COVID-19 Forward Caddie Plan

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Western Golf Association and Evans Scholars Foundation have developed this method of caddying to ensure youth caddies can safely provide a service to golfers while observing proper social distancing measures as recommended by the CDC.

For more information, please refer to our COVID-19 Youth Caddie Program Guidelines.

Forward caddying can be implemented at clubs where the use of carts is permitted, or where golfers carry their own bags or use pull carts. This plan addresses issues that arise when caddies are not yet permitted to carry a golfer’s bag because of social distancing practices. One or two caddies can be assigned to each group at the discretion of the staff.

Caddie Responsibilities

- Caddies perform their typical duties, including spotting golf balls, providing yardages, fixing divots and pitch marks and reading greens as applicable.
- Caddies should remain out in front of the group and in position to locate balls well ahead of the players’ arrival to their next shot. They should also utilize hand signals and mark ball positions to help players maintain an acceptable pace of play.
- Caddies should be ready with yardage and any other applicable information a player may need before hitting their shot.

Payment Methods

- Payment can be distributed in a sealed envelope or sent electronically through PayPal, Venmo, Zelle or another method. Cash payments are not recommended at this time.

Additional Considerations

- Caddies can provide guidance to ensure all golfers are adhering to proper social distance guidelines.
- Caddies should check in via text upon arrival and should not congregate before reporting for assignment.
- Before the loop, caddies should wait safely in their vehicles or arrive only 15 minutes prior to any assigned work.
- Divot repair seed mix can be issued in a sanitized container to be carried by the caddie. Consider using a smaller container, such as a personal plastic bottle (e.g., a Gatorade bottle). Divot repair mix on carts should be sanitized before the round and should only be handled by the caddie.
- Caddies might be expected to rake bunkers if a personal sanitized rake can be issued at the beginning of the round. Rakes should not be shared or touched by multiple people in the group.
- Clubs can be cleaned by using the caddie’s wet towel on the clubhead only. The caddie should do so after the club has been placed back in the bag by the player. There should be no exchange of the club from player to caddie. Good times for a caddie to ensure the clubs are wiped clean are while players are putting on the green or preparing to hit their tee shots.

Questions? Contact us.

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