



**DISC GOLF  
PRO TOUR**



**PDGA**<sup>TM</sup>  
**NATIONAL TOUR 2021**

# COVID-19 Requirements & Best Practices for PDGA Elite Series Events

*(Edit v3.0, 6/14/21)*

## Table of Contents

### [Table of Contents](#)

### [Introduction](#)

[Phases of Event Status:](#)

[Phase Announcement Policy](#)

[Definitions](#)

### [Medical Requirements](#)

[Medical Requirements](#)

[COVID-19 Testing Policy Overview](#)

[COVID-19 Testing Requirements \(Phase 1, 2 & 3\)](#)

[Contact Tracing Requirements](#)

### [Travel Requirements & Best Practices](#)

[Travel Requirements:](#)

[Phase 1 & 2](#)

[Travel Best Practices](#)

[Phase 1 & 2](#)

[Phase 3 Travel Requirements & Best Practices:](#)

[Travel Resources for Touring Competitors:](#)

### [Event Requirements & Best Practices](#)

[Event Site Requirements](#)

[Entry Protocols](#)

[Social Distancing](#)

[Use of Personal Protective Equipment](#)

[Severe Weather or other Stoppage of Play](#)

[Course Closure](#)

[Spectators](#)

[Event Preparation & Competition](#)

[Pre-Event Communication](#)

[Competition Requirements & Best Practices](#)

[Pre-Round Requirements](#)

[Pre-Round Best Practices](#)

[Competitor Travel/Support Staff](#)

[Caddies](#)

[In-Round Requirements](#)

[In-Round Best Practices](#)

[Post & Between Round Best Practices](#)

[Course & Venue Requirements](#)

[Course & Venue Best Practices](#)

[Phase 1 & 2](#)

[Pre-Round Best Practices](#)

[In-Round Best Practices](#)

[Post & Between Round Best Practices](#)

[Volunteers](#)

[Staff & Volunteer Requirements & Best Practices](#)

[Core Tournament Staff](#)

[Pre-Event Requirements](#)

[Pre-Event Best Practices](#)

[Pre-Round Requirements](#)

[Pre-Round Best Practices](#)

[In-Round Requirements & Best Practices](#)

[Parking](#)

[Spectator Management:](#)

[Spotting](#)

[UDisc Live Scoring](#)

[Post & Between Round Best Practices](#)

[Media Requirements](#)

[Media Best Practices](#)

[Discipline](#)



# Introduction

The following Elite Series COVID-19 Policy has been developed in concert by the Disc Golf Pro Tour (DGPT) and the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) in response to the current COVID-19 pandemic in order to reduce the potential for transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19 at Elite Series events. It will be applied to all PDGA Elite Series events until policy administrators deems that, based on medical guidance, the Policy is no longer necessary. The DGPT will administrate, implement and manage this program for all Elite events in 2021. One point of contact will streamline the program, and bring continuity and standardization in the process.

This document is subject to change. The current active version is 3.0, adopted Monday, June 14, 2021.

- Version 1.0 - 6/1/20 - 6/10/20
- Version 1.1 - 6/11/20 - 6/17/20
- Version 1.2 - 6/18/20 - 8/2/20
- Version 1.3 - 8/3/20 - 8/9/20
- Version 1.4 - 8/10/20 - 1/26/21
- Version 2.0 - 1/27/21 - 2/16/21
- Version 2.1 - 2/17/21 - 5/10/21
- Version 2.2 - 5/11/21 - 5/31/21
- Version 3.0 - 6/14/21 - Currently Active

This document aligns closely with and builds on two other documents:

- [Professional Disc Golf Association's Requirements and Best Practices for PDGA Sanctioned Play.](#)
- The Center of Disease Control's (CDC) "[Covid-19 Global Response and the Plan for Opening America.](#)"

## Phases of Event Status:

This document outlines 3 **Areas of Focus** and 3 **Phases of Event Status** during the return to competition. Each Area of Focus outlines the Requirements & Best Practices for each Phase of Event Status.

Phases are based on current guidance from State Governments and the CDC. This document identifies all phase 1, 2 & 3 requirements & best practices as they apply to the following Areas of Focus:

- Medical Requirements & Best Practices
- Travel Requirements & Best Practices

- Event Requirements & Best Practices

**PHASES:** After assessment of each event the program administrators will announce the phase that will be applied to the event. An event cannot be considered for a new phase unless it meets all the listed criteria. Once it meets the listed criteria, the program administrators will assess the current conditions in each locality before finalizing the Phase of the event.

