



**2019 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**Player Pace of Play Information (Updated April 1, 2019)**

In an effort to address slow play, the NCAA has adopted a group pace of play policy for the NCAA Division I Women's Golf Regionals and Championships. This policy monitors each group as they complete each of the four checkpoints. The NCAA Division I Women's Golf Committee believes that this pace of play policy will have a positive result in reducing the length of rounds. The following items are to help players and coaches better understand and adapt to the policy.

- Each group will be given fixed amount of time in which to play four or five holes within each of the four checkpoints. Times will be reflected on the scorecards. Each group will be required to complete each checkpoint hole based on the allocated time or within 14 minutes of the group ahead.
- Checkpoints will normally be located at the 4<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> putting greens. A checkpoint will be considered missed if the hole is not completed (flagstick in the hole or if the flagstick is left in the hole to putt, when the last player in the group removes her golf ball) within the allocated cumulative time and the group has not completed the hole within 14 minutes of the ground ahead. If a group misses a checkpoint all players within the group will be informed by the checkpoint official as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> missed checkpoint – \*warning
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> missing checkpoint – liable to a one-stroke penalty
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> missed checkpoint – liable to a two-stroke penalty
  - 4<sup>th</sup> missed checkpoint – liable to disqualification

\*If a group clears the 3<sup>rd</sup> checkpoint and has not missed any other checkpoints, but is out of position at the 4<sup>th</sup> checkpoint, each player in the group is liable for a one-stroke penalty if in the committee's view a reasonable effort was not made by the players to complete their round within the allotted time for the final checkpoint. This is to prevent such a group to slow play the last five holes in the round.
- As long as you keep up with the group ahead of you (within 14 minutes) your group will never be in jeopardy of being out of position. Always look ahead – not behind.
- Be aware of the checkpoint holes. In the following situations our group may be in danger of missing the checkpoint:
  - If our group reaches the tee of a par 3 checkpoint hole and the group ahead has finished the hole.
  - If your group fails to clear the tee of a par 4 checkpoint hole prior to the group ahead finishing the hole.
  - If our group reaches the tee of a par 5 checkpoint hole and the group ahead is on the putting green.

This is the time to let your group know the situation and to expedite play of the hole.
- If a group is out of position and may become liable to penalty, a rules official may monitor the group's play. This rules official is looking at each player for the following:
  - How long it takes the player to get to her ball.
  - When it's the players turn to play, how long does it take her to make the stroke.
  - Any other actions the player takes to expedite or delay play.

This information will be critical during a review when determining if a player was delayed by another player or players in the group.
- A rules official may speak to a group while monitoring the group's play.
- If a group is liable to penalty, the players in the group may request a review before signing and returning her scorecard. A review will be successful only if there is evidence the player was:
  - Delayed by the committee.
  - Delayed because of a circumstance beyond control of the player or group.
  - Delayed because of another player in the group.

And this is what caused the group to miss the checkpoint(s).
- Review and application of the penalty will only occur after the round. Discussion of the situation with the checkpoint official will only cause further delay of the group. If a player is concerned about a non-responsive (slow) player in her group, she should request a rules official to monitor the group in case the group is or becomes liable to penalty under this policy.
- Decisions made by the Pace of Play Committee are final and no further review is available.



## 2019 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

### Pace of Play Policy – Match Play (Updated January 1, 2019)

#### Out of Position

**FIRST MATCH:** The first match to start will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, the group is behind the prescribed schedule as detailed on the Pace of Play Time Chart.

**FOLLOWING MATCH:** Any following match will be considered out of position if it (a) is taking more than the allotted time to play and (b) reaches the tee of a par-3 hole and the preceding group has cleared the next tees; reaches the tee of a par-4 hole and the putting green is clear; or reaches the tee of a par-5 hole when the preceding group is on the putting green. Both (a) and (b) must apply for a group to be out of position.

#### Pace of Play Penalties – Match Play

An out of position match may be monitored and timed. Anytime a match is being monitored and timed, the players will be notified of such timing by a Rules Rover. The following are the penalties, in sequence, for any player in a match being timed who takes more than the allotted time (see below) to play a stroke after timing of the player's stroke begins:

- 1<sup>st</sup> breach – warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> breach – loss of hole
- 3<sup>rd</sup> breach – second warning
- 4<sup>th</sup> breach – disqualification

#### Timing

When a match is being monitored and timed, each player is expected to play any stroke within 40 seconds after timing of the player's stroke begins. Other than on the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke will begin when she has had a reasonable opportunity to reach her ball, it is her turn to play and she can play without interference or distraction. Time spent determining yardage will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke. On the putting green, timing will begin after a player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace her ball, repair her ball mark and other ball marks on her line of putt and remove loose impediments from her line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

Note 1: The committee reserve the right, at any time, to monitor or time a group/match when the committee deems it necessary.

Note 2: Players should also be aware that the committee may assess a "bad time" to a player in a match that is out of position if the player makes no effort to help her match get back in position. An example of this would be a player who delays play between shots.

Note 3: If the match in question regains its proper position, any previous breach of these guidelines will be carried over for the remainder of that stipulated round in the event that the match requires additional monitoring.

Note 4: The USGA Rules of Golf shall be followed, along with any local rules the games committee deems necessary. Members of the golf committee and the golf rules officials will be available for interpretations of the rules and other decisions governing the competition. Penalties based on the Rules of Golf are not subject to appeal.