



## Amateur Championships Pace of Play Policy - Rule 5.6b

### (a) Time Allowed:

Each hole has been given a maximum completion time based upon the length and difficulty of the hole. The maximum time allotted for the completion of 18 holes will be available prior to play.

### Definition of "Out of Position"

A group is out of position when it has completed play of a hole (meaning that the ball of the last player in the group to hole out has been removed from the hole) later than the maximum allowable time given (see time chart) and it has not maintained the starting interval with the group ahead of it.

While the above is the strict definition, for additional guidance on whether a group is maintaining its position on the group in front, it will not be doing so if it:

- a) Reaches a par-3 hole that is clear of play and all players in the group in front of them have played their strokes from the teeing area of the next hole
- b) Reaches a par-4 or par-5 hole that is not clear of play but that becomes clear of play before all players in the group have played their strokes from the teeing area.
- c) Reaches a par-4 or par-5 hole that is clear of play.

Note: If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs that causes the group in question to be out of position, that group is expected to regain its position within a reasonable time.

Players are both allowed and encouraged to play out of turn ("Ready Golf") in a safe and responsible way under Rule 6.4b(2) at any time but especially when their group is out of position.

### (b) Procedure When Group is Out of Position:

1. If a group is out of position it will be given an official warning to speed up play.
2. If the group does not get back into position and a decision is taken to time the group, each player in the group will be subject to individual timing by a referee. Each player in the group will be advised that they are "out of position" and are being timed.
3. The maximum time allocated per shot is 40 seconds. 10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player to play:
  - a stroke on a par three hole;
  - a second stroke on a par 4 or par 5 hole;
  - a third stroke on a par 5 hole;
  - a stroke from around the putting green; and
  - a stroke from on the putting green.

The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach their ball, it is their turn to play and they are able to play without interference or distraction.

On the putting green, timing will start when the player has had a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace their ball, repair damage and move loose impediments on their line of play. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball and aligning the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

4. Timing ceases when a group is back in position and players will be advised accordingly.

**Note:** In some circumstances, an individual player, or two players within a group of three, may be timed instead of the entire group.

### PENALTY FOR BREACH OF POLICY:

"Bad times" are carried through an entire stroke play championship. For example, a player who gets a bad time in Round 1 (a warning) will get one penalty stroke if they get a second bad time either later in Round 1 or during any subsequent round of the championship. In match play, bad times only apply to a specific match, whether 18 holes or 36 holes.

1 Bad Time	Player will be warned by the referee and told that if they have a further bad time they will be penalised	
	<u>Stroke Play</u>	<u>Match Play</u>
2 Bad Times	One stroke penalty	One stroke penalty
3 Bad Times	Additional two penalty strokes	Loss of Hole
4 Bad Times	Disqualification	Disqualification

### (c) Excessive Shot Time:

At any time, if any player is observed by a referee taking more than 120 seconds to play a shot, they will be notified of the excessive shot time and given an official warning to speed up play. The player will also be advised that the Committee may start individual timing at any time, even if the group is not out of position.