- Phase 1: Gathering size limit of 10 people or less allowed in event locale, travel requirements achievable for majority of the field of competitors, event locale in at least CDC Phase 1 Guidelines.
- Phase 2: Gathering size limit of 50 people or less allowed in event locale, travel requirements achievable for majority of the field of competitors, event locale in at least CDC Phase 2 Guidelines.
- Phase 3: Gathering size limits over 1,000 or more allowed in event locale, travel requirements achievable for majority of the field of competitors, event locale in CDC Phase 3 Guidelines.

## Phase Announcement Policy

Due to the nature of uncertainty regarding predicting the progression of the COVID-19 pandemic, the following system of assessing event statuses and communicating with the public, event teams and competitors has been put in place:

- Phase 3 has been implemented for the remainder of the 2021 season, barring a significant shift in the status of the pandemic.
- In Phase 3, all Elite Series Events through 2021 are confirmed. This status could regress should the status of the COVID-19 pandemic change.
- All Elite Series events through 2021 are now considered in Phase 3 unless local regulations stipulate a stricter Phase designation.

The current 2021 Elite Series Tour Schedule, and current event statuses, can be found at: [DGPT 2021 SCHEDULE](#) or <https://www.pdga.com/elite-series>

## Definitions

The following terms are used in this document, and are defined as such:

- **Local Person:** A local person is anyone who enters the event site who resides in the state in which the event is being held.
- **Traveling Person:** A traveling person is anyone who enters the event site who resides in a state outside of the state that the event is being held in.

- **Touring Person:** A person who is either (a) living on the road, or (b) competing in three or more of the Elite Series events in 2021.
  - A list of touring competitors, media, and staff who intend on participating in a majority of the remaining 2021 Elite Series events will be maintained in order to streamline communication with touring competitors and implement COVID-19 tracking & tracing.
- **Best-Practice:** A guideline the policy administrators believe will help an individual and event.
- **Requirement:** A regulation the policies administrators will enforce.
- **Phase One:** An initial reopening phase which includes strict requirements and best practices to ensure the health and safety of event staff, players, and volunteers.  
**Phase Two:** A restricted operating phase where requirements begin to adjust as local state governments relax restrictions on gatherings based on medical guidance.  
**Phase Three:** A return to a new normal. The spread of COVID-19 has been stopped or mitigated to a point where things can begin operating in a capacity that is closer to normal.
- **Social Distancing:** At least 6 ft of space between individuals, the CP & BP program administrators recommend 12 ft of space when possible.
- **Protective Personal Equipment (PPE):** Consistent and correct use of face masks is a public health strategy critical to reducing respiratory transmission of SARS-CoV-2, particularly in light of estimates that approximately one half of new infections are transmitted by persons who have no symptoms.
- Any requirement or best practice identified with a \*\* was adapted in line with the [PDGA's Requirements and Best Practices for PDGA Sanctioned Play](#).

# Medical Requirements

## Overview:

The following requirements are in place to communicate what is expected and required of all event participants (players, staff, volunteers, media, and spectators) in order to participate in or attend Elite Series events at each of the three event phases. The Phase Overview for each event will provide specific information on all medical requirements as it applies to each event and the Phase it is in.

## Medical Requirements

### COVID-19 Testing Policy Overview

- Program administrators are committed to providing a testing policy that offers clarity and resources to all involved.
- Therefore, program administrators have laid out three approaches to testing:
  - SYMPTOM & CONTACT TESTING (Currently Active)
  - STATE MANDATED TESTING (Currently Active)
  - REQUIRED TESTING (Currently Inactive)

### COVID-19 Testing Requirements (Phase 1, 2 & 3)

- **COVID-19 Testing: *Symptoms & Contact (Active)***
  - All persons in attendance at an event site must show no symptoms of COVID-19.
  - All persons in attendance at an event site must not have been in contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19.
  - Those persons who wish to be in attendance, in any capacity, that exhibit symptoms or who have come into contact with a person with COVID-19 must quarantine appropriately before entering the event site or competing in the event.
  - All persons who have a positive test for COVID-19 must wait a minimum of 10 days before attending an Elite Series event.
  - The program administrators will provide a list of nearby urgent care and testing facilities in conjunction with national testing labs when each Event Phase Overview is issued two weeks before the start of the respective events.
  - Any costs incurred by competitors for needed COVID-19 testing will be reimbursed through the DGPT Reimbursement Program (email [seth@dgpt.com](mailto:seth@dgpt.com) for more information).
- **COVID-19 Testing: *State Mandated (Active)***
  - When visiting states that have mandatory quarantines or testing requirements to enter, the program administrators will put a testing program in place for all persons traveling to the event from places requiring testing or quarantine.
- **COVID-19 Testing: *Required (Not Active)***

