Consistent with the State’s Framework for a Safer Economy, San Francisco is allowing certain businesses and other activities to reopen or expand starting March 24, 2021. The decisions to reopen balance the public health risks of COVID-19 transmission with the public health risks of economic and mental health stress.

Even though COVID-19 case rates have come down significantly, and more people are vaccinated, there remains a risk that people who you come into contact with when you are outside your Residence may have COVID-19. Most COVID-19 infections are caused by people who have no symptoms of illness. Due to limited supply of vaccine, only a minority of San Franciscans are fully vaccinated. We also have confirmed there are new, more contagious virus variants in the San Francisco Bay Area and that some of these variants are more likely to cause serious illness and death in unvaccinated people.

The opening or expansion of sectors does not necessarily signify that these activities are “safe.” The purpose of the required safety protocols contained in the order and directives is to make these activities and sectors safer for workers and the public. But reopening and expansion requires that all individuals and businesses use particular care and do their part to make these activities as safe as possible by strictly and consistently wearing Face Coverings and following Social Distancing Requirements and all other safety protocols.

People at risk for severe illness with COVID-19—such as unvaccinated older adults, and unvaccinated individuals with health risks—and members of their household are urged to defer participating at this time in activities with other people outside their household where taking protective measures of wearing face masks and social distancing may be difficult, especially indoors or in crowded spaces.

DIRECTIVE OF THE HEALTH OFFICER No. 2020-15f

DIRECTIVE OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO REGARDING REQUIRED BEST PRACTICES FOR TENNIS, PICKLEBALL AND GOLF

(PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTIVE)
DATE OF DIRECTIVE: March 23, 2021

By this Directive, the Health Officer of the City and County of San Francisco (the “Health Officer”) issues industry-specific direction that people engaged in outdoor tennis, pickleball or golf (up to a foursome) must follow as part of the local response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) pandemic. This Directive constitutes industry-specific guidance as provided under Sections 4 and 11 of Health Officer Order No. C19-07u issued on March 23, 2021 (the “Stay-Safer-At-Home Order”) and, unless otherwise defined below, initially capitalized terms used in this Directive have the same meaning given them in that order. This Directive goes into effect at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, and remains in effect until suspended, superseded, or amended by the Health Officer. This Directive has support in the bases and justifications set forth in the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order. As further provided below, this Directive automatically incorporates any revisions to the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order or other future orders issued by the Health Officer that supersede that order or reference this Directive. This Directive is intended to promote best practices as to Social Distancing Requirements and sanitation measures, helping prevent

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the transmission of COVID-19 and safeguard the health of workers, customers, and the community.

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, AND 120175, THE HEALTH OFFICER DIRECTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. This Directive applies to:
   a) All people engaged in tennis, pickleball or golf (“Players”) in the City and County of San Francisco (the “City”); and
   b) All owners, operators, managers, and supervisors of any public or private tennis, pickleball or golf facility in the City that are Outdoor Businesses or Additional Businesses permitted to be open to the public under the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order (the “Facility”).

2. Attached as Exhibit A to this Directive is a list of best practices that apply to Players and Facilities (the “Best Practices”). Each Player and Facility must comply with all of the relevant requirements listed in the Best Practices.

3. Each Facility must, before it begins to offer tennis, pickleball or golf services, create, adopt, and implement a written health and safety plan (a “Health and Safety Plan”). The Health and Safety Plan must be substantially in the form attached to this Directive as Exhibit B.

4. If an aspect, service, act or operation of a Facility or Player is also covered by another Health Officer directive (all of which are available at www.sfdph.org/directives), then the Facility or Player must comply with all applicable directives, and must complete all relevant Health and Safety Plan forms.

5. Each Facility must (a) make the Health and Safety Plan available to a member of the public and Personnel on request, (b) provide a summary of the plan to all Personnel working on site or otherwise in the City in relation to its operations, and (c) post the plan online at any storefront and at the entrance to any other physical location that the Facility operates within the City. Also, each Facility must provide a copy of the Health and Safety Plan and evidence of its implementation to any authority enforcing this Order upon demand.

