On April 18, 2020, Governor Walz enacted Executive Order (EO) 20-38, allowing the opening of private and public golf courses and driving ranges provided that they adhere to the EO and the Outdoor Recreation Guidelines [https://staysafe.mn.gov/assets/outdoor-guidelines_tcm1152-435380.pdf](https://staysafe.mn.gov/assets/outdoor-guidelines_tcm1152-435380.pdf). In accordance with Executive Orders 20-04, 20-18, and 20-33, all indoor facilities associated with outdoor recreational facilities must remain closed except for:

- a) facilities used only by workers to the extent necessary to facilitate the outdoor recreation;
- b) bathroom facilities cleaned and disinfected regularly in accordance with the Outdoor Recreation Guidance;
- c) sales and service facilities allowed under subparagraph vi below; and
- d) facilities that provide food and beverage for off-premises consumption, as allowed in Executive Order 20-04, paragraph 2.

The MPRB is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all our employees and users. To ensure that, we have developed the following COVID-19 Preparedness Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff and users are all responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 in our workplaces and communities, respect users’ personal choices, and encourage cooperation among our employees and patrons. Only through this cooperative effort can we establish and maintain the safety and health of our workplaces and public spaces.

Our COVID-19 Preparedness Plan follows CDC and MDH guidelines, federal and state OSHA standards related to COVID-19 and all Executive Orders, and National Park and Recreation Association (NPRA) recommendations. By following the Stay Safe MN Plan and these guidelines and standards, we can enjoy the many benefits of the outdoors while providing for public health, slowing the spread of COVID-19, and decreasing the potential for added strain on local communities and health care systems in Minnesota. This plan addresses:

- hygiene and respiratory etiquette;
- engineering and administrative controls for social distancing;
- customer controls and protections;
- housekeeping, including cleaning, disinfecting and decontamination where necessary;
- prompt identification and isolation of sick persons;
- communications and training that will be provided to managers and workers; and
- management and supervision necessary to ensure effective implementation of the plan.

Employee involvement is essential in developing and implementing a successful COVID-19 Preparedness Plan and they are responsible for implementing and complying with all aspects of this Plan. Please refer to the MPRB COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for COVID case reporting and COVID leave information.

**Reopening:**
Columbia, Francis A. Gross and Meadowbrook golf courses opened Saturday, April 18, Theodore Wirth Golf Course and Hiawatha opened Tuesday, April 22, Hiawatha and Fort Snelling opened June 4. Initially, all courses were walking only until the MPRB devised an effective means to ensure social distancing during cart pickup, drop-off and use, and clean and disinfect each cart between uses.

**General Rules and Requirements for all MPRB Golf Courses and Driving Ranges:**
The following instructions are provided to golfers on the MPRB Golf Course websites.
Prior to arriving at the golf course:
- If you are sick or are feeling sick, do not come to the golf course.
- Effective immediately, if you can, tee times should be made on-line.
- If you are unable to make your reservation online, we will have the designated time period of 7pm-8pm for phone-in reservations.

Upon arrival:
- Face coverings are required to enter golf clubhouses.
- Please arrive no more than 20 minutes before your tee time to minimize gathering in all areas.
- Golf carts will be rented no more than 20 minutes prior to the scheduled tee time. Two riders per cart is mandatory at courses with cart dividers and allowed at all other courses if riders are from the same household.
- The CDC’s requirement for social distancing of 6’ is being strictly enforced on property.
- Clubhouses will have limited capacity.
- Payment options available include in-person check-in and phone transactions on the day of play.
- Please do not plan on sharing clubs with any golfers.

On the golf course:
- Modifications to on course amenities have been made at all facilities, contact the course you are playing for more specific information.
- Do not pick up your playing partners clubs during play.
- We ask you to please forgo the traditional after round handshake and invite you to create your own socially distanced salutation. We’re fans of the putter salute!
- Pre- and post-round congregating is prohibited.

On the driving range:
- The CDC’s requirement for social distancing of 6’ is being strictly enforced on property.
- We have increased spacing on the driving range which reduces our capacity. Please limit your time to accommodate all members and guests. Range balls are being cleaned regularly between golfers.

Public Restrooms:
- Public restrooms at all Golf Courses are cleaned and sanitized every morning.
- All MPRB Staff who perform cleaning and sanitizing have appropriate supplies and personal protective equipment.
- Where public restrooms are not provided, portable restrooms are provided.
- Portable restrooms are serviced and cleaned by the associated vendor.
- Vendors log their cleaning activities on a log sheet on the physical portable restroom.

Handwashing:
- Basic infection control measures are being implemented at our public Golf Courses and Driving Ranges.
- Employees and customers are encouraged to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water frequently throughout the day, but especially before any mealtimes, after using the restroom, and before using any MPRB equipment.
Hand Sanitizer:

- All golfers are encouraged to sanitize their hands when utilizing public spaces. Customers are encouraged to bring their own sanitizer as it will not be provided at the site for customers.
- Hand sanitizer is available on site for all MPRB staff.
- MPRB Staff are instructed to sanitize their hands periodically throughout their workday, in addition to hand washing.

Social Distancing/Occupancy Adjustments:

- Social distancing is being implemented in the workplace for all MPRB Staff.
- Customers are prohibited from gathering in groups. Workers and visitors are prohibited from gathering in non-family groups.
- Each clubhouse has removed tables from its dining areas to allow for social distancing between gathered family groups.
- Each clubhouse has installed clear barriers at the check-in desks and food vendor areas to effectively provide separation during transactions.
- MPRB Staff will monitor the capacity at each location for compliance.

Respiratory Etiquette - Cover your Cough and/or Sneeze:

MPRB Staff and golfers are being instructed to cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing and to avoid touching their face, mouth, nose or eyes with their hands. They should dispose of tissues in the trash and wash or sanitize their hands immediately afterward.

Per the Governor’s EO 20-81, Golf patrons and MPRB staff are required to wear a face covering over their nose and mouth inside (when a barrier is not present to separate them from patrons or other staff) and in an outdoor setting when social distancing is not feasible. Signs requiring face coverings to enter Golf Clubhouses are posted at each entry into each clubhouse. Paper face coverings are available at each Golf Clubhouse for patrons and staff who arrive without a proper face covering.

Housekeeping:

Regular housekeeping practices are being implemented, including routine cleaning, trash removal and cleaning and sweeping of outdoor surfaces, equipment, tools, etc.

High public use areas are cleaned daily and as needed. Driving range balls are washed between golfers and golf carts are cleaned and disinfected between uses by different golf groups.

Communications and Training:

A Preparedness Plan for Golf Courses and Driving Ranges is mandatory. Additional communication and training will be ongoing and provided to all workers who did not receive any initial training. Instructions will continue to be communicated to customers about COVID19 restrictions and social distancing and facility use. Managers and supervisors are to monitor how effective the program has been implemented and adjust as needed. Employees are to work through this new plan together and update training as necessary. This updated COVID-19 Preparedness Plan has been certified by MPRB management and posted throughout the workplace on August 31, 2020. It will be updated as necessary.
Our employees are our most valuable assets. We are serious about safety and health and keeping our employees safe at the MPRB. Although we encourage our staff to inform patrons about the health and safety risks associated with using our Golf Courses and Driving Ranges during the COVID-19 Pandemic, we do expect our staff to put themselves at risk while attempting to enforce these guidelines.

Certified by:
Larry Umphrey, Director of Recreation and Golf