- If widespread testing, provided by employers or organizations, becomes available and feasible to execute, program administrators may consider enacting a mandatory testing program depending on the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Positive COVID-19 Test:** Any player, volunteer, or staff member who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 10 days will not be allowed to attend or compete in an Elite Series event in [accordance with CDC recommendations](#).
  - Should a player test positive during an event, they will be required to DNF from the event.
  - Should a player test positive after a cut, they will receive last cash in the event.
- **COVID-19 Symptoms:** Players who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms must be tested at an approved testing facility, at the expense of the Tour organizer (DGPT or NT) and will not be allowed to compete in subsequent Elite events until a negative test result is provided.
- **Symptom Checks:** All persons entering an event site will need to affirm that they are free of COVID-19 symptoms, including signs and symptoms of respiratory illness. The program administrators reserve the right to implement temperature checks if it is deemed necessary to check for symptoms or if it is a local policy. Additionally, the CDC provides the following guidance on [Screening for COVID-19](#).
- **High-Risk Persons:** Anyone who is in a high-risk category is advised to consult with their physician about their personal risk situation.\*\*
- **Non-Compliance:** Persons who do not comply with the Elite Series COVID-19 requirements will be subject to PDGA discipline and risk suspension from continued participation in Elite Series events.

## Contact Tracing Requirements

The Contact Tracing program is suspended in Phase 3 for all **Touring Persons** (persons traveling to participate in 3 or more DGPT events).

## Travel Requirements & Best Practices

### Overview:

The following policies are in place to communicate what policies must be followed and what best practices are expected for all players, staff, media, volunteers and spectators traveling to Elite Series events from outside of the state they are held in. Program administrators will curate a Phase Overview for each event with the specific information on all travel policies as it applies to that event and event Phase.

### Travel Requirements:

- State Travel Policies & Requirements:
  - All competitors competing in an event in which they are traveling from outside of the state in which the event is held must follow all stated state and local

guidelines regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, including necessary quarantine and safety procedures.

- Program administrators will communicate with all out-of-state competitors who are attending an Elite Series event. Program administrators will ensure the following:
  - The player understands current state requirements and restrictions that may apply to them when entering the state.
  - The player agrees to follow all Elite Series & State requirements.
  - If the competitor fails to follow all of the state and Elite Series requirements regarding COVID-19, they will be disqualified from the event.
- Touring persons will not be subjected to restrictions applying to their home state, as they are moving with the flow of the tour, though they will be subjected to the requirements regarding any state that they have spent time in as it applies to State travel requirements.
- State travel requirement enforcement for touring competitors will be communicated by program administrators for touring competitors who are traveling from event to event with the flow of the Elite Series.
- All competitors must agree to follow any and all local guidelines for behavior and safety precautions.

## Travel Best Practices

### Phase 3 Travel Requirements & Best Practices:

- Phase 3 will allow for travel, however, all State and National Travel Requirements will be followed and enforced as listed above in the Travel Restrictions.

# Event Requirements & Best Practices

Overview: The following requirements & best practices apply to the event, the footprint of the event site, the course(s) used, the facilities, the supplies, and all the persons on the event site over the official duration of the event.

## Event Site Requirements

### Entry Protocols

- **Event Site Entry & Protocols**
  - Event Protocols are in place for all persons entering the event site and consist of the following:
    - **All Phases:** All persons must present their event ID badge (or provide ID and pick up their event badge).
    - **All Phases:** All persons must affirm that they have not had any symptoms of respiratory illness and that they have not been in contact with anyone with COVID-19 symptoms for the past ten days.

### Use of Personal Protective Equipment

- Program administrators will provide the following personal protective equipment (PPE) for all persons entering the event site during Phase 3:
  - Hand Sanitizer (available throughout the event site)
  - Face covering guidance based on local policy based on location of the event site.

### Severe Weather or other Stoppage of Play

- Phase 3: Follow standard event guidelines. Should there be a weather delay, players should take shelter immediately. Play will resume at a set time after the most recent weather threat has passed per PDGA policies.

