

PACE OF PLAY POLICY

Maximum Allowable Time

The maximum allowable time is the maximum time considered necessary by the Tournament Committee for a group to complete its round. This is expressed in a per-hole and aggregate time format and includes all time associated with playing the game, e.g., for rulings and walking times between holes. All players are required to play at no more than the maximum allowable time (Time Par) set out for the competition. The Time Par may or may not be printed on each players scorecard. The Time Par for the competition will be made available to all players in advance and in the Tournament Office. The following procedure applies only if a group is "out of position".

"Time per stroke" and "Timing Sequence" Defined

1. The maximum time allocated per stroke is 40 seconds. 10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player to play: a) a tee shot on a par 3 hole; b) an approach shot to the green; and c) a chip or putt.
2. The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach the ball, it is their turn to play, and they are able to play without interference or distraction. Time taken to determine distance and select a club will count as time taken for the next stroke.
3. Timings will be taken from the moment it is decided by the referee that it is the player's turn to play, and they are able to play without interference or distraction.

Definition of Out of Position

1. The first group to start will be considered "out of position" if, at any time during the round, the group's cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes played as detailed on the applicable competition's Pace of Play Time Chart (Time Par).
2. Any following group will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, they:
 - complete play of a hole in more time than the allotted time par being allotted to that hole **AND** are one full hole behind the group ahead
 - If a group is "out of position" more than once during a round, the below procedure will apply on each occasion. Bad times and the application of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the round is completed. A player will not be penalized if they have a second bad time before being advised of the earlier bad time.

Procedure When Group is Out of Position During Same Round

If a group is "out of position" more than once during a round, the below procedure will apply on each occasion. Bad times and the application of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the round is completed. A player will not be penalized if they have a second bad time before being advised of the earlier bad time.

Procedure with Tag Marshal

1. Pace of play will be monitored using TagMarshal and if any groups are out of position, Alberta Golf Staff will inform the TD and referees.
 - a. An assessment of whether there are any recent mitigating circumstances, e.g. a lengthy ruling, lost ball, unplayable ball, etc. will be made before deciding if the TD or referees should approach groups.
2. Referees or Alberta Golf Staff will approach the group or groups out of position, inform them they are behind and instruct the players to improve their pace.
3. Identified groups will be monitored with TagMarshal and/or by referees on course and if groups fail to improve their pace, Alberta Golf staff and/or referees will follow identified groups, on course, until they complete their current hole.
4. The group will then be told they are XX minutes behind and the time par for the next hole is XX.
 - a. If the group plays at or under time par for the hole, this process continues onto the next hole.
 - b. If the group is slower than time par for the hole, they will be placed on the clock for the next hole and will be issued a **Verbal Warning**.
5. If a group is placed on the clock and fails to play the next hole at or under time par, a 1 stroke penalty will be assessed to the entire group.
 - a. Referees and Alberta Golf staff can time individual players and players can be penalized individually if a determination is made that certain players in the group are taking more time than others.

6. If the group placed on the clock plays at time par and/or closes the gap, they will be removed from the timing procedure.

Individual Timing Procedures

Alberta Golf and the referees at any event have the right to time individual players of groups out of position to ensure all players are ensuring play without reasonable delay (Rule 5.6a). Alberta Golf will use Golf Canada's Individual Pace of Play Policy for individual timings, which can be found [here](#).

The timing procedure and criteria for individuals is as follows:

- The timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is his or her turn to play and he or she can play without interference or distraction. Any time spent determining yardages will count as time taken for the next stroke. On the putting green, timing will begin after a player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace his or her ball, repair damage and remove loose impediments.
- Any player in a group which is out of position shall be penalized under this policy if, during the round, he or she takes 40 seconds or more to make a stroke.
- An extra 10 seconds will be allowed for:
 - the first player to make a first stroke on a hole;
 - the first player to make a second stroke on a par-4 or par-5 hole;
 - the first player to make a third stroke on a par-5 hole; or
 - the first player to make a stroke on or around the putting green.

- If a group, which is out of position, regains its position, timing of players will cease. Timing may recommence if the group subsequently falls out of position, in which case any recorded timing exceeding 40 seconds anytime during the round will be carried over throughout the round. Such groups out of position will normally be notified of monitoring and timing.
- Unreasonable delay can also occur between strokes (such as walking too slowly) and between the play of two holes.
- A player being timed, who exceeds the applicable time to make a stroke, will be informed as soon as possible.

Penalty Appeals

Players are entitled to appeal penalties incurred during the stipulated round. Players must invoke their right to appeal before signing their scorecard in the scoring area. The Tournament Rules Committee, excluding the referee that gave the penalty, will review the penalty with the player and make a ruling. The final decision will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. Players may not appeal penalties for serious misconduct that result in disqualification.

Pace of Play Penalties

Modified Pace of Play Penalty Structure – Model Local Rule K-2. The following are the penalties for any player in a group being timed who exceeds the applicable time to play a stroke:

- Penalty for first breach:
Verbal warning.
- Penalty for second breach:
One-stroke penalty.
- Penalty for third breach:
General Penalty applied in addition to the penalty for the second breach.
- Penalty for fourth breach:
Disqualification.

