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Copy of Email sent to All Knox County Golf Courses Sunday, March 29, 2020

Dear Golf Course Owners/Managers,

I apologize for the confusion that Governor DeWine's "Stay at Home" order has caused for you and your customers. Knox Public Health has also been confused by the mixed messaging coming from the Ohio Department of Health and the Governor himself. Since this past Friday, when you received a letter from our Environmental Health Director, Nate Overholt, I have been in constant communication with legal representatives from the Ohio Department of Health, our legal counsel and other health commissioners in our central Ohio region.

After obtaining feedback from all these individuals I am writing today to advise you that you may **REOPEN** your golf course, effective Monday, March 30, 2020 as long as you meet the following requirements:

- If your golf course is operating as an *outdoor recreation opportunity* and abiding by all of the Stay at Home order's social distancing and disinfection requirements, there is likely not a health concern
- If the golf course is operating other businesses as part of the operations (restaurants, clubhouse, spa, driving range, putting and practice greens, etc), then you should be prepared to explain why you deem those business operations essential
- Because you are running an essential business, an *outdoor recreation opportunity* you have a responsibility to make sure that physical (social) distancing and other protective measures are being adhered to consistently
- Protective measures that must be followed: 1) Designate 6' physical/social distances; 2) have hand sanitizer and sanitizing products readily available for employees and customers; 3) golf carts should not carry more than one person at a time and should be disinfected after each use; 4) golf clubs or other golf equipment that belongs to the course and used by customers should be routinely disinfected after use and 5) have the ability to communicate hours of operation via online and remotely to the public

Please note that since Knox Public Health is responsible for the decision to reopen local golf courses that we will be instituting random inspections of local golf courses to assist you in meeting the requirements and to ensure that your responsibility as an essential business are met.

Again, thank you for your patience and understanding. Do not hesitate to reach out to me or Environmental Health Director, Nate Overholt, if you have any questions. We are all in this together and will only be successful if we work together.

Respectfully,

Julie Miller, RN, MSN
Health Commissioner



Located inside the Knox County Health Department



"The Knox County Health Department is committed to **promoting** health lifestyles, **preventing** illness and **protecting** the environment for our community