

May 1st, 2020

To All NSGA Members:



As the weather continues to improve, and we see New Brunswick and PEI prepare to open their golf courses, we recognize the growing frustration of the golfing community here in Nova Scotia.

Early last week, similar to Golf Saskatchewan, we have put forward a letter to our government outlining how the golf industry in Nova Scotia maybe a relatively safe activity during this pandemic. In this letter we outlined industry wide protocols that have been implemented by the USGA, Golf Canada, and other Provincial Associations. We also ensured that our member clubs have agreed to abide by these protocols moving forward.

On Wednesday, we have received a response from Dr. Strang's office. They stated that they are "in the process of developing a plan for slowly and carefully easing the public health restrictions that are necessarily put in place. Safely increasing access to outdoor activities, including golfing, is one of our early priorities and your information will be very helpful in informing this work."

Unfortunately, our experience with COVID-19 is very different than our neighbouring provinces. While they have successfully gone over a week without any new cases, we continue to see number of cases grow. As the Health Authority has stated many times before, public safety is their number one priority, and as a result safety protocols are still strictly enforced here in Nova Scotia.

With that, I bet you're wondering: "Can I drive cross provincial borders and play?" The short answer is no. Strict travel restrictions between maritime provinces are still in place. Making personal and most business travel virtually impossible, and at this time no date has been set for re-opening borders within the Maritimes. If there is an off chance you meet the restrictions of inter-provincial travel, with the Health Measures Act still in place, you will be required to self isolate for 14 days once you return.

We know you are itching to get out and play, we are too, but we ask that you continue to be patient and stay safe. With the response from Dr. Strang's office, we remain positive that the government has heard our concerns and when the time is right, golf will be among the first businesses to open.

For more information on the resources used for this release, please see the links below:

- <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/alerts-notice/>
- <https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/travel-restrictions-between-maritime-provinces-could-remain-in-place-for-some-time-1.4911118>
- <http://www.nshealth.ca/covid-19-faq-families-and-members-public>

NSGA Championship Registration Opens

Registration for all remaining NSGA Provincial Championships are now open!

We would like to thank [TaylorMade](#) for their continued support for the 2020 Championship Season. This year all competitors will receive a welcome gift from Taylormade upon checking in before your first round at the registration desk.





We would also like to thank [Halifax Jaguar Land Rover](#) for sponsoring a hole-in-one prize at each of our 2020 competitions. During Amateur events, participants will have a chance to win a new car, and during the Junior Championship, participants will have the chance to win a \$50,000 education fund.

To register, please visit: <http://nsga.ns.ca/competitions/>

If you have any questions please contact Bryce at bryce@nsga.ns.ca.

Please note: We will be collecting competitors payment information at the time of registration, as per usual. All competitors will then be put into “eligibility pending,” until we are certain the championship is happening (4 weeks prior to event).

A notice to competitors will be circulated a minimum of 21-days prior to the event, on the status of the championship. Credit card payments **will not be processed** until the event is confirmed, and not until the 21-days prior.

NSGA Player Handicap Webinars

Each Tuesday evening for the month of May the NSGA will be hosting Player focused World Handicap System Webinars. If you are interested in attending one of these webinars, please contact Anne (anne@nsga.ns.ca), so we can forward you the link. A copy of the Rules of Handicapping can be [found online here](#), or you may purchase a copy of the book through Golf Canada's [online store](#).

These webinars are open to anyone wishing to gain a better understanding the new World Handicap System. Please see the full webinar schedule below:

- Tuesday, May 5 - 7pm-8pm
- Tuesday, May 12 - 7pm-8pm
- Tuesday, May 19 - 7pm-8pm
- Tuesday, May 26 - 7pm-8pm

NSGA's COVID-19 Resource Page

The NSGA is committed to fostering a safe sport environment. Through this difficult and unprecedented crisis, that commitment includes the health and well-being of golfers as well as every Nova Scotian in the communities where we live and play. Our thoughts are with those personally affected by the virus including their families, our most vulnerable citizens and the incredible health care workers who are facing the pandemic on the front lines.

Our industry is fortunate to have a wide-ranging support network of provincial, national and international partners bringing together their expertise to help us navigate through the uncertainty of COVID-19.

Collaboration and information sharing are critical during this challenging time and the NSGA has created the resource page below with helpful links to support our member clubs, golfers and our many industry partners coming together during this crisis. The resource page will be updated regularly as information and updates become available.

Please visit <http://nsga.ns.ca/covid-19-resource-page/> for more information.





NSGA Virtual Coffee House

Continuing through May, the NSGA will be hosting a Virtual Coffee House on **Wednesdays from 11am-12pm**. It will be an open forum for members to ask questions on championships, handicapping, rules, or to just chat about golf with people who love the game. To join us in the Virtual Coffee Room, please [click here](#) on Wednesday's at 11am. All are welcome.

