



Welcome to the 2020 SDGA Junior Tour presented by the Sanford International. We believe that golf provides a valuable opportunity for our youth to get exercise, be outside, compete, and connect with friends in a responsible manner. Our COVID-19 guidelines have been developed using guidance from public health agencies, state and local authorities, and best practices developed by the golf industry. If there are any changes to this document, or if a host facility has additional information or restrictions, you will be notified in the communications for that event.

It is the responsibility of all participants (players, parents, and spectators) to understand these policies and abide by them. By registering for and participating in SDGA Junior Tour events, participants are agreeing to these policies and procedures and to accepting any penalties deemed appropriate by SDGA staff.

We look forward to seeing you on the SDGA Junior Tour this summer. Working together, we will make the SDGA Junior Tour a place where our youth can enjoy a great sport, be outside, and make friends in a socially responsible and healthy way.

COVID-19 EDUCATION

It is important for participants to understand the ways that COVID-19 is spread and how to best protect yourself.

- Knowing how it spreads - The virus spreads mainly from person to person
 - Between people in close proximity (within 6 feet)
 - Through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks
- Protect yourself
 - Wash hands often
 - Avoid touching your face
 - Avoid close contact
 - Cover your mouth and nose with a face cloth (mask) when around others, especially indoors
 - Cover coughs and sneezes
 - Clean and disinfect
 - Social distancing - Stay 6 feet away from others
 - Touch only items belonging to you
 - Supply your own personal protection items - sanitizer, face coverings, gloves, etc.

COVID-19 EVENT GUIDELINES

Player/Spectator Health Guidelines - Please make this a priority for each event

- **Self-Screening**
 - Participants are required to self-screen before coming to an event.
 - Participants must take temperatures before attending an event.
 - Participants must not attend if they display any of the following signs or symptoms.
 - Feeling feverish or any measured temperature greater than 100 degrees
 - Cough, shortness of breath, chills, loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, sore throat
 - Known close contact with a person who is confirmed to have COVID-19
- **Supplies** - Players should supply their own personal protective items including face coverings, gloves, and hand sanitizer. We will have some of these items available, as needed, but are relying on players and parents to be responsible for their own personal health/safety needs.
- **Face Coverings** - Face coverings are not required for players or spectators, but participants are encouraged to wear face coverings before and after play and inside clubhouses.

Staff Health Guidelines - Staff will abide by the same self-screening requirements as participants. Staff will wear face coverings and use gloves where appropriate at events. This includes any time we are indoors and other times where we are in closer proximity to others at registration tables, etc..

Social Distancing - Players and spectators are expected to practice good social distancing at all times during the event, staying 6 feet from others. Members of the same household are permitted to ride in the same cart together if spectator carts are allowed.

Food and Beverage - Please bring your own source of water and be prepared for limited food and beverage options at some courses. You may be able to purchase items, but typical sources of water on the course like coolers and drinking fountains will likely be unavailable and options may be limited at some host facilities. SDGA staff will distribute sanitized water bottles on the course.

Tee Times - We will not be utilizing any shotgun starts, so all events will be run with tee times, spaced 10 minutes apart.

Player Limit / Waiting List - Some events may reach a maximum number of players per division. In this case we will have a waiting list and will notify players in order of registration if a spot opens up in their age division.

Severe Weather / Evacuation - As a general rule, if we have to evacuate the course the event will be canceled. Participants should go to their vehicles and leave. For this reason, anyone who has driven a player to the event is required to remain on premises during the event. If you are shuttled in for a delay, you are required to wear face coverings while on the cart. If circumstances require participants to shelter in place before being able to leave, we will identify interior spaces where sheltering can take place and the occupancy limit for each. Anyone sheltering in an interior space with others must wear a face covering. Due to these issues, we will allow more time to get everyone off the course, and will be more likely to cancel or postpone an event if there is a high probability of severe weather.

BEFORE LEAVING HOME

Self-Screening - All participants will follow the self-screening guidelines detailed at the beginning of this document.

Personal Supplies - You are responsible for your own tees, sunscreen, water bottle, sharpies, pencils and ball markers. You are responsible for any other personal items like face coverings, gloves, hand sanitizer, and disinfecting wipes.

Cell Phones - We will be utilizing electronic scoring for events, so be prepared to use your mobile device to keep score. One participant (player, parent, or spectator) in each group will use the Golf Genius app to keep score for the group.

Printed Materials - Print materials at your home or have them available on your mobile device. We will not have printed materials at the tournament site. This would include a personal scorecard, the local rules sheet, and any other event information.

AT THE COURSE - BEFORE THE ROUND

Arrival Time - Please register for play between 30 and 45 minutes before your tee time so we can avoid gatherings in the parking lot and at the registration area. If you arrive before that time, please stay in your vehicle.

Practice - Due to social distancing requirements and limitations on arrival times, time and space for practice may be limited. Access to practice areas will be determined by our host courses. Specific information will be in the tee time email for each event.

Registration - Players should be at their starting tee 10 minutes prior to their tee time.

