



2020  
CONDITIONS  
OF PLAY

## OVERVIEW

The PGA Family Cup is designed to bring families together in a way that strengthens relationships, creates lifelong golfers, and builds vibrant communities.

Put simply, family members of all ages can stay connected and enjoy time on the course together as a team. Everyone plays, and everyone contributes!

Based on feedback from PGA Professionals and consumers alike during a limited test in 2019, the format outlined in the Conditions of Play has proven to be fun and effective. However, in this expanded pilot year, we recognize there is more to learn, and therefore we are encouraging flexibility to all facilities. The following conditions of play are recommended, yet fully adaptable.

Please note that the following are PGA Family Cup official guidelines and do not constitute any attempt to alter or revise the Rules of Golf but attempt to fairly apply the Rules of Golf to the format. All players should be familiar with the USGA Rules of Golf, effective from 2019.

**In sports, your team is your family.**  
**With PGA FAMILY CUP, your family is your team.**



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# SAFETY

**Golf is a very safe sport as long as you follow these simple rules:**

1. Stop and look before you swing to make sure other players are clear.  
Also, when you are walking, make sure no one is hitting around you!
2. Rule of 5 – Be sure there are 5 BIG STEPS between you and other players.  
Always strive to use the Rule of 5!
3. Club Check – Hold your club upside down until it is your turn to swing.  
If it is not your turn to play, put your club away!
4. Don't forget to yell "FORE!" if your ball comes close to landing near someone else.
5. Make sure you are aware of what tees everyone in your group is playing from.  
Stay safe and alert at all times!

## QUICK HITS

**Have fun with family!**

- Listen to and learn from each other. Help family members that are less experienced than you.
- Enjoy interacting with other families you may be playing with.
- Wait your turn.
- Be a cheerleader for your team.
- Play quickly.
- Never stand in front of someone who is hitting their ball.

**Take care of the course.**

- Leave the course better than you found it.
- Walk softly and carefully on the greens.
- Always rake sand before leaving a bunker.
- Repair your divots.
- Fix your ball marks and the ball marks of others that they may have forgotten.



# PLAYER CONDUCT

1. Players acknowledge that the purpose of PGA Family Cup is to have fun playing golf with your family.
2. Players agree to demonstrate sportsmanship, teamwork and a positive attitude.
3. Players agree to be respectful of all PGA Family Cup participants, spectators and facility staff.
4. Players agree to care for the golf facility and leave it in better condition than they found it.

## DEFINITIONS

**Adult:** A person whose program age is 18 years or older and a family member defined as a birth mother or step mother, birth father or step father, blood grandmother or step grandmother, blood grandfather or step grandfather, legal guardian, aunt, uncle, cousin, or sibling.

**Areas of the Course:**

There are 5 areas of the golf course:

1. General Area
2. Teeing Area
3. Penalty Area
4. Bunker
5. Putting Green

**Ball In Play:** A ball is in play beginning when a stroke is made and the ball remains in play until it is marked and lifted. The ball is not back in play until the ball is replaced and the next stroke is made.

**Junior:** A child whose program age is under 18 who has a relationship to the adult(s) on their team.

**Program Age:** A player's age as of February 1, 2020 will determine their program age for the 2020 season.

• Adult Status:

- Born on January 31, 2002 or earlier
- 18 years old prior to February 1, 2020

• Junior Status:

- Born on February 1, 2002 or later
- 18 years old on or after February 1, 2020

**Round:** The round consists of playing the holes of the course in their correct sequence, unless authorized by the host facility. In PGA Family Cup, a stipulated round may be either 9 or 18 holes.

**Scramble:** PGA Family Cup format where both players on a team hit drives. The best shot is selected, and each player plays from that selected spot. This process continues until the ball is holed.

**Substitute:** PGA Family Cup allows for the substitution of players within the playing of the event. A substitute player may be subbed in every three holes (i.e. #4, #7, #10, #13, and #16).

**Team:** Refers to a group of 2-6 players participating together in a PGA Family Cup. Only 2 players on a team may be playing at a time.

**Traditional Stroke Play Scoring:** After each hole, the number of strokes taken by the team is recorded on the scorecard. At the end of the event, the total number of strokes made is the team's score.

## PGA FAMILY CUP RULES OF PLAY

**Format:** Both players on a team hit drives. The best shot is selected, and each player plays from the selected spot. This process continues until the ball is holed.

### Team Composition:

- 2-6 players per team
- 2-player teams must have one adult and one junior playing at all times, with the option of a family having up to two teams. If a family chooses to have two separate teams, they may pick the best score of the two teams on each hole.

