President’s Message

Everything revolves around protecting people. But even now, many of us remain just as confused as we were two weeks ago about how to function safely and effectively in these unprecedented times. The lobbying effort to keep golf open has been largely successful and it looks like, for the most part, golf course maintenance will remain an essential line of work in the Carolinas.

Your staff at the Carolinas GCSA has worked around the clock to keep you updated on all that's happening. It's a difficult task given that the situation is so fluid. At least for now, some counties and municipalities are acting with stricter regulation than the state. It's important to know that local government can always override state regulation with more penal restrictions but can never relax or reduce state regulations. If a municipality or county declares a State of Emergency, they essentially have unlimited power to do whatever is necessary to protect the community.

As we navigate through this, keeping golf open requires a large amount of responsibility on our part. Please recognize that and be sure you protect your staff by taking the proper precautions when it comes to safety and proper housekeeping. It is incredibly important to follow all CDC guidelines as well as any state or local regulations that are in effect in your community, especially those that refer to golf.

If we get lax or too comfortable with this situation, it could potentially come back to affect us all. In this current environment, golf isn't an entitlement, rather it is a privilege. Keeping people safe is your number one priority. That includes your staff, your members and customers.

Think outside the box and be creative in ways to protect the people that support your facility. The better we do, the faster we will return to "normal." If you need anything, the Carolinas GCSA is here to help you. Please don't hesitate to call or email if anything arises and remember, protecting people is the priority.

Take care of yourself and your family because in the end, that's what matters most.

Brian Stiehler, CGCS, MG
President, Carolinas GCSA