### Course Closure

- Phase 3: Courses in public parks should do their best to make park goers aware of the event and should have a plan in place to keep them out of the field of play throughout the duration of the event.

### Spectators

- Phase 1: Spectators will not be allowed to attend PDGA Elite Series events.
- Phase 3: Spectators will be allowed in a limited capacity based on local guidelines and the ability of the event to manage those in attendance.

- **Limited Spectating Plan for Elite Series: Spectator Areas & Guided Groups**
  - All spectators must abide by official event site requirements.
  - Spectators must purchase tickets for the event prior to arrival. Only spectators with confirmed tickets will be allowed entry into the event.
  - Spectators may be asked to adhere to set arrival and departure times.
  - All Elite Series events will manage spectators in pods, guided by event staff or volunteers. Standard ratio is 1 staff/volunteer to 25 spectators. Spectators may purchase event tickets by selecting the pod they would like to be a part of. Pod examples include:
    - MPO Lead Card Pod #1
    - FPO Lead Card Pod #2
    - Spectator Area #1
    - Spectator Area #2
  - Ticket Sales may begin at any time prior to the event.

## Event Preparation & Competition

### Pre-Event Communication

- Program administrators will provide event registrants with up-to-date information regarding all current requirements of the government and the PDGA regarding COVID-19 at least a week prior to the event.\*\*
- The Disc Golf Pro Tour will host a regularly updated [COVID-19 Overview page](https://www.dgpt.com/about/covid-19-updates/) (https://www.dgpt.com/about/covid-19-updates/) for each event with the Phase listed and available information on COVID-19 requirements and regulations of the municipalities where events are played.\*\*
- A detailed video players meeting covering social distancing best practices, tee time best practices, scoring best practices, and course rules will be recorded and sent to players the week of the event.\*\*
- Tee Times will be released within 48 hours of the event.

## Competition Requirements & Best Practices

### Pre-Round Requirements

- Phase 3:
  - Pre-round requirements are subject to alteration depending on factors specific to each event site. Please refer to the official Event Phase Overview documents.

## Pre-Round Best Practices

- Teeing groups will be called to the starting hole 5 minutes prior to the start of the round for any pre-tee information. They will be made aware of and COVID-19 considerations for their round.
- Players are expected to bring their own water for the round as water stations may not be provided in an effort to reduce the number of contact points at the event.\*\*
  - When water stations are provided they will be in line with the PDGA COVID-19 best practices for water distribution.

## Competitor Travel/Support Staff

Many competitors travel or bring support staff with them to events to support their efforts. At all Elite Series events, pro competitors are allowed to bring one travel/support staff member with them. At phase 1 events, pros will need to register their staff member before the event on the COVID-19 Compliance Quiz and travel/support staff

## Caddies

- Phase 1: To reduce contact and the number of people on a hole at one time, caddies are prohibited.
- Phase 2 & 3: Caddies will be allowed.

## In-Round Requirements

- Phase 1
  - Players must maintain social distancing at all times throughout their round.
  - Players must wear their masks or face coverings when unable to abide by social distancing requirements.
- Phase 2 & 3:
  - Players may be in groups of four.
  - Players should maintain social distancing at all times throughout their round.
  - Players are suggested to wear their masks or face coverings when unable to abide by social distancing requirements.

## In-Round Best Practices

- Players should follow the [PDGA's Equipment Best Practices](#) throughout the round including marking discs, clearing discs from baskets, and disc sanitation.
- Hand Sanitizing stations will be available regularly throughout the course.

## Post & Between Round Best Practices

- Once a round is complete, players should verify with the scoring director the scores look correct online prior to leaving the course.

- Some events may offer spectating opportunities to competitors, staff, media, and volunteers. Those people may spectate based on each event's guidance.

## Course & Venue Best Practices

- Tournament staff should identify any spaces on the course or at the venue where social distancing may be difficult and develop a plan to ensure proper social distancing.
- Tournament staff should identify locations for staff, volunteer, and player parking that allows for sufficient social distancing.
- Three days prior to the event tournament staff should finalize round one tee times and assign volunteers.

## Pre-Round Best Practices

- Tournament staff should ensure the venue is sufficiently closed to and have volunteers in place to turn away any non-credentialed people who may attempt to attend.
- Tournament staff should have a plan in place should a volunteer choose not to attend or does not arrive for their assigned duties.

