

## 1. Protocol framework

Key Assumptions underpinning the Protocol:

- The Protocol is governed by the COVID-19 positivity rate in the country
- The Omicron variant and its sub-variants which have similar properties than Omicron prevails as the dominant strain causing COVID-19 infections
- The ST Mandatory vaccination policy remains in place
- Code of Practice Managing Exposure to SARS-CoV-2 in the workplace 2022. Government Gazette 46596, No. R 2191 of 24 June 2022 which governs the responsibility of the ST towards players, caddies, staff, management and the public (spectators, guests/support staff of players, etc)
- Current Regulations to the National Health Act. (Act 61 of 2003) as published in the Government Gazette
- Definitions
  - Fully vaccinated means 14 days after one dose of the J&J vaccine or similar products or the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine or similar products as approved by the WHO
  - Booster shots means an additional dose of the vaccine to be administered **not more than 270 days after the last dose of a vaccine** approved by the WHO
  - Best practice. Practices which are recommended by the Centre of Disease Control in South Africa, USA, UK and Europe
  - Mandatory requirements means requirements published in the Government gazette
  - Vaccination Certificates means Government issued certificates through the official data base of the country concerned

## 2. Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPI)

- Mask wearing is not mandatory but strongly advised when indoors or in crowded spaces
- Maintaining physical distancing of > 2 metres is strongly advised
- Masks must be worn if flu-like symptoms such as coughing, sneezing are experienced, and physical distancing of > 2 metres cannot be maintained
- Sanitizing after touching surfaces which is for general use

## 3. Vaccination status

- The vaccination status of all participants, management and staff will be determined at the accreditation center
- Vaccination certificates of vaccinated participants, management and staff must be presented at the accreditation center upon first arrival on site
- No routine testing will be done regardless of the vaccination status of participants, management or staff assigned to work at the event. Please note that the above will be

## COVID - 19 Protocols (Summer November 2022 – April 2023)



constantly reviewed and is subject to change at any moment in time as the pandemic progresses

Note: The requirement for booster shots may come into effect during the effective period of the Protocol which will amend the definition of Vaccinated. The current definition of fully and partially vaccinated remains in place until further notice

### 5. Symptom monitoring and reporting

- Best practice determines that a person experiencing any of the following symptoms must consider the possibility that they could have contracted COVID-19 and should not attend the event until their COVID-19 status is confirmed
  - Fever or Chills
  - Cough
  - Sneezing/Congestion or runny nose
  - Sore throat
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Feeling weak or tired (Fatigue)
  - New loss of taste/smell
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhoea
- Should a person display any of the symptoms listed above and decide to attend the event, without confirming their COVID-19 status, or develop symptoms during the tournament they must disclose their symptoms to the appointed Healthcare Professional overseeing the event. (Wimpie J du Plessis, cell phone number 083 653 1392)
- In consultation with the appointed Healthcare professional the person may be required to verify their disease state through an Antigen test
- The Sunshine Tour Chief Medical Officer MUST be contacted on +27 83 653 1392 when a fully vaccinated, asymptomatic participant has tested positive, to manage the protocols and procedures to be followed relating to Positive Players and Caddies

### 6. Transport to and from venues and in between tournaments

- Self-drive is strongly recommended
- The protocols for self-drive regarding vehicle occupancy, mask wearing, and open windows is strongly advised. The number of passengers in cars travelling to events must be limited to allow for sufficient physical distancing

### 7. Accommodation

- There is no restriction on venues for participants

## COVID - 19 Protocols (Summer November 2022 – April 2023)



- It is strongly advised that the COVID-19 protocols and adherence to the Code of Practice Managing Exposure to SARS-CoV-2 in the workplace 2022 be ascertained when venues other than SA Tourism approved venues are selected

### 8. On-site Facilities

- Participants should avoid frequenting any facilities which falls into the category of the Three C's i.e.
  - Crowded places with many people nearby,
  - Close-contact settings, especially where people have close-range conversations,
  - Confined and enclosed spaces with poor ventilation
- Participants should, whenever possible, make use of outdoor facilities and maintain physical distancing
- Participants should avoid Interaction with members of the public when physical distancing of >2 metres cannot be maintained
- When indoor facilities are used participants should be cognizant of the space configuration and quality of air circulation in the closed environment