Composition options are as follows:

- 4 players: Family may play as one team, utilizing 2 substitutes OR family may split into two 2-player teams, taking the best score on each hole
- 5 players: Family may play as one team, utilizing 3 substitutes OR family may split into two 2-player teams (with 1 substitute), taking the best score on each hole
- 6 players: Family may play as one team, utilizing 4 substitutes OR family may split into two 2-player teams (with 2 substitutes), taking the best score on each hole
- Note: If a family does choose to have two 2-player teams, there still must always be one adult and one junior on each team

**Golf Course Set-Up:** PGA Family Cup exists to be fun, social, and inclusive for all. By shortening golf courses into "Par 3 yardages," players have a chance to view the course differently. Our recommendations for appropriate course set-up are below:

- All participants may play from a single set of tees
- The yardage for each hole should be kept between 75-150 yards



**Moving One Club-Length Or One Clubhead-Length:** In PGA Family Cup, players are allowed to take a club-length to either side of the original spot of the selected ball in the general area, penalty area, teeing area or bunker. Players are allowed a clubhead-length to either side of the original spot of the selected ball on the putting green. This relief should never result in the ball being placed closer to the hole.

When measuring the club-length or clubhead-length, the ball must stay in the same area of the course.

Utilizing the 5 areas of the course means the following:

- A ball may be moved from rough to fairway or fairway to rough if it is within the club-length.
- A ball that is located on the teeing area or putting green or in a penalty area or bunker, must remain in that same area.

**Divisions:** There will be one division that everyone participates in to create a fun and equitable experience for players of all ages.

**Substitutions:** PGA Family Cup allows for the substitutions of players. A substitute player may be subbed in every three holes, so long as one junior and one adult are playing at all times. Substitutes play a critical role to the team's success.

Substitutes can walk with their teammates and provide valuable assistance such as:

- Give advice to the team.
- Carry or handle clubs for the team.
- Mark, lift, clean and place a ball for their teammates.
- Repair old hole plugs and ball marks on the putting green.
- Assist pace of play by searching for a ball, retrieving a ball not selected for play, attending the flagstick and raking bunkers.

**Maximum Score:** The maximum score on a hole is “double bogey.” Once a team has not holed out their shot(s) for bogey (one-over par), they will pick up their ball and a double bogey is recorded.

**Distance-Measuring Devices:** The use of distance-measuring devices is permitted at all levels of competition.

**Lost Ball:** If a team’s ball becomes lost outside of a penalty area, the team must take stroke-and-distance relief by adding one penalty stroke and playing the original ball or another ball from where the previous stroke was made.



**Out of Bounds:** Defined as all areas outside the boundary edge of the course as defined by the Committee. All areas inside that edge are in bounds. Relief should be taken as prescribed in Rule 17.1d for penalty areas.

**Pace of Play:** Teams should always encourage each other to keep up with the group in front of them. Teams are also encouraged to utilize all substitutes to assist with tasks that tend to slow down pace of play (attending the flagstick, raking the bunker, etc.).

**Playoff Procedure:** The playoff procedure will be determined by the host facility. Common playoff procedures include a scorecard playoff or a head-to head playoff.

**Sharing Clubs:** Each player on a team must not start an event with more than 14 clubs. However, teammates may share clubs regardless of the total number of clubs carried.

**Standing on Extension of Line of Play:** A player’s teammate may be positioned behind the player on an extension of the players’ line of play while the player is making a stroke.

**Interference with a Condition that Grants Free Relief:** A player will not receive relief from a condition that by Rule would result in free relief if interference with this condition did not exist when the ball lay in its original spot.

**Lifting and Marking Selected Ball:** The selected ball may be lifted by any team member, whether playing or not, and may be cleaned. The position of the ball must be marked before it is lifted or played. The ball must be marked right behind or right next to the ball and the mark may be moved one club-head length if a player chooses to play from the original spot. If a ball is lifted or played without being marked, the team will incur a one stroke penalty.

**Making Strokes/Selecting Ball:** At each hole, both players on a team may make a stroke from their respective teeing area. Unless the tee shot is holed, the team must select one of the tee shots and both players may make a stroke from that location. Unless the second shot is holed, the team must select one of the second shots and both players may make a stroke from that location. This procedure is repeated until a ball is holed.

**Penalties:** The maximum penalty for any rules violation in PGA Family Cup is one stroke. When dealing with one stroke penalties in a scramble format, penalty strokes incurred solely by playing a ball which is not selected are disregarded.



## Placing a Ball:

- A ball must be placed by the player, his/her teammate or one of their substitutes.
- If the selected ball is in the general area, a ball must be placed in the general area within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than the original ball's position.
- If the selected ball is in the bunker, a ball must be placed in the bunker, within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than the original ball's position. Under a penalty of one stroke, a player or both players may opt to take back-on-the-line relief outside of the bunker under rule 19.2b.
- If the selected ball is in a penalty area and the player elects to play the ball as it lies, a ball must be placed in the penalty area, within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than the original ball's position. Or, the player may take relief under 17.1d incurring one penalty stroke.
- If the selected ball is on the putting green, a ball must be placed on the putting green, within one clubhead-length of and not nearer the hole than the original ball's position.
- There is no limit to the number of times a player may place and replace the ball, and may do so by any means as long as he/she does so within the appropriate area and does so without unduly delaying play.



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