

At Least One Less Minute Per Hole

PACE OF PLAY TIPS . . . FOR ALL OF US

If each group could collectively shave at least one minute of time per hole we could all finish at least 18 minutes earlier. Pace of play starts with each individual player. Therefore, here are just a few of many helpful tips that can help reduce the time it takes to play a round of golf.

Best Tips for Good Pace of Play

- Know where your group is in relation to your time or the group in front of you.
- Address the scorecard at the next tee.
- First player to hole out proceeds to next tee and prepares for tee shot; second player to hole out proceeds to next tee to watch first player hit; third and fourth players hole out and take care of flagstick.
- Play ready golf throughout the entire round.
- If walking, walk like an athlete.
- If riding in a cart, be efficient in getting to your ball. Drop your partner off and go to your ball. Connect with your partner after you hit.

"In Position" Defined:

- "In position" group arrives at the par-3 tee which is clear to play, and players from the group in front are arriving at the next hole's tee box.
- "In position" group reaches the tee for a Par 4 hole and the group in front has cleared the tee shot landing area and are arriving at the green.
- "In position" group reaches the tee for a Par 5 hole and the group in front has cleared the tee shot landing area and are arriving at their second shots.

Hitting the ball . . .

- Get your yardage and be ready to play before it is your turn to play.
- If someone isn't ready to play, another player should play before them.
- When any shot heads toward rough, a water hazard or trees, all players should watch closely as to where the ball lands.

- If you think your ball might be lost outside a water hazard or out of bounds, play a provisional ball; it takes 30 seconds to play a provisional, but about 8 minutes to return to previous location and re-hit.

At the putting green . . .

- Place your golf bag or park your golf cart near the next teeing ground.
- Read your putt before it is your turn to play.
- Recognize when someone will need the flagstick attended or your ball marked.
- The first person to complete each hole should immediately go to the next tee and is expected to be the first person to tee off. The second person to finish should replace the flagstick.
- Enter scorecard information at the next tee.

"Out of Position" Defined:

- "Out of position" group arrives at the par-3 tee which is clear to play, and all players from the group ahead of them have played their tee shots from the next hole and have arrived at their second shots.
- "Out of position" group reaches the tee for a Par 4 hole and the green is clear.
- "Out of position" group reaches the tee for a Par 5 hole and the group in front has reached the green.

If your group falls out of position . . .

- If your group gets behind, take the steps necessary as a group to increase your pace.
- Voice the fact your group needs to pick-up the pace.
- Play with more urgency until your group get and maintain proper positioning.
- Address the scorecard at the next tee.
- First player to hole out proceeds to next tee and prepares for tee shot; second player to hole out proceeds to next tee to watch first player hit; third and fourth players hole out and take care of flagstick.

“One less minute per hole” is a good start and will make everyone’s round more enjoyable.