

2009 PACE OF PLAY PROCEDURE

During the past couple years your Directors have sent out reminders, suggestions, hints, etc., to all Members in an effort to get our tournament play in the 4.5 to 5 hour range. During this time, our efforts have been passive, with no penalties imposed for excessive slow play.

Courses in the greater Austin area are becoming less tolerant of league play exceeding 4.5 hours. They have indicated that future league play on their course will, in part, be granted based on our compliance with their Pace of Play requirements.

It's time for CTGA to take the initiative to become the Pace of Play pacesetter for Austin golf leagues. At our annual meeting on October 4, CTGA Members have given our Directors the approval to develop and implement this new procedure to prevent "Undue Slow Play".

Our 2009 Pace of Play Initiative will be fair and consistent for all Members. Here's how it works:

1. An acceptable maximum play time for each course we play will be set and announced to all Members prior to that tournament;
2. The expected maximum play time for each course will be determined by:
 - a. Course Slope and Rating;
 - b. Yardages we'll be playing
 - c. Assumed course difficulty based on CTGA prior experience.
3. The golf course management will be asked to instruct their course marshals to help us maintain our Pace of Play as follows:
 - a. The lead 4-some of our tournament will be the Pace Setters;
 - b. This 4-some will be expected to maintain a Pace of Play equal to our expected time or not more than one hole distance behind the group in front, whichever is less;
 - c. All CTGA 4-somes that follow will be expected to maintain the same Pace of Play throughout their round;
 - d. Should a 4-some fall more than a full hole behind the group in front, they will be expected to close the gap within the next 3 holes;
 - e. Failure to catch up within 3 holes will warrant the course Marshal to issue a warning that the gap must be closed within the next 2 holes. This now gives the 4-some a total of 5 holes to catch up;
 - f. Failure to comply after 5 holes will require the course Marshal to note your position at that time which, in turn, will result in an "Undue Slow Play" penalty consistent with Rule 6-7 of the USGA Rules of Golf;
 - g. If a penalty is imposed on the 4-some, they will have the opportunity to appeal the penalty to the Director in charge on an individual basis.

We have designed a Pace of Play **Time Tracker** for 4-somes to use as a guide at each course we play. It's simple and requires very little time to complete to track your time on the course. This is an optional task but one we feel will help keep us on pace. If an Undue Slow Play penalty is imposed on the 4-some and they did not use the Time Tracker, no individual appeal will be granted.

The intent of this procedure is not to have our Directors police and penalize. It is, however, designed to put accountability on all CTGA Members and their invited guests to stay focused on the CTGA Pace of Play expectations, work as a team to ensure we meet these expectations, and finally, be held accountable for excessive "Undue Slow Play".