6. Each Facility subject to this Directive may be required to provide items such as Face Coverings (as provided in Health Officer Order No. C19-12, and any future amendment to that order), hand sanitizer or handwashing stations, or both, and disinfectant and related supplies to Personnel and/or to the public, all as required by the Best Practices. If any such Facility is unable to provide these required items or otherwise fails to comply with required Best Practices or fails to abide by its Health and Safety Plan, then it must cease operating until it can fully comply and demonstrate its strict compliance. Further, as to any non-compliant operation, any such Facility is subject to immediate closure and the fines and other legal remedies described below, as a violation of the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order.

7. For purposes of this Directive, “Personnel” includes all of the following people who provide goods or services associated with a Facility: employees; contractors and
sub-contractors (such as those who sell goods or perform services onsite or who deliver goods for the business); independent contractors; vendors who are permitted to sell goods onsite; volunteers; and other individuals who regularly provide services onsite at the request of the Facility. “Personnel” includes “gig workers” who perform work via the business’s app or other online interface, if any.

8. This Directive may be revised by the Health Officer, through revision of this Directive or another future directive or order, as conditions relating to COVID-19 require, in the discretion of the Health Officer. All Players and Facilities must stay updated regarding any changes to the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order and this Directive by checking the Department of Public Health website (www.sfdph.org/healthorders; www.sfdph.org/directives) regularly.

9. Implementation of this Directive augments—but does not limit—the obligations of each Facility under the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order including, but not limited to, the obligation to prepare, post, and implement a Social Distancing Protocol under Section 4.d and Appendix A of the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order. Each Facility must follow this industry-specific guidance and update all guidance or other requirements as necessary for the duration of this Directive, including, without limitation, as this Directive is amended or extended in writing by the Health Officer and consistent with any extension of the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order, any other order that supersedes that order, and any Health Officer order that references this Directive.

This Directive is issued in furtherance of the purposes of the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order. Where a conflict exists between this Directive and any state, local, or federal public health order related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including, without limitation, the Social Distancing Protocol, the most restrictive provision controls unless otherwise specifically provided. Failure to carry out this Directive is a violation of the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order, constitutes an imminent threat and menace to public health, constitutes a public nuisance, and is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

Susan Philip, MD, MPH, Acting Health Officer of the City and County of San Francisco

Date: March 23, 2021
In addition to preparing, posting, and implementing the Social Distancing Protocol required by Section 4 of Health Officer Order No. C19-07 (the “Stay-Safer-At-Home Order”) as it may be amended, each Facility that operates in the City must comply with each requirement listed below and prepare a Health and Safety Plan substantially in the format of Exhibit B, below.

**Requirements:**

1. **Section 1 – Facility Requirements**

   1.1. Ensure that the following aspects of Facility premises are shut down and not accessible by Players or the public: clubhouses, restaurants, bars, dining areas, seating or lounge areas, common areas not required to reach outdoor facilities, fitness facilities, and retail space, unless specifically allowed under the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order and any directives or guidance issued by the Health Officer. For example, dining and fitness facilities may open to the extent they operate in accordance with Health Officer Directive Nos. 2020-16 (Dining) and 2020-31 (Indoor Gyms) each as they may be amended in the future.

   1.2. Facilities may open locker rooms and shower facilities subject to applicable requirements in Health Officer Directive No. 2020-27 (Outdoor Gyms), as it may be amended in the future. Saunas, steam rooms, indoor hot tubs and similar amenities must remain closed at this time.

   1.3. If an aspect of Facility premises is allowed to operate under another directive (for example, a pro-shop or retail space may operate in compliance Health Officer Directive No. 2020-17 (Retail)) then the Facility must comply with all applicable directives, and its Health and Safety Plan must include all applicable components from those directives. Copies of other directives are available online at https://www.sfdph.org/directives.

