

## **PACE OF PLAY POLICY**

## **Maximum Allowable Time**

The Committee at each competition will determine the maximum allowable time each group is permitted to play the round and each hole. This time will be posted on each player's scorecard, and each player and group is expected to maintain a pace that is faster than the maximum allowable time. A hole ends in stroke play when all players have holed out, and in match play, when all players hole out or the result of the hole is decided.

## In Position

Groups are expected to remain in position throughout the round. Being in position means:

- Reaching the teeing area of a par-3 before the group ahead has teed off on the next hole.
- Reaching the teeing area of a par-4 before the group ahead leaves the putting green of that hole.
- Reaching the teeing area of a par-5 before the group ahead gets to the putting green of that hole.

## Warnings, Checkpoints, & Penalties

If a group is over its maximum allowable time <u>and</u> out of position, a NCGA/SCGA official may issue the group a warning and provide a checkpoint by when the group must regain its position (e.g., within the next two or three holes). If a group receives a warning, it will be monitored by a NCGA/SCGA official to observe its pace of play.

- If a group <u>successfully regains its position</u> by the established checkpoint, there will be no penalty to any player. If the group falls out of position again later in the round, a NCGA/SCGA official may provide another checkpoint by when the group must be in position.
- If a group <u>fails to regain its position</u> by an established checkpoint, all players in the group will be informed that the checkpoint was missed and that one or more players in the group will be liable to receive a one-stroke penalty. The NCGA/SCGA official will then provide another checkpoint by when the group must regain its position. If the group <u>fails to regain its position</u> a second time, one or more players in the group will be liable to receive the general penalty (loss of hole in match play or two penalty strokes in stroke play).

If the Committee identifies that a player (or players) in the group is the cause of the group failing to maintain pace of play and determines other players are playing within the requirements of this policy, those meeting the requirements of this policy may be absolved from penalty while others may not.