

Somerset County Park Commission

Policy on COVID-19 Mitigation Practices and Procedures

With the opening of golf courses pursuant to Governor Murphy's Executive Order No. 133, the following practices and procedures shall be undertaken at all Somerset County Park Commission golf courses in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19:

General Golfing Policies and Procedures:

- Golf Course hours of operation:
 - 8AM-8PM: Monday-Friday.
 - 7AM-8PM: Saturday, Sunday & Holidays.
- Golf pro shops at all golf courses including the Learning Center at Neshanic Valley and all other amenities at all courses shall be closed to the public. As a result, there will be no restroom facilities available to the public at any courses.
- Fees and Tee Time Reservations: All rounds of golf and cart rentals will be prepaid by credit card, and tee times shall be reserved and canceled utilizing one of the following options:
 - By online payment utilizing the GolfNow Tee Time Booking System which can be accessed at <https://somersex-county-parks.book.teeitup.com/>. Only singles or twosomes will be able to reserve tee times through the GolfNow System.
 - By calling the GolfNow call center at (844)-360-4230 and providing credit card information.
 - By calling one of the applicable Somerset County golf shops:
 - Green Knoll: (908)-722-1301
 - Learning Center: (908)-369-8232
 - Neshanic Valley: (908)-369-8200
 - Quail Brook: (732)-560-9199
 - Spooky Brook: (732)-873-2242
 - Warrenbrook: (908)-754-8402
 - Golfers wishing to utilize Park Commission gift cards for fee payment must call golf shops to redeem the cards.
 - Payment for the entire golf "group" (whether the group is 2, 3, or 4 golfers) must be paid together (i.e., all at once) on one credit card. No exceptions.
 - Booking of twosomes only by booking system.
 - In the event that a golfer does not have the ability to prepay by credit card, the golfer should contact the applicable golf shop to make arrangements for a cash payment.
- Golfers shall not show up any more than ten (10) minutes prior to their registered team times.
- Caddies are prohibited at all golf courses.
- No walk-on players will be allowed. All golfers must be pre-registered/pre-paid.
- League and group play at all courses shall be suspended until further notice.
- Tee times shall be staggered at sixteen (16) minute apart at all courses.
- Tee times shall be limited to two (2) players, except for immediate family members, caretakers, household members, or romantic partners. We implore golfers to be honest so as to limit the spread of COVID-19.

- Golf carts shall be limited to single occupant unless two individuals desiring to share a cart are immediate family members, caretakers, household members, or romantic partners. Again, implore golfers to be honest so as to limit the spread of COVID-19.
- Golf club and pull cart rentals are suspended until further notice.
- Range bag stands, bunker rakes, benches, ball washers, water coolers, score card boxes, and all other “touchable” items have been removed from the golf course until further notice.
- Coolers, score cards, and pencils have been removed from each golf cart until further notice.
- A PVC cup liner will be installed at the bottom of each flag stick so as to prohibit a golf ball from entering the hole. As there is no need, there shall be absolutely no touching of flag sticks.
- Practice putting greens will be closed until further notice.
- Driving ranges at Spooky Brook, Quail Brook, and Green Knoll Golf Courses are closed until further notice. The upper practice range at the Neshanic Valley is closed until further notice.

Practices and Procedures for the Neshanic Valley Learning Center:

- The 9-hole Academy Course will be walking only.
- The use of the skill honing areas at the Learning Center such as the practice range, short game area, and training holes will be limited to Learning Center members holding season passes only with necessary social distancing protocols in place (see social distancing requirements below).
- Learning Center attendants will be responsible to socially distance members and deliver ball buckets to members. Empty ball buckets will be removed by attendants so that members do not have to touch anything.
- Golf lessons, golf club fittings, and clinics will be suspended indefinitely.

Sanitization Measures to be Employed at All Golf Courses:

- All high-touch areas will be routinely, and after each use, cleaned and disinfected in accordance with CDC guidelines. Such areas include, but are not limited to, golf carts, counter tops, door knobs, other common surfaces, range buckets, and other frequently touched surfaces including employee-used equipment. It shall be the Park Commission policy to ensure cleaning procedures, following a known or potential exposure at any golf course, shall be undertaken in compliance with CDC recommendations.
- The safety and well-being of the Park Commission’s staff and all golfers is of paramount importance. For this reason, the Commission is committed to ensuring that all of its golf courses have a sufficient number of workers to perform the above protocols effectively.

Social Distancing Requirements at All Golf Courses:

- Park Commission staff, golfers, and all other individuals are required to wear cloth face coverings in all settings on the golf course where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, except where doing so would inhibit that individual’s health, or where the individual is under two years of age.
- Golfers shall at all times and, in particular, when on golf tee boxes and golf greens maintain appropriate social distancing by remaining six feet apart from others.

The above practices and procedures are subject to be modified at any time to adhere to any Executive Orders from Governor Murphy.