

## HELPFUL HINTS FOR IMPROVED PACE OF PLAY

Here are some hints to help you improve and maintain your pace of play.

- **Play “Ready Golf”** – In all stroke play events, the committee endorses “Ready Golf. There is no penalty for disregarding “honors.”
- **Continuous putting** is encouraged.
- **Practice Putting is Prohibited** – In stroke play, practicing or putting on the hole last played during a competition round is PROHIBITED.
- **Always Play a Provisional Ball** – The purpose of playing a provisional ball is to save time in case the original ball is lost. If you decide to search for your original ball, [always put a provisional ball into play](#) for any ball that either you or your fellow competitors think may potentially be out of bounds or lost outside of a water or lateral water hazard. If you hit into the native areas anywhere on the course and decide to search for the original ball, then you should always play a provisional ball. Going back to take a stroke and distance penalty may cost a player their position on the course and subject them to potential pace of play penalties.
- **Search for a lost ball for a maximum of five minutes. Search less (2-3 min)** if you have been warned, put “On Watch” or are falling behind the group in front of you.
- Calculate yardage and club selection early and read putts or complete any other “pre-shot routine” while others are playing their shot.
- When riding in a cart, always drop partner off at their ball and proceed to your ball in order to play your shot as soon as possible after they play theirs. Always take the club you intend to use, and two extra clubs (example: 6 iron, and 5, 7 irons), to avoid having to return to the cart.
- When leaving your cart/bag to search for a ball in the native areas, always take clubs (same as above, with the addition of a wedge for “chipping out”) to avoid having to return to the cart.
- Always leave equipment (carts, bags, extra clubs, etc.) beside and/or behind the green and towards the next tee.
- Always write down scores at the next tee while other players tee off (not the previous green).
- If you anticipate the need to use the men’s room on the course, or visit the restaurant in between nines, as you approach the green, inform playing partners that you would like to go ahead and putt out in order to do so (even if you are not the furthest from the hole). Afterwards, immediately proceed to the next hole to tee off, or to be ready if your group has not yet completed the previous hole. This option is not available on the last hole of an event or for any other circumstances where it is clear that the player may gain a competitive advantage from this action, and that it is the main reason for doing so.
- When exercising the options listed above, take care of business, gather food and drinks as quickly as possible and proceed to the next tee. Do not stop to eat at the clubhouse.
- The player whose ball lies closest to the flag should always attend the flag as others putt, and the first person who finishes putting should replace the flag as the last player holes out.