

Date: September 24, 2008

Subject: Pace of Play

Pace of play is very important in our tournaments and we need to be able to finish our tournaments in 4 ½ hours or less. We have permission to release the morning at 7:50 and the afternoon at 12:50. I have asked all the tournament managers to have their meeting in time to get the players out on time. We will institute a 4 ½ hour time limit on both the morning and afternoon tournaments. That means if we start on time the A groups in the morning will have to be done by 12:30 PM and the B tee groups by 12:40 PM. The same is true of the afternoon. We will have Men's Club members serving as marshals during the tournaments to ensure the tournament is moving along.

But to get both tournaments in (especially when we have frost delays) we need to play at a good pace. I am not asking anyone to rush their shots or putts, but there are some simple things we can do to increase the pace of play.

1. Where possible, park the carts at the back of the green. This may seem like a small thing but it can shave 5 to 10 minutes per round for the entire field.
2. Play ready golf. Be ready to play your shot when the green is clear. Each player should be at their ball with the proper club so they can be ready when it's their turn to play. Don't drive to one ball and sit in the cart until the green in front of you is clear. Go to your ball and get your yardage and the club you need and be ready to play when it's your turn. When you are on the green, get your line while others are getting ready to putt. Be ready to putt when it's your turn.
3. If a player hits a ball in a bush please don't have the entire foursome looking for the ball for 5 minutes. Two players should play their ball and the other two can search for the lost ball. If a ball is hit in the water, don't spend time fishing for balls for several minutes. If you can't find your ball right away, move on. Please don't spend an unreasonable amount of time looking for a ball.
4. When you are on the green, if a player is hitting out of the trap or has had to pitch up from 20 or 30 yards off the green and they would be the first to putt, have someone else putt while he is walking up or raking the trap or one of the other players can rake the trap while that person putts.

If we all do these simple things there should be no reason we can't finish a tournament in 4 hours 30 minutes. If pace of play is a problem this year, we will have to put penalties in place for slow play.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation

Dan Gerbus
Tournament Director