to follow the Food Regulation and Food Retail and Foodservices Code and existing occupational health and safety requirements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Operators should also follow the COVID-19 General Relaunch Guidance and the Guidance for Restaurants, Cafe's, Pubs and Bars. ● Buffets and self service options may only be offered if facilitated and overseen by a commercial caterer who holds a food handling permit in accordance with the Guidance for Restaurant, Cafés, Pubs and Bars.
Golf Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The number of golfers, workers and volunteers on the golf course at any one time should be limited to ensure physical distancing is maintained. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ After play, golfers should go directly to their carts and park them in designated areas. ○ Ensure the facility has proper protocols in place in the event of lightning, frost and other delays so that there are no contraventions of physical distancing requirements. ● Limit opportunities for common surfaces to be touched by golfers. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Remove rakes from sand traps. ○ Institute a “pin stays in” rule. ○ Remove ball washing stands at tees. ○ Remove water stations.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Eliminate self-service access to pencils and scorecards.○ Remove or block off benches.○ Remove sharable items from golf courses and power carts (e.g., sand containers, coolers).
Workplace	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Consider assigning a greeter or marshal to inform all golfers, workers and volunteers to follow all COVID-19 measures.● Regularly clean and disinfect any surfaces and equipment touched by golfers, workers and volunteers.● If portable restrooms are used, they should include hand sanitizer or hand washing stations with soap, paper towel and foot-activated devices adjacent to the units
Additional Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● COVID-19 Information for Albertans● Alberta Biz Connect● Relaunch guidance documents