### 9. Hydration

- Players and caddies are advised to purchase their own bottled drinks and take enough with them on the course for hydration needs
- Where sponsored bottled water is available, the distribution of these will be under strict control for sanitation purposes
- When refill points are available on the course it is advised that participants should use the sanitizer provided after using the refill point

### 10. Positive cases at tournaments

- The Close Contact Management Protocol will be used for those individuals who are defined as close contacts when appropriate
- No unvaccinated or partially vaccinated positive player or caddie are allowed to continue with the tournament
- Fully vaccinated asymptomatic confirmed positive players and caddies are allowed to participate in the tournament under the Protocol for fully vaccinated asymptomatic COVID-19 positive participants in Professional Golf tournaments
- A physio identified as a close contact will not be allowed to continue with his/her duties

A positive result identified by the Antigen test may be confirmed, if requested, by referring the person for a PCR test. **Support for positive cases –**

- The tour will assist the positive case to select their place of self-isolation if required

## COVID - 19 Protocols (Summer November 2022 – April 2023)



- The tour will assist positive cases by arranging for transport to the venue of isolation if required. Either through a rented vehicle or the use of dedicated COVID-19 Uber services
- Ambulance services would be available to be called in should the symptomatology of the patient requires hospitalization
- Positive cases are allowed, should the symptomatology be of such a nature, to self-drive to their selected place of isolation

### 11. Tournament Office and Event Information

- The tournament office may only be accessed by staff and officials, and by players for score verification purposes where score recording is located in the tournament office
- All event information will also be made available in electronic format on the Sunshine Tour/European Tour Group apps . Player Information Sheets, Conditions of Competition, Notices, Pace of Play, Pin-sheets and Local Rules are available on the applications
- A copy of the day's pin sheet will also be displayed for any player or caddie wishing to take a photo as a record
- Printed event information will be made available

### 12. Scoring and Score Verification

- Scoring will be done through the use of a scorecard, with player and marker signatures required
- Only one group of players will be allowed inside the score recording area

### 13. Players and Caddies Lounge

- Limited indoor and outdoor seating will be made available for use by Players, Caddies and event staff. Individuals are encouraged to use such facilities for as brief a time as possible
- Areas assigned to players, caddies, management and staff should not be frequented by spectators and the general public but can be used by player's guests and support staff.
- In the event of a weather delay preference would be given to participants who have not completed their rounds

### 14. Player's Guest and Support staff

- Player's guests/support staff vaccination status will be recorded at the accreditation center
- No routine testing will be done regardless of the vaccination status of the person. Please note this will be constantly reviewed and is subject to change at any moment in time as the pandemic progresses

## COVID - 19 Protocols (Summer November 2022 – April 2023)



- The player's guest/support staff will be required to report to the accreditation center on the first day of entry and will have access to the player/caddie lounge
- If the venue becomes overcrowded and especially during weather delays, preference will be given to players and caddies and guests/support staff will be asked to move to other areas

### 15. PRO-AM

- Amateurs participating in the Pro-Am will be subjected to the Protocol and must confirm their vaccination status  
Note: It is strongly advised that only vaccinated persons be allowed to participate in Pro-Am events
- If amateurs are allowed to use caddies, these caddies must comply to the Protocol  
Note: It is strongly advised that only vaccinated caddies be used
- The use of carts is preferable for all guests at the Pro-Am dependent on venue and availability of golf carts. Where golf carts are limited, preference will be given to those guests with medical reasons, please contact the promoter to arrange
- Prize giving events must be attended by Professionals. If held indoors the venue must allow for sufficient spacing and have an effective air handling system  
Should Professionals perceive that their safety is compromised in a close environment this should be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director or the Chief Medical Officer

### 16. Caddies

- Professional Caddies are subjected to the requirements of the Protocol
- "Casual" caddies must declare their vaccination status which must be verified by the host venue
- Note: It is strongly recommended that preference be given to vaccinated persons

### 17. Spectators

- There is no limit on the number of spectators who can attend an event
- Spectators to report daily to the entrance of the hosting club to receive accreditation
- When the positivity rate in the country is **equal or above** 10 % COVID-19 - on the first day of entry into the event, the vaccination status of the spectator will be recorded (Name, ID and contact number)
- Masks wearing is not mandated but strongly advised when in closed environments
- When flu-like symptoms such as coughing, and sneezing are experienced masks must be worn when in closed environments or when physical distancing of >2 metres cannot be maintained