2. **Section 2 – General Sanitation Exemptions for Public Facilities**

   2.1. Private Facilities are required to implement all applicable sanitation requirements of the Social Distancing Protocol.

   2.2. Public Facilities are required to implement all applicable sanitation requirements of the Social Distancing Protocol with the following exceptions:

      2.2.1. If it is not feasible for a public Facility to provide hand sanitizer or a handwashing station to Players in accordance the Social Distancing Protocol, public Facilities should encourage Players to bring their own hand sanitizer.

      2.2.2. Except with respect to bathrooms, public Facilities are not required to clean and disinfect premises in accordance with Sections 3.8 of the Social Distancing Protocol, but are strongly encouraged to clean and disinfect premises to the maximum extent feasible.

3. **Section 3 – Requirements Specific to Golf Players and Golf Facilities**

   3.1. Golf Players and Personnel must practice—and Facilities with on-site Personnel must enforce—all Social Distancing Requirements in accordance with the Stay-Safer-At-Home
3.2. Golf Facilities should conduct all business and transactions involving Players and members of the public in outdoor spaces to the greatest extent feasible.

3.3. In Golf Facilities where restrooms are available on the course, Facilities should encourage Players and other members of the public to use on-course facilities rather than indoor restroom facilities, such as those located in the clubhouse.

3.4. Groups of recreational Golf Players must be limited to a maximum of four players per group from the same or different Household. Groups of players from different Households must comply with the State of California under its Stay-Safer-At-Home Order. Golf Players engaged in organized golf team or league are subject to applicable requirements of Health Officer Directive No. 2021-01 (Sports).

3.5. Golf Players should avoid sharing equipment with people outside of their Household and may rent equipment only as expressly allowed for equipment rental as an Additional Business under the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order.

3.6. Golf Cart Operations:

3.6.1. Carts must be limited to members of one Household at a time;

3.6.2. Carts, including hand carts, must be cleaned and disinfected at least once daily, or more frequently if required by industry standards and otherwise in accordance with the Social Distancing Protocol. Cleaning and disinfection does not have to occur after each individual person touches a surface unless a person appears symptomatic or there is visible contamination from nasal or oral secretions.

3.7. High-touch surfaces and equipment including, but not limited to, water stations, hand towels, ball washers, bunker rakes, and scorecards and pencils, must be cleaned and disinfected at least once daily, or more frequently if required by industry standards and otherwise in accordance with the Social Distancing Protocol. Cleaning and disinfection does not have to occur after each individual person touches a surface unless a person appears symptomatic or there is visible contamination from nasal or oral secretions. Players and Personnel should avoid contact with high-touch surfaces when feasible and should practice good hand hygiene.

3.8. Where possible, designated paths of travel within Golf Facility premises must be clearly marked.

3.9. Tournament style events or competitions are prohibited to the extent they require, encourage or result in groups of Golf Players from different Households congregating in impermissible groups at the Facility at the same time. The Golf Facility must continue to ensure that different groups of Golf Players do not congregate at the Facility before, during or after the event, that there is no other mingling between those groups at the Facility, and that there are no scorekeepers, referees or other similar staff who interact in person with the groups as part of the management of the tournament. Spectators are prohibited during any tournament unless otherwise permitted under the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order. Professional tournaments
without spectators may be allowed with prior approval of the Health Officer. Group instruction or clinics are permitted to the extent they operate as Outdoor Fitness Classes under Section 9 of Appendix C-1 to the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order. Similarly, Players who are attending summer camps for children are authorized to use Golf Facilities in accordance with this Directive to the extent the summer camp is allowed under a separate directive.

3.10. No spectators, or persons other than Players unless all applicable requirements for Small Outdoor Gatherings under Health Officer Directive No. 2020-19 or organized sports under Health Officer Directive No. 2021-01, including as those directives are updated or amended in the future, are met. Caddies are allowed as long as they maintain at least six feet of distancing from members of other Households to the greatest extent possible and limit touching of shared equipment. A Golf Player who is a minor may be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian.

