

Dear Tasmanian Golf Clubs and Facilities, Update 2nd April 2020

As you are aware, COVID-19 or the Coronavirus as it is more commonly known has created global health concerns regarding the disease and its infection rates.

Golf Australia is writing to provide further assistance and guidance to our clubs and facilities on this important topic.

It is Golf Australia's recommendation that, based on the Prime Minister's announcement on Sunday evening, March 29 that limits outdoor gatherings to two persons or fewer, all golf clubs and facilities should close until further notice.

As of Wednesday, April 1 the Tasmanian State Government has set new regulations around playing golf while strictly adhering to social distancing principles. Along with previous restrictions around social distancing the State Government now has set a limit of **2 people per hole on the golf course**. Therefore an 18 hole golf course can have a maximum of 36 people on the course and a 9 hole golf course, a maximum of 18 people on the course at any time.

If Clubs are intending to open, they must consider how they will manage this restriction effectively and implement appropriate measures. Some suggestions include the following;

- Have a person assigned on the starting hole(s) at all times to ensure that an accurate head count must is maintained.
- Establish tee times at 15 or 20 minute intervals in groups of two only.
- Wait until the green has cleared on the first hole before the next group can tee off (if the first hole is a par 4 or 5 this will incur a significant wait which will need to be considered when setting tee time intervals). The Government regulations are very clear that there are to be only **“2 people per hole”**.
- Once there are the maximum number of people on the golf course no one else can tee off until a group of two has completed

their final hole & left the golf course.

- Provide written/verbal directions to all golfers prior to tee off and ensure that they understand the strict rules in place.
- Social golf only, no competitions are to be run. Golf is currently being considered an exercise by the State Government.
- Strict social distancing measures must be observed at all times (1.5m). No congregations of more than 2 people at any time.

Non-compliance of these regulations leaves your club at risk of incurring significant financial penalties imposed by the State Government.

In addition, the Premier also stated that those over the age of 70 should remain at home, that is, don't play golf.

The Club needs to give this matter careful consideration before opening the golf course.

While this is a difficult time for the golf industry and wider society, Golf Australia is committed to working with clubs and facilities across the state to ensure that we return a vibrant, strong industry.

For further information from the Federal Government on COVID-19, the Coronavirus Health Information Line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 1800 020 080.

Golf Australia – staff update:

If you require additional information or have questions please do not hesitate to contact Golf Australia on (03) 9626 5000