



Williamstown Golf Club

Pace of Play Policy

1. Introduction

This Policy is designed to ensure competition rounds are played at an appropriate pace. The Committee recognises that slow play can adversely impact on the level of enjoyment for our members. While the Rules of Golf do not include explicit time allowances for a round of golf, they do require players to “play without due delay” and make provision for Committees to adopt Pace of Play guidelines with sanctions for failure to comply.

2. Max Times

The starting interval between groups is ten minutes and all are expected to maintain this interval with the group ahead throughout the round. From time to time circumstances may cause the interval time to exceed ten minutes; however all efforts should be made to catch up with the group in front.

Max Times: 3 ball 3 hours 40 mins

3. Pace of Play Policy

1. All members of Williamstown are required to maintain their Proper Position on the golf course and to play without undue delay. Each group shall be considered to be in the Proper Position as long as it is on pace with the times outlined above, or if not, as long as it is directly behind the group in front of them.

2. If a group is not Keeping Pace with the group ahead, it is expected that they will play Ready Golf until they have caught up with the group ahead.

3. The Committee will monitor the pace of play on the course. The Committee has the authority to ask slower moving groups to stand aside to allow faster moving groups through. Any player(s) that refuses to allow a group through after being directed by a member of the Competition Committee will receive a penalty of: 2pts (Stableford), 2 Strokes (Medal Play). Further Breaches: **Disqualification** Rule 5.6b

4. Sanctions

1. The automatic sanction shall be the removal of the member’s playing rights from the next available competition, effective 7 days from the date of the offence giving rise to the sanction.

5. Appendix

Ready Golf

Quite simply, Ready Golf is a common sense approach to play the ball when ready:

- Dismiss all honours
- Don’t wait for others before approaching the tee and hitting;
- Proceed to your ball as quickly as possible

- Play the ball as soon as it is safe to do so. Each player should play when ready, as long as doing so will not interfere with others, especially on the tee. Shorter hitters can often hit first on the tee

Guidelines to Members on how to Increase the Pace of Play

Arrive on Time – Arrive 15 minutes early and be ready to play 5 minutes before tee time.

Keep Up – One's place on the golf course is immediately behind the players in front, not in front of the players behind! This is the responsibility of each player.

Use your Rear View Mirrors – if your group is consistently holding up a group behind move on smartly or let them through.

Provisionals - If there is a possibility of your ball being lost or out of bounds, immediately play a provisional.

Start the Clock - after three minutes looking for a lost ball, under the rules of golf, the ball is lost! Once you commence searching, start the clock!

Next Tee - when you arrive at a green, place your golf bag on way to the next tee. Mark score on the tee while others are teeing off. Let shorter hitters go first.

Move On – don't practice missed putts while others are waiting! No fishing for golf balls!

Be Ready - When it's your turn, have a selected club in your hand or have read that putt - be ready. Putt out whenever possible.

Play Away - Except in match play, don't always wait on others – if sensible and agreeable to your partners, play away.

Pick Up – If you have used up your quota or can't improve on your partner's score pick up!