3.11. Golf Players must bring plenty of water to drink as water fountains or drinking stations will be closed.

3.12. Only Golf Players with a previously scheduled tee time may access Facility premises. Tee times must be scheduled 10 minutes or more apart. Groups are required to stay away from the starting tee off area until it is cleared by the group ahead of them. All Players must arrive at Facility premises no more than 30 minutes prior to their scheduled tee time and must leave immediately after completing their round.

3.13. Golf Facilities must provide security or patrolling to ensure golfers’ compliance with the requirements of this Directive.

3.14. This Directive cannot anticipate every way to make golf safer for everyone in light of COVID-19. Facilities and Players are encouraged to make their sport safer by adding changes to their practices and procedures that are consistent with the intent of the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order and this Directive. Players and Facilities are also encouraged to implement guidance from athletic associations where applicable (For example, the USGA provides guidance for Players and Facilities here: https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/course-care/covid-19-resource-center.html.) Nothing in this section allows a Golf Player or Facility to replace, supplement, or change any restriction in the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order, this Directive, or any local, state, or federal health order or guidance related to COVID-19 with a less restrictive measure. For clarity, all Golf Players and Facilities must strictly implement every measure in this Directive and may only supplement new safety measures to the extent they are more restrictive (i.e., more protective of public health) than any local, state, or federal health order or guidance related to COVID-19.

4. **Section 4 – Requirements Specific to Tennis and Pickleball Players and Facilities:**

4.1. Tennis and Pickleball Players must practice – and Facilities with onsite personnel must enforce – all social distancing requirements in accordance with the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order and applicable directives, all Face Covering requirements as set forth in Health Officer Order No. C19-12, and any future amendment to those orders or directives. Players from different Households should maintain at least six feet of distance between each other to the greatest extent possible, and it is strongly recommended that they maintain that distance at all times. Indoor Tennis or Pickleball Facilities may not exceed 25% capacity excluding Personnel. Indoor gatherings between members of different Households are prohibited unless otherwise specifically authorized under the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order.
4.2. Tennis or Pickleball Facilities operating under this Directive should conduct all business and transactions involving Players and members of the public in outdoor spaces to the greatest extent feasible.

4.3. Recreational singles tennis or pickleball may be played indoors or outdoors between members of different Households while maintaining Social Distancing Requirements and wearing Face Coverings at all times. Indoor or outdoor organized tennis or pickleball teams or leagues are subject to all applicable requirements for indoor low contact sports under Health Officer Directive No. 2021-01 (Sports). Doubles tennis or pickleball may be played outdoors only between members of up to four different Households with all players maintaining Social Distancing Requirements at all times.

4.4. Tennis and Pickleball Players must bring plenty of water to drink as water fountains or drinking stations must be closed.

4.5. Players should avoid sharing equipment with people outside of their Household, including balls and rackets. Tennis and Pickleball Players should avoid switching sides of the court during play. Players switching sides of the court must maintain social distancing at all times.

4.6. Tournament style events or competitions are prohibited to the extent they require, encourage or result in groups of Tennis Players from different Households congregating in impermissible groups at the Facility at the same time. For example, a tournament that staggers match start times or takes other measures to ensure Tennis Players and Personnel do not improperly gather, mingle or congregate before or after matches and that otherwise complies with this Directive and all applicable State and local health orders is allowed. Indoor tournaments are not permitted under this Directive and may occur only to the extent they are otherwise permitted under the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order. Spectators are prohibited at any tournament unless otherwise permitted under the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order. Professional tournaments without spectators may be allowed with prior approval of the Health Officer. Outdoor group instruction or clinics are permitted to the extent they operate as Outdoor Fitness Classes under Section 9 of Appendix C-1 to the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order or, if held indoors, as indoor fitness classes under Health Officer Directive No. 2020-31. Similarly, Players who are attending summer camps for children are authorized to use Tennis or Pickleball Facilities in accordance with this Directive to the extent the summer camp is allowed under a separate directive.

