



Pace of Play Policy

Maintaining an acceptable pace of play is essential for an enjoyable experience for all members, guests and visitors (players). Players must be able to experience a round of golf that flows and does not involve constant waiting.

Rule 5 of the Rules of Golf notes that players are expected to play continuously and at a prompt pace during each hole until the round is completed.

Further, when it is a player's turn to play, it is recommended that they make the stroke in no more than 40 seconds, and usually more quickly than that.

In addition, the rule provides that IGC should adopt a local rule setting a Pace of Play Policy which sets a maximum time to complete a round, and it may set penalties for not following the Policy.

POLICY

At IGC good golf is to be played at a prompt pace.

Each player must recognise that their pace of play affects how long it will take other players to play their rounds, including both those in the player's own group and those in following groups.

It is an obligation of all players in a group to know their position in relation to other groups in the field and to make a genuine effort to play at a pace of play that does not unreasonably delay the play of, or the enjoyment of, a round for their own or following groups on the course.

Pace of play requirements are:

- Groups are required to comply with the Pace of Play Guidelines;
- Groups are required to keep up with the group ahead;
- Groups that fall behind and are incapable of closing the gap between themselves and the group ahead are required to call faster moving groups through at the earliest appropriate time while ensuring the safety of all players; and
- Notwithstanding the above, for regular competition and social rounds:
 - the predominant requirement of this policy is that a group must finish their round no more than 15 minutes after the group immediately ahead; and
 - a 4 person group is required to complete an 18-hole round in no more than 4 hours 15 minutes, inclusive of any break mid-round, except that
 - where there is no group immediately ahead, a 4 person group is required to complete an 18-hole round in no more than 4 hours 5 minutes, inclusive of any break mid-round.
- For match play rounds of Honour Board or other major trophy events:
 - the predominant requirement of this policy is that players should make their stroke in no more than 40 seconds after it is their turn to play as per the Rules of Golf, and
 - a group must not fall one clear hole behind the group immediately ahead, while

- a 2 person group is required to complete their first 9 holes in less than 1 hour 55 minutes and their 18-hole round in no more than 4 hours, inclusive of any break mid-round break, and
- a 4 person group is required to complete their first 9 holes in less than 2 hours and their 18-hole round in no more than 4 hours 5 minutes, inclusive of any break mid-round break.
- For regular competition and social rounds, the first group and any subsequent groups in a field which completes an 18-hole round :
 - Where there is a group immediately ahead, more than 15 minutes behind the group immediately ahead and has a round time in excess 4 hours 15 minutes , or
 - Where there is no group immediately ahead, with a round time in excess 4 hours 5 minutes

may be considered to be in contravention of this Policy.

- For match play rounds of Honour Board or other major trophy events, where a group:
 - falls one clear hole behind the group immediately ahead and fails to make up the lost hole within a further two holes, or
 - fails to complete their first 9 holes in less than the time allowed, then

Golf Operations Staff (including the Course Marshall) or, where there is a Referee, the Referee, may advise the group that they are “behind time” and that penalties may apply for further slow play.

- Where a group has received advice that they are behind time, Golf Operations Staff (including the Course Marshall) or the Referee, may continue to observe the group’s play and may impose a Penalty against a player who persistently fails to make their stroke in less than 40 seconds after it is their turn to play. The Penalty will be the Loss of the Hole on which the group is playing when the Penalty is imposed.

Golf Operations staff (including the Course Marshall) will monitor pace of play during rounds. All players must comply with directions from Golf Operations Staff relating to pace of play.

The Golf Operations Manager and Club Captain will also monitor pace of play data for completed rounds for all groups using the MiScore app to identify players who consistently breach this Policy.

Players who breach this Policy:

- May be subject to Penalties as outlined in the Rules of Golf during a round, or
- May be subject to disciplinary action including suspension or amendment of Playing Privileges in accordance with the IGC Constitution and Member Code of Conduct Policy for consistent breaches.

Version Record:

Version	Board Approval Date	Version Change Description
1	2020	Initial approval
2	24/06/2025	Update to Policy and introduction of Pace of Play Guidelines
3	23/10/2025	Update Policy to cover match play