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Plan for Playing in a COVID-Safe Environment

Issued 5 Sep 22

Purpose:

This plan has been developed and approved by the Fairbairn Golf Club (FGC) Board to provide direction for golf operations at the FGC in the COVID-19 environment. This plan is designed to be flexible as restrictions are lifted, or further ones imposed and primarily is designed to support safe golf operations at the FGC

Government Direction:

The ACT Government requires a COVID Plan for the operation of the Golf Club business. The ACT Government's [Return to Play in a COVID-Safe Environment](#) is a framework for community sport in the ACT which outlines the areas that a Safety Plan should consider. This plan follows those guidelines.

Hierarchy of Control:

The Club's By-Laws are still in effect, however, where this plan provides any variation from the published by-laws the directions in this plan have precedence.

Structure:

This plan is structured as follows:

- Workplace Principles
- COVID-19 in the ACT (Living with COVID)
- Golfing restrictions
- Restrictions on operations
- Clubhouse restrictions
- Communications
- Plan review and monitoring
- Incident management

Principles:

Worksafe Australia provide some guiding principles for safe operation of a business in a COVID environment. FGC recognise that the COVID-19 pandemic is a public health emergency, that all actions in respect of COVID-19 should be founded in expert health advice and that the following principles operate subject to the measures agreed and implemented by governments through the National Cabinet process

- All workers, regardless of their occupation or how they are engaged, have the right to a healthy and safe working environment.
- The COVID-19 pandemic requires a uniquely focused approach to work health and safety as it applies to businesses, workers and others in the workplace.
- To keep our workplaces healthy and safe, businesses must, in consultation with workers, and their representatives, assess the way they work to identify, understand and quantify risks and to implement and review control measures to address those risks.

As COVID-19 restrictions are gradually relaxed, businesses, workers and other duty holders must work together to adapt and promote safe work practices, consistent with advice from health authorities, to ensure their workplaces are ready for the social distancing and exemplary hygiene measures that will be an important part of the transition.

- Businesses and workers must actively control against the transmission of COVID-19 while at work, consistent with the latest advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC), including considering the application of a hierarchy of appropriate controls where relevant.
- Businesses and workers must prepare for the possibility that there will be cases of COVID-19 in the workplace and be ready to respond immediately, appropriately, effectively, efficiently, and consistent with advice from health authorities.

COVID-19 in the ACT (Living with COVID)

The ACT Government has published a ‘Living with COVID’ Guide in March 22 which outlines responsibilities for all. This guidance is shown below. Further detail is available on the [ACT COVID site](#).

COVID-19 IN THE ACT
2022 is underway and our focus is on how we can live with COVID-19. The future requires us to be flexible and agile in our response. 1 March 2022

COVID-19 IN THE ACT
As we now see the ease of the current wave of COVID-19, the virus will, in some way or another, be a part of our lives for the foreseeable future. COVID-19 will no doubt continue to provide challenges and by now most people will have had, or know somebody who has had COVID. For some, particularly those who are more vulnerable in our community, this may make a return to day to day life more difficult. We are adapting to living with COVID-19 in our community. We expect over time we will see fluctuations in case numbers from existing or new variants and will continue to adapt our response accordingly.

SUPPORT LOCAL
Local businesses operate with COVID Smart principles in place. The ACT Government continues to provide support by ensuring businesses and organisations have the information they need to operate safely. A range of financial support measures are also available. We encourage the Canberra community to support local.

STAY COVID SMART
Make COVID Smart choices that are best for you, your family and your workplace.
Stay home if you are unwell and get tested If you feel unwell, have symptoms, or are a high or moderate risk contact.
Maintain physical distance where possible
Remember good hygiene at all times Wash your hands for 20 to 30 seconds with soap and water. Use hand sanitiser if soap and water is not available. Cough and sneeze into your elbow.
Wear a mask where required Or when you cannot physical distance from others.
Use Check In CBR where required So we can let you know if you have attended a location at the same time as a known positive case.
Get vaccinated and boosted when eligible Vaccination remains the best protection from serious illness and hospitalisation if you get COVID-19.
The ACT is highly vaccinated with over 98% of those 12 years and older having had 2 doses or more. An accelerated booster program is underway to keep the ACT as one of the most vaccinated cities in the world.