## In-Round Best Practices

- The venue and course should be designed to ensure social distancing can occur at all times.
- Tournament staff should do everything in their power to keep all individuals not associated with the event off the course during tournament rounds.

## Post & Between Round Best Practices

- Tournament staff should do everything in their power to ensure no one outside of the event accesses the course between rounds.

## Volunteers

- Volunteers must be registered to volunteer prior to the start of the event and have an assigned volunteer role.
- Volunteers who travel to the event from outside of the state must adhere to the Elite Series Event Travel requirements and guidelines in the same manner that traveling professionals do.
  - Volunteers from out of state are expected to follow all local guidelines.
- Volunteers are not permitted at the event if they have come into contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or have shown symptoms of COVID-19 in 14 days prior to the event.\*\*
- Volunteers should show up to the event location at the specified time communicated by the tournament director, not before, to help space out the arrival of volunteers.

- Volunteers should have minimal interaction with competitors and event staff.
- Volunteers will not be allowed to ask players for signatures or photos during the event.

## Staff & Volunteer Requirements & Best Practices

### Core Tournament Staff

Core Tournament Staff have the highest number of touchpoints during an event. As such, it is critical for them to promote and enforce all requirements and best practices in this document. Core Tournament Staff will be the leaders in making sure social distancing is taking place and is enforced throughout the event.

### Pre-Event Requirements

- All Event Site requirements apply to volunteers.
- All event staff and volunteers should be free of any COVID-19 related symptoms for at least 14 days prior to attendance.\*\*
- Anyone who is in a high-risk category is advised to consult with their physician about their personal risk situation. \*

### Pre-Event Best Practices

- All event staff and volunteers should make themselves familiar with local and state guidelines regarding COVID-19 prior to attendance.\*\*

### Pre-Round Requirements

- All Event Site requirements apply to volunteers.
- Staff will maintain proper social distancing and will increase hand washing and sanitation between interactions with volunteers and players at all times while on-site at events.\*\*
- Volunteers and Staff should avoid congregating in groups of more than six at all times and during any interaction maintain proper social distancing.\*\*

### Pre-Round Best Practices

- Once checked-in, volunteers should report to their assignment and continue to avoid contact as much as possible throughout their time at the event.

## In-Round Requirements & Best Practices

### Parking

- Staff & Volunteers assigned to parking should not approach an individual's vehicle but instead use proper social distancing when interacting with individuals in vehicles.

## Spectator Management:

- Phase 1:
  - Spectating is not allowed during Elite Series Events in Phase One.
  - Volunteers assigned to spectator management should be comfortable making sure spectators do not interfere with the event, but doing so in as cordial manner as possible.
  - Most phase one events will be taking place on private property so attendance of spectators at events will be considered trespassing.
- Phase 2
  - Spectators will be limited at Elite Series events in Phase Two.
  - Staff & Volunteers assigned to spectator management will ensure spectators maintain proper social distancing between themselves and players.
  - Spectators are required to wear face coverings while on the event site and social distancing is not possible.
- Phase 3
  - Spectators are allowed at events following standard event guidelines and policies.
  - Volunteers assigned to spectator management should ensure spectators are at least 50 ft away from players at all times.
  - Volunteers should also ensure spectators are quiet while play is in action by holding up quiet signs provided by event staff.

## Spotting

- Spotting is an important volunteer position at Elite Series Events. Spotters are expected to assist players in locating their discs but not make any official rulings.
- A spotter should keep a diligent watch of all discs being thrown and mark where a disc crosses OB lines or identify where the disc has landed depending on where the spotter is located.
- A spotter should never touch a player's disc.
- A spotter should maintain proper social distancing from players at all times.
- Spotters must follow all event site requirements, including wearing a face covering while communicating with competitors.

## UDisc Live Scoring

- Live Scorers should stand behind the players at a proper social distance at all times.
- Scorers should do their best not to interact with the players unless the players interact with them.
- If a scorer has a question about a score, they should wait until players are collecting scores on the next tee box to ask the card.

