

This morning's recent Executive Order issued by Governor Kate Brown contained some conflicting information in regards to how it pertains to golf courses. [Executive Order 20-12](#). This order puts in place a "Stay Home" directive that takes a different approach than other states with "Shelter in Place" orders. In it, the Governor lists non-essential businesses that must close and gives OHA the authority to designate other closures needed to protect public health.

For further clarification, we have received the following from the Governor's office:

*"Golf is allowed as long as the social distancing measures are in place, country club activities for a gathering would not be allowed. We categorized golf similar to a hike or outdoor activity, rather than through "essential travel" which is meant to stop vacations."*

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Although there is a general belief that golf is relatively low risk compared to other activities because recommended social distancing is fairly easy to achieve in an outdoor environment, the Golf Alliance of Oregon is not in a position to make any sort of blanket statement that speaks to the overall safety of the game, not knowing the level of contagion that might be found at any particular golf course. It is ultimately up to an individual facility to determine if golf course operations can still be managed safely while adhering to guidelines.

- The Golf Alliance of Oregon