



March 24, 2020

Dear Georgia Golf Stakeholder,

We want to take this opportunity to share with you some recent actions undertaken by Georgia's allied golf associations—the Georgia Chapter of Club Management Association of America, Georgia Chapter of Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Georgia Section of the PGA of America and the Georgia State Golf Association, to advocate for our state's nearly 400 golf facilities and the resulting impact from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Last week, we sent a letter to Governor Kemp's office respectfully requesting that as discussions were undoubtedly underway regarding the potential closing of businesses, that golf courses be positioned similarly to our state parks and other open-air greenspaces and recreation areas for this discussion. We felt taking a proactive approach was the right course of action as many other states were mandating business closures and golf facilities were ending up on both sides of these mandates.

Yesterday, we sent a follow up communication to Governor Kemp's office, again stressing that golf courses are abiding by government regulations and precautionary measures, enabling individuals to practice safe social distancing while also getting exercise and supporting the local economy. While the Governor's executive order has closed certain businesses and mandated no gatherings of 10 or more people, golf facilities that can ensure proper social distancing, and other requirements set by state and local governments, may remain open if they so choose.

In yesterday's communication, we also provided details which informed our state leaders that, if a reduction in workforce or more broad business closures are mandated, the need to provide golf facilities with the ability for ongoing maintenance to golf courses was paramount and that an unkept golf course for even a week or two, would take a considerable amount of time to return to its previous condition, and that it would likely come at a greater expense than if ongoing maintenance were permitted.

We also wanted to take the opportunity to share that the Georgia Chapter of Club Management Association of America, Georgia Section of the PGA of America and Georgia Chapter of Golf Course Superintendents Association of America have Resource Centers available online at the URLs provided below. These websites provide important information and links to best practices and industry-led education efforts regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. These online portals will be updated as more information and education resources become available.

Georgia Chapter CMAA Resource Center

<https://www.gacmaa.org/response-to-coronavirus.html>

Georgia Section PGA Resource Center

<https://georgiapga.com/news/georgia-pga-covid-19-notice/>

Georgia Chapter GCSAA Resource Center

<https://www.gcsaa.org/resources/covid-19-pandemic-resources>

Golf in Georgia benefits from a strong collaborative partnership amongst the state's allied golf associations and we will continue to work together to advocate for the game and the hundreds of courses across the state where the game is played. We will continue to keep in contact with our government leaders as they make important decisions to protect our communities and citizens.

Please stay safe and know that your allied golf associations are working hard on your behalf.

Sincerely,

Georgia Chapter of Club Management Association of America
Georgia Chapter of Golf Course Superintendents Association of America
Georgia Section of the PGA of America
Georgia State Golf Association