



## 2021 COMPETITION PROTOCOLS

The following protocols have been adopted to protect the health and safety of players, parents/guardians, HHJGT board members, staff, and volunteers as well as the host facility's staff and members/patrons. These protocols will be used in conjunction with normal operating procedures for HHJGT (Hamilton Halton Junior Golf Tour) competitions for the 2021 season.

### COMPETITION OPERATING PRINCIPLES

1. **We will give priority to protecting the health, safety and wellness of all people involved with HHJGT competitions regardless of vaccination status.**
2. **We will adhere to applicable provincial and local government legislation and regulations, as well as host facility and "We are Golf" guidelines and best practices.**
3. **We will employ consistent protocols for each HHJGT competition this season.**

***Any breach of the Covid-19 protocols below may be considered a violation of the HHJGT Code of Conduct policy and subject to the applicable penalty, including disqualification from the event or suspension from the tour.***

### OPERATION PROTOCOLS

**PHYSICAL DISTANCING:** Players and their golf bags must maintain a minimum six feet of distance between themselves and other players. This includes when they are preparing for a shot, walking down the fairway/rough, on the teeing ground, on the putting green, and in the scoring area.

**GATHERINGS:** No gatherings of any kind are permitted at HHJGT competitions including on the golf course, practice areas, parking lot, starting and scoring areas. Players must not gather (multiple groups) on any tee deck if a hole is backed up. Physical distancing must always be maintained.

**SPECTATORS:** No spectators of any kind will be permitted on the course. This is not a specific Covid-19 protocol, but rather HHJGT policy. For the purpose of these Covid-19 protocols, coaches will be considered spectators and therefore, are not permitted on the course this season. Players not involved in a playoff at an event will not be permitted on the course.

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** Players in need of transportation to/from HHJGT events must have one parent/guardian remain on site (typically in the parking lot area with their vehicle) to provide the player emergency shelter during course evacuations for dangerous situations – typically severe weather events such as lightning, high winds and/or extreme rainfall, or events that delay play/make the course temporarily unplayable.

**EVENT PERSONNEL:** Only essential event personnel will be allowed on site including board members, staff and volunteers, facility staff and patrons/members. Board members and volunteers will leave the facility immediately following the completion of their assignment.



## 2021 COMPETITION PROTOCOLS

**ILLNESS:** Players, parents/guardians, board members and volunteers must self-assess for Covid-19 symptoms before each event. Any player, parent, board member or volunteer experiencing symptoms of an illness is required to stay home and notify the tour coordinator regarding their unplanned absence. If symptoms of illness are known or observed by a HHJGT board member or volunteer during an event, the player, parent, fellow board member or volunteer will be asked to go home immediately, isolate and contact their local health unit. More information on the COVID-19 Self-Assessment can be found at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/severe-symptoms>. No points will be deducted from players staying home and isolating due to suspected illness so long as the tour coordinator is notified ahead of the player's tee time.

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE):** Players, board members and volunteers will have access to hand sanitizer at each event (e.g., hand sanitizer will be provided at the starting and scoring areas). Board members, volunteers, players and parents/guardians must bring and use their own PPE (masks, gloves, etc.). Players, parents/guardians, board members and volunteers are encouraged to keep a personal bottle of hand sanitizer accessible and use it periodically.

**WAIVERS:** Board members, volunteers, players and their parent/guardian must agree to follow all Competition Protocols and waive liability for all claims before completing the registration process and agreeing to participate in the 2021 qualifying event or the 2021 HHJGT season.

## EVENT PROTOCOLS

**FIELD SIZES:** As customary, field sizes will remain limited to help reduce the number of players on course at any given time in addition to supporting field supervision and an appropriate pace of play.

**FACILITY ARRIVAL:** Players must check in before every round as soon as they arrive at the facility. Players are asked to arrive at the course no more than 45 minutes prior to their tee time unless another time has been specified for arrivals. Players arriving earlier than 45 minutes before their scheduled tee time must remain in their vehicle until their allotted warm-up times.

