

KEEPING PACE OF PLAY

In the interest of all members of ILGC the following is an initiative to ensure competitive rounds are played in an appropriate length of time to make golf more enjoyable for everyone by:

- Ensuring players Keep Pace with the group ahead
- Aiming to complete 18 hole competition time for 4 players within 4 hours
- Encouraging Ready Golf standards
- Highlighting Time Saving Hints
- Monitoring pace of play

KEEP PACE

In order for this to be successful each foursome **must** Keep Pace with the group ahead. Too often groups focus on the group behind and regularly comment "We weren't slow...the group behind weren't pushing us!"

Instead the group should be thinking - Keep Pace with the **group ahead**.

1. Target Time - 4 hours or less

It is expected that all competition rounds be completed within 4 hours. 2 hours for the first 9 and 2 hours for the second 9 holes.



The responsibility lies with the first groups teeing off to ensure they "lead" at a suitable pace to achieve the Target Time of 4 hours.

MiScore will keep a track of your times as you play. If time is shown as a negative- it means your time is behind the expected pace of play. The total time for the round is shown when you have completed your round and submitted your scores.

From time-to-time circumstances may negatively influence the time taken; yet all efforts should be made to meet the expected Target Time.

2. Ready Golf

Parts of golf etiquette deal with the order of play. Under the Rules of Golf the order of play is determined by handicap on the first tee and, by score of the previous hole on every tee thereafter. During a hole, the player farthest from the flag has the 'honour' of playing next.

This must be adhered to for Match Play.

For other competitions such as Stroke Play, Stableford, Par, each group is requested to play **Ready Golf**.

According to the R&A <https://www.randa.org/en/players-rule-finder/players-rule-finder/teeing-area/order-of-play/ready-golf>

"In stroke play, you are both allowed and encouraged to play out of turn in a safe and responsible way, such as when:

- You agree with another player to do so for convenience or to save time,
- Your ball comes to rest a very short distance from the hole and you wish to hole out, or

- You are ready and able to play before another player whose turn it is to play under the normal order of play, so long as in playing out of turn you do not endanger, distract or interfere with any other player.

But if the player whose turn it is to play is ready and able to play and indicates that they want to play first, you should generally wait until that player has played.”
[\(Related rule 6.4b\(2\)\)](#)

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.

Timesaver Hints

- Always be ready to hit.
- Proceed briskly to your own ball.
- Plan your shot and select your club when approaching your ball.
- Only take 1 practice swing, and get set while others are hitting.
- When in doubt, hit a provisional ball.
- Know the Rules of Golf, especially those pertaining to out of bounds, penalty areas, and lost balls.
- Don't waste time.
- Count strokes and write down your score after you get to the next tee, preferably after you have teed off.
- Don't leave your bag in front of the green. Leave it at least pin high off to the side.
- Carry extra tees and ball markers in your pocket.
- Encourage players on incorrect fairways to play through.

On the Tee.

- The first player ready to hit should do so.
- All players should watch other players' shots to help pinpoint where the ball comes to rest.

On the Green.

- Park your clubs beside the green in line with the next tee.
- Line up your putt before it is your turn.
- Follow continuous putting rules until holed out, unless restricted by other player's line.
- The first person that putts out should tend and replace the pin for other players.

3. Monitor

The Committee member in your group (or the player with the most experience) has a responsibility to ensure the group is maintaining a good pace of play. However do not abandon your own efforts to encourage steady play.

At times the Committee member or the Captain may have a word with you about your pace. Please accept this in good grace and take on board any comments or suggestions that are made.

If you feel that there have been unresolved problems regarding the pace of play in your group please see the Captain or another member of the Match Committee.