

## PACE OF PLAY MEMORANDUM TO PLAYERS

Rule 6-7 states, in part: "The player must play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines that the Committee may establish. Between completion of a hole and playing from the next teeing ground, the player must not unduly delay play." The Committee has established the following guidelines as a condition under which all MSGA-WD competitions are to be played.

### Definition of "Out of Position"

The first group to start will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, the group is behind the prescribed schedule as detailed on the score card for that round in stroke play, or behind the time prescribed here for match play: the time limit for each four-ball match will be 17 minutes to play par 5's, 15 minutes for par 4's, and 13 minutes for par 3's, and for each singles match will be 14 minutes to play par 5's, 12 minutes for par 4's, and 10 minutes for par 3's. In both match and stroke play, any following group will be considered out of position if it completes play of a hole (replaces the flagstick) later than the maximum allowable time and: a) reaches a par-3 hole and the preceding group have played their strokes from the teeing ground of the next hole; b) reaches a par-4 or par-5 hole which is not clear of all play but which becomes clear of all play before all players in the group have played all of their strokes from the teeing ground; or c) reaches a par-4 or par-5 hole which is clear of all play.

### Notification

If a group is out of position, the players in that group may be monitored and timed for failing to comply with this pace of play guideline. **A member of the Committee will notify a group if it is to be monitored and timed.** This notification will be made after all players have left the putting green and before any player plays from the next teeing ground.

### Timing and Penalties

**When a group is being monitored and timed, each player in the group is expected to play any stroke within 40 seconds after timing of the player's stroke begins.** Other than on the putting green, the timing of the player's stroke will begin when she has had a reasonable opportunity to reach her ball, it is her turn to play and she can play without interference or distraction. Time spent determining yardage 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 her ball, repair ball marks on her line of putt and remove loose impediments on her line of putt. Time spent looking at the line of putt from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as time taken for the next stroke.

**Note: The Committee reserves the right, at any time, to time a group when the Committee deems it necessary. Players should also be aware that the Committee may assess a "bad time" to a player in a group which is out of position if the player makes no effort to help her group get back in position. An example of this would be a player who unduly delays play between shots.**

The following are the penalties for any player in a group being timed who takes more than the allotted time to play a stroke after timing of the player's stroke begins:

Match Play: 1<sup>st</sup> offense – loss of hole; 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – loss of hole; subsequent offense – disqualification (applicable to the side in four-ball match play);

Stroke Play: 1<sup>st</sup> offense – one stroke; 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – two strokes; subsequent offense – disqualification (applicable to the side in four-ball stroke play).

**If a group that has been timed regains its proper position, any previous offenses will be carried over for the remainder of the round in the event that the group requires additional timing.**

If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs and causes a group to lose its position, that group is expected to regain its position within a reasonable time.

In match play, in the absence of an MSGA-WD Rules Official, a side may make a timely claim if they feel that this pace of play is not being maintained by their opponents.