IF YOU HAVE COVID-19
If you test positive, isolate for 7 days and follow ACT Health advice. Let those you have been in contact with know. They will also need to follow health guidance. Seek medical assistance if you need it. Schools, businesses and high risk settings should always follow specific guidance from ACT Health. **If you test positive by polymerase chain reaction (PCR)**, you will be contacted by ACT Health via phone or text. **If you test positive by rapid antigen test (RAT)**, notify ACT Health via the website so you can be connected with care if required.

PLANNING AHEAD
The ACT Government continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation in the ACT and will adapt our response as necessary. Planning is underway so we are prepared and ready for potential future waves and new variants. Our focus remains on protecting those most vulnerable in our community. To help us understand what the virus is doing in the community it is important to continue to:
 - get tested if you've been exposed to COVID-19 or have symptoms, and
 - report positive RAT results to ACT Health.

We acknowledge there is ongoing concern about the future. Reach out if you need support. For support or resources visit: health.act.gov.au/mentalhealth, or speak to a health care provider.

Stay COVID Smart
Go to covid19.act.gov.au

ACT Government

Golfing Restrictions:

To support playing social golf in this environment some rules have been implemented in line with guidance provided.

- **Any player (or visitor) who feels unwell should not come to the golf club and go and get COVID tested.**
- All players must report to the Clubhouse prior to their tee time.
- All games should be booked in advance.

Restrictions on Operations:

All Players

- All players are to ensure that they comply with any restriction placed on their home location by either the NSW or ACT Government.
- Bookings by social players can only be made by contacting the club.
- 1.5m social distancing is to be adhered to where ever possible.

- Individuals in high-risk categories e.g. over 70, need to make their own judgement of the risk before deciding to play.
- All practice areas are open – please be considerate of others and social distance.
- Coaching at the driving range is available subject to space limits.

Members:

- Bookings are to be made through the starter, at the clubhouse or online. Clubhouse touch screens are in use.

Green Fee Players

- Bookings are to be made through the starter and require your name and a contact number to assist in any tracing action that might be required later. This information will be kept on the club system for 2 months.

Social Groups

- Bookings for formal social groups are now allowed through the Club Manager. Individual social players may also book as green fee players.

Clubhouse Restrictions:

- Indoor and outdoor spaces are limited by our liquor licence within social distancing guidelines. A total capacity across all these areas in and around the clubhouse is limited to 150 by our liquor licence.
- Consumption of food and drink is allowed standing (indoors or outdoors).
- Visitors and members are strongly encouraged to continue to wear face masks when indoors and in areas where physical distancing from people not known to them may not be possible.
- Cash is accepted but card payments are the preferred method of payment for golf fees, carts, soft drinks and merchandise.

Compliance:

All personnel who play golf at the FGC, or attend the club's premises for any reason are required to comply with the directions contained within this plan. The Board, the FGC Staff and members of the FGC Committees have the right to ask people to leave the course if they do not comply with these directions.

Communications:

A copy of this plan is available at the club for members, visitors and social players. Any changes will be advised through an updated copy displayed at the club.

Plan Reviewing and Monitoring:

The Board will review this plan regularly and updates will be issued as restrictions change.

Incident Management:

In the event of the identification of a positive COVID-19 case by a club member or visitor the club will actively support any tracing efforts that may be required. The club may also close the clubhouse and its operations if required for appropriate cleaning activities.

Self-isolation protocols will apply for any individuals and those they were in contact with, who are considered at risk from a positive identification case.