4.7. No spectators or persons other than Players are permitted to observe indoor recreational tennis or pickleball. An indoor recreational Tennis or Pickleball Player who is a minor may be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian. No spectators or persons other than Players are permitted to observe organized indoor or outdoor tennis or pickleball unless otherwise permitted under Health Officer Directive No. 2021-01 (Sports), including as that directive is updated or amended in the future. Spectating or gathering to observe outdoor recreational tennis or pickleball is prohibited unless conducted in compliance with all Small Outdoor Gathering requirements under Health Officer Directive 2020-19, including as that directive is updated or amended in the future. An outdoor recreational Tennis or Pickleball Player who is a minor may be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian.

4.8. Rental of equipment is not permitted at this time unless otherwise expressly allowed for equipment rental as an Additional Business under the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order and subject to all applicable requirements for sanitization between uses.
4.9. Tennis and Pickleball Players at private Facilities must have a reservation to play before arriving at Facility premises. Players must arrive no more than 10 minutes before the time expected to play and leave the facility immediate after play. No extra-curricular or social activity may take place.

4.10. Where possible, designated paths of travel within Facility premises must be clearly marked.

4.11. All court gates and entrances to Facility premises should be roped off (when closed) or left open (during hours of court operation) to prevent touching.

4.12. All furniture and high-touch surfaces in the Facility premises, such as benches and tables, must be cleaned and disinfected at least once daily, or more frequently if required by industry standards and otherwise in accordance with the Social Distancing Protocol. Cleaning and disinfection does not have to occur after each individual person touches a surface unless a person appears symptomatic or there is visible contamination from nasal or oral secretions. Players and Personnel should avoid contact with high-touch surfaces when feasible and should practice good hand hygiene. Seating areas must be conspicuously marked with an easily readable posting reminding people to follow all social distancing, masking, and sanitation requirements when using the furniture. All water dispensers or water fountains must be made inaccessible by, for instance, being covered, taped, or roped off to prevent touching. Public Facilities are required to implement this section to the maximum extent feasible.

4.13. Use of tennis ball machines is permitted at this time if high touch surfaces on tennis ball machines are cleaned and disinfected at least once daily, or more frequently if required by industry standards and otherwise in accordance with the Social Distancing Protocol. Cleaning and disinfection does not have to occur after each individual person touches a surface unless a person appears symptomatic or there is visible contamination from nasal or oral secretions. Players and Personnel should avoid contact with high-touch surfaces when feasible and should practice good hand hygiene.

4.14. This Directive cannot anticipate every way to make tennis and pickleball safer for everyone. Tennis Facilities and Players are encouraged to make their sport safer by adding changes to their practices and procedures that are consistent with the intent of the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order and this Directive. Players and Facilities are also encouraged to implement guidance from athletic associations where applicable (For example, the USTA provides guidance for Players and Facilities here: https://www.usta.com/en/home/usta-covid-19-updates.html.) Nothing in this paragraph allows a Player or Facility to replace, supplement, or change any restriction in the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order, this Directive, or any local, state, or federal health order or guidance related to COVID-19 with a less restrictive measure. For clarity, all Players and Facilities must strictly implement every measure in this Directive and may only supplement new safety measures to the extent they are more restrictive (i.e., more protective of public health) than any local, state, or federal health order or guidance related to COVID-19.
Checklist

Each Facility must complete, post onsite, and follow this Health and Safety Plan.

Check off all items below that apply and list other required information.

Business/Entity name: Contact name:  
Facility Address: Contact telephone:

(You may contact the person listed above with any questions or comments about this plan.)

