



# **2021 NDVGC SAFETY PLAYBOOK**

**Riverside, IOWA**

**September 12-17, 2021**



# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**1. Welcome – 3**

**2. NDVGC Safety Protocols**

**Vaccination Status – 4**

**Post-travel Quarantine – 4**

**Testing – 5**

**Screening – 5**

**Contact Tracing – 5**

**Mask Requirements – 6**

**Preparation for Iowa – 7**

**Returning Home – 7**

**3. Personal Accountability – 8**



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Disabled American Veterans (DAV) are proud to team up with the Iowa City VA Healthcare System to host the 28<sup>th</sup> National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic (NDVGC) in Riverside, Iowa this September. This year marks 28 years of rehabilitating Veterans through the game of golf and making it accessible to any Veteran regardless of their challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has been another challenge for us to navigate. Our teams have been working tirelessly to mitigate the risks it presents and come together as a community to continue our rehabilitation.

We have been invigorated by the Veterans and volunteers wanting to come together, safely, and take on the challenges of the game of golf. We are thrilled to be able to witness it in Iowa.

The NDVGC team is relentlessly working to ensure this year's program is safe and successful. The following guide outlines the necessary steps that everyone participating in the 2021 NDVGC must follow to support the health and safety for all. These precautions have been developed after consultation with our medical team and reviewing the CDC recommendations, State of Iowa and Johnson County Iowa Departments of Health, and published guidelines and guidance from leadership from the Iowa City VA and VA Central Office.

The following information applies to all participants and attendees of the 28<sup>th</sup> National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic in Riverside, Iowa. This includes Veterans, NDVGC Staff, Volunteers, Caregivers, and Sponsors. Your support in following the plan is appreciated and essential as we all must do our part to support each other and keep each other safe.

We look forward to having our clinic in Iowa!

Nick Beelner  
NDVGC Director  
Department of Veterans Affairs

John Kleindienst  
National Voluntary Services Director  
Disabled American Veterans



# NDVGC Safety Protocols

“All participants and attendees” include Veterans, NDVGC staff, volunteers, caregivers, sponsors, and all other stakeholders.

## Vaccination Status

All participants and attendees will be requested and must report their vaccination status as:

- A. Fully vaccinated\* (COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card may be requested)
- B. Not vaccinated or not fully vaccinated 14 days prior to traveling to NDVGC or choose not to report

“Fully vaccinated” means a participant or attendee that has received both doses of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine or one dose of a single-dose vaccine AND at least 14 days have passed since the individual’s final dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

## Quarantine

1. All participants and attendees that are fully vaccinated are not required to quarantine in Iowa after traveling to the NDVGC.
2. All participants and attendees not fully vaccinated or choose not to report are required to quarantine in Iowa for 14 days **PRIOR TO** participating in the NDVGC. **This will be at your own expense.**



## Pre-Travel Testing

1. All participants and attendees not fully vaccinated or choose not to report are required to provide a negative COVID-19 test result to the NDVGC Office prior to traveling and within 72 hours of their arrival.

## Screening & Testing

1. All participants and attendees will be screened daily for symptoms of COVID-19.
  - a. This screening will occur prior to engaging in clinic programming.
  - b. Your cooperation will assure this process operates efficiently.
2. If any participant or attendee doesn't clear screening, they will be directed to a designated area and evaluated by the NDVGC Medical Staff to determine appropriate action.

## Contact Tracing

1. All participants and attendees will receive a color-coded wristband and will have set schedules that must be followed. In the event of a positive COVID test result at the clinic, quarantine, further evaluation, and monitoring will occur.
2. All impacted participants and attendees will be evaluated and tested as determined by the NDVGC Medical Team
3. If there is a positive COVID-19 test, all participants and attendees must comply with direction from the NDVGC Medical staff and NDVGC leadership.



## **Mask Requirements**

- 1. All participants and attendees, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a mask at all NDVGC venues, on NDVGC transportation, in all NDVGC hotel lobbies and common areas. Masks are not required while actively golfing.**
- 2. Masks must be well-fitting and cover both the users mouth and nose.**
- 3. Regardless of vaccination status, all NDVGC participants and attendees wear a mask during all non-NDVGC activities.**

**Mask requirements at the NDVGC are determined by the NDVGC Safety Playbook and not by local or national mask wearing guidelines.**

**Note: Upon arrival at designated airport and hotel check-in, all participants and attendees will be provided a disposable face mask but may use their mask of choice.**



## Preparing for Iowa

For the 14 days prior to your travel:

1. Stay healthy by following local COVID-19 precautions.
2. Avoid crowds and anyone who is ill or exhibits signs of illness. Practice social distancing.
3. Wear a mask during travel regardless of vaccination status.
4. If you are having symptoms of COVID-19, are waiting for results of a COVID-19 test, or test positive for COVID-19, DO NOT TRAVEL!

## While in Iowa

1. Wear masks at all times. Only exceptions are while actively golfing, eating or drinking.
2. Avoid crowds. Maintain distances of at least 6 feet.
3. Head nods, waves, hellos and fist bumps are good. No hugs.
4. Comply with all testing and safety expectations.
5. Give yourself extra time so you don't need to rush or crowd elevators.
6. Wash your hands with soap or use hand sanitizer frequently.

## Returning Home

1. Wear a mask while traveling and in airports.
2. Upon arrival back home, follow the local guidelines for COVID-19 precautions.
3. If you test positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of returning home, notify NDVGC staff immediately.



## Personal Accountability

COVID-19 is transmitted through infected droplets in our breath exhaled by coughing, sneezing, talking, shouting, and similar actions. It is passed from person to person when we are in close contact. The risk of catching COVID-19 increases if not-vaccinated and in crowded, poorly ventilated spaces and when in proximity of those carrying COVID-19. That is why it is important to minimize social interaction, wear a mask, and follow the precautions that are established by the local health authorities and detailed in this NDVGC Safety Playbook.

1. CDC has relaxed the restriction for those who are vaccinated with the COVID-19 vaccine. If you show proof of vaccination, then no quarantine is required. Please note, all participants and attendees not fully vaccinated or choose not to report are required to quarantine in Iowa for 14 days PRIOR TO participating in the NDVGC.
2. The **NDVGC Veteran population**, based on the criteria set forth by the CDC, **is considered HIGH-RISK for severe disease or illness**. Everyone must do their part to protect each other.
3. Avoid rumors. The NDVGC leadership is consulting with the Iowa Department of Health, VA medical experts and DAV leadership. Although the requirements may differ from other sources that may be available, the NDVGC requirements are what all participants and attendees of the 28<sup>th</sup> NDVGC must follow.
4. During the NDVGC, wash your hands frequently.
5. Please wear your mask and avoid crowded spaces when not in your hotel room.
6. Bring your own personal equipment such as water bottle, towel, etc.
7. Avoid peer pressure if it leads to “bending the rules”.

**BOTTOM LINE – Your actions protect others, and their actions protect you! Please do your part to keep yourself and others safe.**

For questions about this playbook, please contact Nick Beelner at [nicholas.beelner@va.gov](mailto:nicholas.beelner@va.gov) or (319)358-5963





**WE LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TOGETHER IN  
IOWA!**