



Women's Public Links Golf Association of Southern California
2024 Team Play Competition

PACE OF PLAY POLICY & BEST PRACTICES

The WPLGASC Team Play Committee is responsible for ensuring all Team Play matches are played at a prompt pace of play. To that end, the following Pace of Play Policy is in effect for all Team Play matches. Players should play at an efficient speed during all Team Play matches to ensure Pace of Play standards are met. Players are encouraged to use the recommended “best practices” to have a positive impact on speed of play.

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TIME

Maximum Allowable Time is the MAXIMUM time deemed necessary by the Team Play Committee for a match to complete its stipulated round. Four-ball matches are expected to be played in not more than 4 hours and 30 minutes for an

18-hole match. This pace is expressed in an aggregate time. To ensure your match is in or ahead of position, divide the allotted 4 hours and 30 minutes into three 1.5 hours segments for each 6 holes played.

- A match's Maximum Allowable Time begins at its assigned tee time, or if the tee time is delayed, at the adjusted tee time.
- Time associated with playing the game, e.g., for rulings and riding or walking time between holes, is included in the maximum allowable time.
- A player is permitted a maximum of 40 seconds to play a stroke. This 40-second time limit includes the first player to play from the teeing ground, fairway or on the putting green.

DEFINITION OF “OUT OF POSITION”

A match is out of position when it takes more than the Maximum Allowable Time to finish a hole and:

- a. Reaches a par-3 that is clear of play and all players in the match ahead have played from the next tee.
- b. Reaches a par-4 that becomes clear of play before any player plays a stroke from the teeing area.
- c. Reaches a par-5 after any player in the match ahead has made a stroke on the putting green.

Note: If a ruling (e.g. ball search) or some other good reason (e.g. cart breaks down) delays play of a match and it becomes out of position, that match is expected to regain its position to avoid penalty.

WHO IS AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE A PACE OF PLAY WARNING:

To enforce Pace of Play, any group that exceeds its Maximum Allowable Time may be warned by Golf Course personnel or any member of any Team on the course, based on the “definition of out of position” as outlined above. To avoid penalty, all players must take immediate measures to regain their position with the group in front of them, or if the first match, based solely on the Maximum Allowable Time allotted. A first occurrence will be considered a “Warning to the Side” as stated in the Pace of Play penalty structure.

PACE OF PLAY PENALTIES – FOUR-BALL

The following is the penalty structure, in sequence for sides who receive a warning(s).

- 1st occurrence by either player on the side – Warning to the side(s)
- 2nd occurrence by either player on the side – The side loses the hole
- 3rd occurrence by either player on the side – The side is disqualified

If a match is out of position and regains its proper position, any previous “warnings” will be carried forward through the remainder of that match.

Note: The Team Play Committee will consider all complaints and warnings issued regarding Pace of Play and will apply penalties as warranted. A side or both sides could be disqualified from the match for violations of Rule 5.6b. Captains may be required to not field players whom there have been valid Pace of Play complaints.

The WPLGASC Team Play Committee will be responsible for the review of all Pace of Play matters.

UNREASONABLE DELAY

In addition to the foregoing, if a player unreasonably delays play, they may be subject to penalty as outlined in Rule 5.6a. If the Team Play Committee determines that a player's slow play amounts to serious misconduct, a penalty of disqualification may be imposed in the first instance. (Rule 1.2a.) Penalties for unreasonable delay are independent of penalties issued under the above Pace of Play policy (Rule 5.6a).

PACE OF PLAY BEST PRACTICES:

- You must always be ready to play as soon as it is your turn.
- In the interest of saving time, invite your opponent to play first. This must be agreed upon for each stroke played out of turn. A stroke cannot be recalled in this instance. Rule 6.4a(2) Exception
- Avoid needless or lengthy discussion between partners.
- Concessions are a part of match play and conceding short putts, in most circumstances, will improve pace of play. Staying focused saves time and will help with the Pace of Play.
- If your score will not be used, pick up and move on. Do not putt out.
- If both players on a side have had trouble and it is obvious that they will lose the hole, that side should concede the hole. All players should pick up their balls and move to the next tee.
- When falling behind (e.g.: over the allotted time for your 6 holes/1.5 hours and "out of position"), a match may use the following option, but at least one player must make a stroke to begin the hole. Rule 3.2a(2)
 - a. Both sides agree to treat the hole as tied and halve the hole
 - b. However, one player from a side must tee off to start the hole
 - c. The hole is treated as halved (tied).
 - d. Pick up any balls played and move to the next tee.
 - e. Both gross and net hole points are halved, no matter strokes.
 - f. Record ½ point gross and ½ point net for both sides for the hole.
 - g. For score posting purposes on the hole:
 - For any player who has started the hole, record their most likely score or Net Double Bogey, whichever is lower. This score must be preceded by an X.
 - Players who have not started the hole should leave that hole blank on the scorecard, and when posting their score using GHIN, select hole-by-hole posting and then "10-17 Holes" played, leaving that hole score blank. Rule 3.2b
 - h. The above procedure may be done multiple holes to regain position with the match in front of you.
 - i. When your match is in position continue play, focusing on efficient use of time for the remainder of play.
- If a match is over their Maximum Allowable Time and has fallen more than one hole behind the players in the match ahead, you may be told to pick up and move on. If your group is required to skip a hole to get back into position, if balls have been played, pick up the balls in play and skip that hole. If play of a hole has not started, skip that hole. The result is a Loss of Hole Penalty to each side and no points are awarded for that hole for either team. Golf Course Personnel or a Member of another Match on the course may tell you to do this.
- For all holes conceded, use the Rules of Handicapping 3.2 and 3.3 to determine what score to record.

Direct all Questions regarding Pace of Play Policy to the Team Play Committee

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All decisions of the WPLGASC Team Play Committee will be final and will be communicated to the Team Captains involved.