## Post & Between Round Best Practices

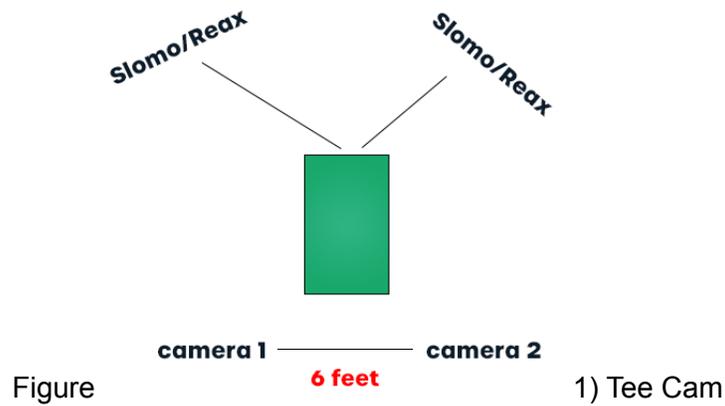
- Event Staff & Volunteers should leave the course as soon as their duties are completed for the day. If staff & volunteers wish to spectate and there are guidelines in place to allow them to do so responsibly, they may do so.
- Event Staff & Volunteers will adhere to the same Travel Guidelines players are expected to adhere to between event rounds.

## Media Requirements

The following requirements apply to all media teams and media personnel on site, including photographers, videographers, and other media members.

### Phase 1

- a. All camera people must have a mask on their person at all times while filming or shooting photography. They must wear a mask whenever within 50 ft of a teeing area, while shooting photo/video, or whenever they are not able to social distance.
- b. Each media group must adhere to the contact tracing requirements outlined within this document if they are touring.
- c. All camera people and photographers must maintain social distancing protocols with players and other media members.
- d. We understand that there will be situations where both camera crews will be able to follow social distancing protocols, but one angle will be better. In this situation, **live cameras get preference**, and the affected media partner has the right to all footage shot by the live camera.
- e. There will be a walkthrough with all media members 2 days before the event to establish places to stand.
- f. For the lead card, there is a maximum of **2** cameras per media crew (tee + slomo/reax) by the tee. Tee Cam operators must stand on opposite corners of the teepad. Reaction **OR** slomo cam must be in front of the teepad (see fig. 1)
- g. In tee areas where it is not possible to follow these guidelines (determined before the event), live cameras will shoot from the teepad and deliver footage to affected media partners.



- h. We ask that the CatchCams maintain social distancing measures by standing far enough behind the basket so that they can stay 6 feet apart. In situations where this isn't possible, we ask that that one CatchCam stay in front of the basket, in the rough, and pan towards the basket as the shot comes in. (See figure 2)

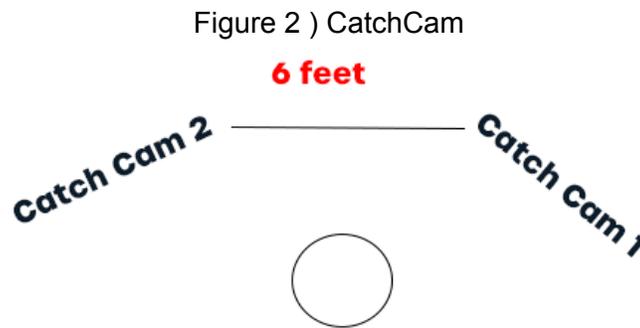
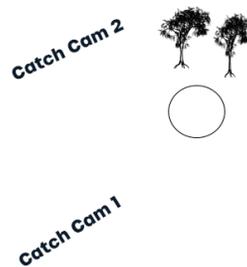


Figure 3 ) CatchCam, no space behind the basket



**Phase 2**

- a. When outside and where social distancing of 2 meters is not possible, all media members must wear a face covering.
- b. Social distancing requirements are the same in Phase 2 as in Phase 1.

### **Phase 3**

- a. All normal media procedures are followed.

## **Media Best Practices**

### **Phase 1**

- a. Program administrators encourage all media members to follow all CDC guidelines where applicable.
- b. Media groups should avoid going to restaurants and attempt to get food as few times as possible, limiting trips to grocery stores and not going into restaurants.
- c. While traveling, media groups should make limited stops (only when necessary) and should wash hands frequently.

### **Phase 2**

- a. Program administrators encourage all media members to follow all CDC guidelines where applicable. As guidelines relax, program administrators encourage media teams to continue social distance while not on the course, and to wear a facemask when possible.

### **Phase 3**

- a. All normal media procedures are followed.

## **Discipline**

In order to compete in PDGA Elite Series events, all competitors, staff, volunteers, media, and spectators must follow the requirements outlined in this document, which is built upon the [Requirements and Best Practices for PDGA-Sanctioned Play During COVID-19](#). Program administrators will follow the PDGA Disciplinary Policy when in violation of these requirements.