



2026 Pace of Play Policy – Zone 5 Women

The rules of golf state that a player must not unreasonably delay play when playing a hole or between two holes rules (5.6 a). Rule 5.6 B (3) states, in part: **“To encourage and enforce prompt pace of play”** the Tournament Rules Committee (Tournament Rules Chair and Zone 5 Tournament Director) should adopt a local rule setting a pace of play policy. This policy may set a maximum time to complete around, a hole or series of holes and a stroke, and it may set penalties for not following the policy. In accordance with rule 5.6 B (3), BC golf zone 5 women have adopted the following pace of play policy.

ALLOTTED TIME:

Unless otherwise specifically stated each group is allotted **4 hours and 30 minutes** to complete a round regardless of the course being played. This allows for an average allotted time par of **15 minutes per hole**. An exception will be granted when lead groups are delayed by club members or green fee players playing ahead of the competition.

Note: in the event of a split tee-draw (starting on both holes #1 and #10), the first group to start off each tee (#1 and #10) or the first following a Starters Time becomes a “following group” when they are delayed at any time by the last group to start from the opposite tee or the last group before a Starter’s Time.

“OUT OF POSITION” DEFINED:

- First Group: The first group to start or the first group after a Starter’s Time will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, it exceeds the cumulative allotted Time Par of 15 minutes per hole.
- Following Groups: Any subsequent or following groups will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round it:
 - Exceeds the cumulative allotted Time Par of 15 minutes per hole, **AND**
 - Arrives at a par 3 hole that is open and free of play, or
 - Arrives at a par 4 hole and **at least one player** has not played a stroke from the teeing area before that hole is open and free of play, or
 - Arrives at a par 5 hole and **all players** have not made a stroke from the teeing area before the hole is open and free of play.
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PENALTIES: During around, if a group is **out of position** as defined above, all players in the group are subject to the following penalties:

- **1st Breach** – verbal warning
- **2nd Breach** – one stroke penalty
- **3rd Breach** – two stroke penalty
- **4th Breach** – disqualification

The tournament Rules Committee reserves the right to time a group if it considers that a player or players in the group are unreasonably slow and delaying play. The group will be notified that it is being timed. A referee will monitor and record a “bad time” if any player takes more than 40 seconds to make a stroke after they are able to play without interference or distraction. For any such bad times, penalties will apply to the player and not the group.

APPEALS: Any appeals must be made to the tournament Rules Committee immediately following the completion of play. The tournament Rules Committee may waive or reduce any penalties only when the group was delayed by the committee, or the group was delayed by a circumstance beyond the control of a group or a player in the group. Note: the decision of the tournament Rules Committee shall be final.

June 9, 2026