

# PACE OF PLAY POLICY

## DEFINITION OF OUT OF POSITION

A group not keeping with the pace of play shall be deemed **out of position** if it reaches any spot on the course as much as fifteen (15) minutes behind the preceding group. Always look ahead – not behind. The group behind you has no bearing on determining whether or not a player's pace of play is satisfactory.

## PACE OF PLAY AWARENESS GUIDE

Being aware of ***your position***. In the following situations ***your group may be in danger of being out of position if:***

- \* your group reaches the tee of a par 3 hole and the group ahead has finished the hole.
- \* your group fails to clear the tee of a par 4 hole prior to the group ahead finishing the hole.
- \* your group reaches the tee of a par 5 hole and the group ahead is on the putting green.
- \* your group is not within the times on score cards.
- \* players are exceeding the average 40 seconds per stroke. Time spent getting the distance, selecting a club, marking and cleaning the ball, and surveying the line of play is considered part of the 40 seconds if it is the player's turn to play.

***This is the time to let your group know the situation and to expedite play of the hole. If a player is concerned about a non-responsive (slow) player in her group, she should request a rules official to monitor the group.***

## MARSHALL'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- \* After 20-30 minutes of play, the Marshall travels from front to back of the field.
- \* When a group is deemed out of position (15 minutes behind the group in front), the Marshall shall politely alert the group accordingly **after** the group has completed play of the hole.
- \* The Marshall shall ask about any difficulties, delays, or situations beyond their control that caused the delay.
- \* The Marshall shall politely advise the group that they must regain their position within the next two holes/ play within the allotted time per hole.
- \* The Marshall shall move to the location on the course which represents completion of the two holes provided for the group to regain its position.
- \* If the group has not regained its position at the completion of two holes, the marshal shall begin the timing procedure after making the group aware of this action.

## **PACE OF PLAY POLICY (Continued)**

### **TIMING PROCEDURE**

- \* Each player of the group considered to be out of position will be timed beginning when it is her turn to play and she can play without interference by another person or ball.
- \* She shall be allowed an average of 40 seconds per stroke (excluding tap-ins) during the play of the hole. These 40 seconds includes the player getting the distance, selecting a club, marking and cleaning the ball, and executing the stroke.
- \* The player may be penalized for
  - a) exceeding the average amount of time for the total strokes played on a hole by more than 30 seconds **or**
  - b) if she uses more than seventy-five (75) seconds to play any one stroke.
- \* If a player **delays play between holes**, she is delaying play of the next hole and the penalty applies to that hole.
- \*\*\* When timing a player, if the marshal determines the player is unduly delaying play between strokes, the marshal may begin the timing process before the player reaches her ball.
- \*\*\* If a player's actions are continually delaying the play of others in her group, the actual time of delay shall be added to the time for **her** to play a hole.

### **PENALTY FOR BREACH OF PACE OF PLAY POLICY IN STROKE PLAY**

- \* 1<sup>st</sup> offense - Warning
- \* 2<sup>nd</sup> offense - 1 stroke penalty
- \* 3<sup>rd</sup> offense – 2 stroke penalty
- \* 4<sup>th</sup> offense – DQ for that round only

Review and application of the penalty will only occur after the round to avoid further delay of the group.