**PRACTICE FACILITIES:** Unless otherwise stated or applicable facilities are not available, to help reduce congestion on practice facilities, players will warm-up for up to 20 minutes at the driving range from 40 until 20 minutes prior to their tee time and for up to 10 minutes on the putting/chipping green from 15 minutes until 5 minutes prior to their tee time. This will be monitored by board members or volunteers. Driving range stalls will be spaced to allow for physical distancing and roped off areas will display the max occupancy. Use of practice facilities or the golf course at the host venue immediately after a round is prohibited.

**REGISTRATION:** Event registration will occur before the event as customary, with onsite confirmation of event participation as part of the facility arrival process as documented above.



## 2021 COMPETITION PROTOCOLS

**PRACTICE ROUNDS:** As customary, there will be no designated practice rounds. If desired, players will be responsible for arranging their practice round date and time directly with the host facility based on tee time availability and subject to the applicable fees. Players must follow the operating procedures of that host facility.

**LIVE SCORING & SCOREBOARDS:** Printed and electronic scoreboards will not be used during the season. Instead, priority will be given to web-based scoring as play is completed.

**CLUBHOUSE:** The clubhouse, food and beverage operations and pro shop operations may vary depending on provincial and local government legislation and regulation as well as “We Are Golf” and host facility guidelines and best practices in effect at the time of the event. If indoor or outdoor dining are not available on site, all players, board members, volunteers, parents/guardians must leave the facility immediately after their round/assignment.

**FOOD & BEVERAGE:** Depending on provincial and local government legislation and regulation and “We Are Golf” and host facility guidelines and best practices in effect at the time of the event, player meals, snacks and refreshments may only be available for purchase during after the round. Players are encouraged to bring their own water bottles and snacks or purchase beverages and snacks from host facility.

**TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR:** Players and parents/guardians must call or e-mail the tournament coordinator with any questions or concerns and should refrain from physically visiting with board members and volunteers, including the tournament coordinator, during events. Contact information for the tournament coordinator can be found on the HHJGT website.

**AWARDS PRESENTATION:** Only players who have won an award will be permitted to attend a physically-distance awards presentation and photo opportunity along with an accompanying parent/guardian. Awards will be cleaned prior to players receiving them.

**EVACUATIONS:** In case of inclement weather, players, parents/guardians, board members and volunteers will take shelter in their personal vehicles. If the clubhouse is open, players without access to a car can seek shelter inside the clubhouse while still maintaining physical distancing. If shuttling players off the course is required, board members and volunteers will be equipped with appropriate PPE. The driver and passenger will both be required to wear a mask. Instructions to resume play will be provided via text and email notifications to all players. It is essential we have correct email and phone numbers for all players and parent/guardians.



# 2021 COMPETITION PROTOCOLS

## GOLFING PROTOCOLS

**STARTING:** At the beginning of a round, players must refrain from the traditional handshake, fist bump or hug during introductions. Only players from one group, board members and volunteers will be permitted at the teeing area at one time (while maintaining physical distancing). Players must pay attention to Covid-19 specific directions from the starter.

**FLAGSTICKS:** Players must not touch or remove the flagstick at any time. Host venues will be using touchless ball-retrieval devices like the Pin Caddy or soft hole disk (cut up pool noodles) to assist players in safely retrieving their ball from the hole.

**CADDIES:** The use of caddies by players continues to be prohibited for all HHJGT events.

**MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION (Power Carts):** The use of power carts by players continues to be prohibited for all HHJGT events.

**BUNKERS:** All bunker rakes will be removed from the golf course. Players may lift, clean and place their ball within one scorecard length of where their original ball lay that is not nearer the hole and in the same bunker. Players are encouraged to smooth their footprints (with foot and/or club) to the best of their ability when exiting the bunker.

**SCORING:** At the conclusion of a round, players must refrain from the traditional handshake, fist bump or hug. Players must promptly proceed to the scoring area to verify their scores with the scoring official. Scorecards will not be exchanged at the scoring area. Scores will be read to the player by the marker and then verbally attested by the player. Only players from one group, as well as board members and volunteers, will be permitted in the scoring area at one time (while maintaining physical distancing). Players will be asked to leave the facility upon the completion of their round except for possible playoff circumstances.