For All Facilities


☐ Shut down clubhouses, restaurants, bars, dining areas, seating or lounge areas, common areas not required to reach outdoor facilities, fitness facilities, and retail space unless otherwise permitted to operate.

☐ Make sure players avoid sharing equipment with anyone outside of their Household. No equipment rental is permitted unless the Facility meets all the requirements for equipment rental under the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order.

☐ Conduct all interactions with Players or other members of the public in outdoor spaces when feasible.

☐ Where possible, clearly mark designated paths of travel within the facility to help everyone maintain social distance.

☐ Require Players to bring plenty of their own water because fountains and drinking stations will be closed.

For Golf Facilities

☐ If restrooms are available on the course, encourage Players and members of the public to use on-course bathrooms rather than other restroom facilities such as those located in the clubhouse.

☐ A maximum of four Players from different Households may share a tee time but, unless they are all part of the same Household, may not share the same golf cart and should maintain at least six feet of physical distance from each other at all times.

☐ Limit golf carts to one rider and one bag. Sanitize motorized carts and hand carts at least once daily or more frequently if required by industry standard. Cleaning and disinfection does not have to occur after each individual person touches a surface unless a person appears symptomatic or there is visible contamination from nasal or oral secretions. Players and Personnel should avoid contact with high-touch surfaces when feasible and should practice good hand hygiene.
☐ Clean all high touch surfaces including: water stations, hand towels, ball washers, bunker rakes, scorecards and pencils at least once daily or more frequently if required by industry standard. Cleaning and disinfection does not have to occur after each individual person touches a surface unless a person appears symptomatic or there is visible contamination from nasal or oral secretions. Players and Personnel should avoid contact with high-touch surfaces when feasible and should practice good hand hygiene.

☐ Only allow golf Players with previously scheduled tee times to access the premises.

☐ Schedule tee times 10 minutes or more apart.

☐ Keep groups away from the starting tee off area until the group ahead is clear.

☐ Require Players to arrive at the facility no more than 30 minutes before their tee time and leave immediately after finishing their round.

☐ Provide security or patrolling to make sure golfers are complying.

☐ No spectators or persons other than Players unless spectators strictly follow rules for Outdoor Gatherings or as permitted for organized sports under Health Officer Directive 2021-01 (Sports). Players who are minors may be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian.

For Tennis or Pickleball Facilities

☐ Singles tennis and pickleball may be played indoors. Doubles tennis and pickleball may be played on outdoor courts only.

☐ No more than two Households may play single tennis or singles pickleball together at any one time. Members of no more than four Households may play doubles tennis or pickleball and should maintain six feet of physical distance at all times.

☐ Encourage Players to avoid switching sides of the court during play and maintain social distancing if they do switch sides.

☐ Players should avoid touching or using share equipment, including balls and racquets.

☐ Allow Players on private Facility premises only if they have a reservation to play. Require all Players to arrive no earlier than 10 minutes before their scheduled court time. Require all Players to leave the Facility immediately after the end of their play.

☐ Keep court gates open at all times during hours of operation. Keep as many other gates and doors as feasible open during hours of operation.

☐ Clean and disinfect all high touch surfaces at least once daily, or more frequently if required by industry standards and otherwise in accordance with the Social Distancing Protocol. Cleaning and disinfection does not have to occur after each individual person touches a surface unless a person appears symptomatic or there is visible contamination from nasal or oral secretions. Players and Personnel should avoid contact with high-touch surfaces when feasible and should practice good hand hygiene.
Hygiene. Mark high-touch furniture with posters reminding people to follow all social distancing, masking, and sanitation requirements.

☐ For outdoor recreational tennis or pickleball, spectators are not permitted unless spectators strictly follow rules for Outdoor Gatherings. For indoor recreational tennis and pickleball, spectators are not permitted at this time. For indoor or outdoor organized tennis or pickleball, spectators are not permitted unless strictly following rules for organized sports under Health Officer Directive 2021-01. All players who are minors may be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.