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April 17, 2020

President's Update



Health and Safety in the new COVID-19 Era:

It is paramount that all golf course maintenance operations ready themselves to safely bring back staff in the new era of the COVID-19 virus. The AGSA recommends that you check into your government health and safety regulations as these are changing quickly and make sure you are compliant. Attached are links to some provincial health and safety legislations for the different provinces.

The list below is meant to be a guideline for things that you may need to consider in setting up a safe and healthy workplace for your staff as they return.

Non-compliance with any of your COVID-19 safety regulations should be met with very strict measures and sanctions. This is literally a matter of life and death!

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. All staff must stay home if they are experiencing any symptoms: sore throat, cough, runny nose, headache, fever, etc. We have a responsibility to all staff to provide them with a safe and healthy workplace.
2. Ensure that all tasks can be performed in a physical distance manner so that no two staff are within 6 feet of each other at any given time.
3. Ensure that COVID-19 related PPE is available to staff. This could include: gloves, masks, face shields for tasks in close quarters, hand sanitizer and disinfectant sprays.
4. Ensure that the maintenance facility sanitation and disinfecting standards are set and maintained. This should require that all touch points are disinfected regularly everyday.
5. Lunchrooms and Lockers. The safest recommendation will be to close these common break areas and ask staff to eat their lunch in their cars and carry extra clothing in their car if required. If you do have a large lunchroom be sure to respect proper distances and disinfecting standards. Schedules that keep the number down at one time could be utilized. Disinfecting fridges and microwaves after every use is recommended.
6. Tools should be disinfected after each use and when possible assigned to individuals for the day.
7. Equipment should be, where possible, assigned to an individual for the day and it should be cleaned and disinfected at the end of each day before being put back into the shop.
8. Ensure that disinfectant sprays are set up at fueling stations and wash down areas.
9. Utilizing schedules that have staff working at staggered start times are recommended to avoid congregation activities. For example, one or two

people could start at the same time and their breaks and finish would be different than other staff for the entire day.

10. Communicate regularly the importance of the new policies.

ATLANTIC ALLIED GOLF ASSOCIATIONS (AAGA)

A group consisting of representatives from the provincial golf associations, the NGCOA Atlantic, the Atlantic PGA, Golf Canada and the AGSA have had one conference call and plan further calls to continue discussions about presenting as one voice the case for golf to government officials about how physical distancing can be done safely for golf operations when the time is right for restrictions to start lifting.

REVIEW THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATIONS IN YOUR PROVINCE

<https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/working-during-covid-19/>

<https://www.worksafenb.ca/>

<http://www.wcb.pe.ca/Information/NewsItem/497>

<https://nlhydro.com/covid-19-updates/>



John Mills
AGSA President