Scoring - At registration, one participant (player, parent, or spectator) will be responsible for scoring for the group using the Golf Genius app. Download and install either the Golf Genius app or the USGA Tournament Management app on your mobile device. Each event will have a GGID code where real time scores and final results can be accessed. Players may view and print a blank scorecard for their personal use from the tournament webpage or course website before they come to the course. Course scorecards may be available at the host sites, and you can take one if you desire. **Each player will be responsible for keeping the score for another player and report those hole by hole scores to SDGA staff in the scoring area at the end of the round.**

Gatherings - All gatherings at any event site must maintain social distancing requirements of 6 feet between persons with no more than 50 in any area.

Spectator Carts - Spectator carts will be allowed according to the policies and availability at each host course. You should call the course ahead of time to check availability. Persons from the same household may ride together on a cart.

DURING THE ROUND

Spectator Rules - Our goal is for the junior golfers to enjoy the experience with a minimal amount of contact with spectators. Spectators should keep their distance from the players during the round. Spectators are allowed to help look for balls, but communication other than general encouragement is prohibited. Understanding the needs of our younger players, more leeway will be given to spectators in the 10-11 and 9 and Under divisions to help them keep up their pace, etc.. Spectator carts are allowed but there may be restrictions at each host facility. It is best to call the course ahead of the event to check on availability.

Scoring - It is imperative that all scores are announced and entered into Golf Genius and on to your scorecard after each hole. On the next tee box, the person inputting the scores into Golf Genius will ask each player for their scores. Please announce the NUMBER of strokes you took and not “par”, “bogey”, etc. so that there is no confusion. If a player is keeping score, they will announce their own score to the rest of the group.

WEATHER DELAY / EVACUATION

- We will be more conservative in our decisions to cancel events based on a poor forecast.
- We will allow for more time to evacuate the course when it is required.
- Any round that is halted by weather will be canceled.
- One long blast will indicate that players are to vacate the course immediately and go back to their vehicles and leave the premises.
- Contingencies to shelter in place at the facility will be published.
- Based on the number of holes completed, refunds will be issued for any canceled event.

TEMPORARY RULE CHANGES

Flagsticks - We encourage players to leave the flagstick in. No player will be required to touch the flagstick if they do not want to. Flagsticks may be removed at the player’s discretion. Only one player should touch the flagstick on any hole. Players should use a glove or towel and sanitize their hands after.

Holing Out - We will be utilizing the practices currently in place by the host facility at that time which may include pool noodles, PVC or other material at the bottom of the hole.

Bunkers

- Players may lift, clean, and place their ball within one club length, no nearer the hole, and the ball must remain in the same bunker unless proceeding under a rule that allows otherwise.
- Bunker rakes should not be used, even if available. There is no penalty for accidentally using a bunker rake.
- After their stroke, players should smooth the bunker as good as possible with their feet or club.

AFTER THE ROUND

Scoring

- Report immediately to the scoring area upon completion of the round. The scoring area will be set up to comply with social distancing requirements.
- SDGA staff will ask you to confirm the scores of the player that you have kept score for and make sure it matches what is recorded in Golf Genius.
- Once the scores of all markers match the scores in Golf Genius, SDGA staff will ask players to verify their own scores.
- A scorecard will be considered “returned” when hole scores have been verbally confirmed by all markers and players, and one player has left the designated scoring area.
- There will be no physical scoreboards or TV displays on site for public view. Players and spectators may access live scoring and tournament results using the Golf Genius GGID for the event.

Playoffs - There will be no on-course playoffs. Ties will not be broken and players who tie will always receive the full point value for their position. If two players tie for 1st, both will get 25 points.

Awards - There will be no awards ceremonies on site. We will post results on the event portal, sdga.org website, and social media.

Prizes - Prize certificates will be distributed at the end of the Junior Tour season to the top third of players on the Junior Tour Points List in each section. You can use these certificates at the course of your choosing.

Departure - Post-round behavior is dictated by our social distancing guidelines, so gatherings are not allowed. There will be no scoreboards or awards presentations, so as a general rule you should go to your vehicle after leaving the scoring area and exit the property in a timely manner. As long as social distancing is maintained, you can:

- Wait for another player to finish that is traveling home with you.
- Eat at the facility’s restaurant.

Thank you for taking the time to read our COVID-19 policies and procedures. We are confident that our plan addresses the welfare of participants and staff, and that everyone will do their part to follow the rules so that our events will be fair, fun, and enjoyable for all participants.

Please contact us at juniortour@sdga.org, text 605-202-2077, or call 605-740-7085 if you have any questions or concerns about our COVID-19 policies and procedures.

Tom Jansa, PGA - SDGA Executive Director

Ben Larson, PGA - SDGA Director of Rules and Competitions

Nathan Woodall (Sioux Falls, USF) - USGA PJ Boatwright Intern

Sophia Salter (Sioux Falls, Augustana) - USGA PJ Boatwright Intern

Courtney Heath (Sisseton, Mount Marty) - USGA PJ Boatwright Intern

Jackson Faber (Brandon, Mount Marty) - USGA PJ Boatwright Intern

Natalie Young (Rapid City, Augustana) - West Region Junior Tour