



2025 TSSAA Girls' State Golf Championship – Sevierville Golf Club – Highlands Course

Pace of Play Policy

Players should play at a prompt pace throughout the round. Players are both allowed and encouraged to play "ready golf" in a safe and responsible way (Rule 6.4b) and should make a stroke in no more than 40 seconds (Rule 5.6b).

Maximum Allowable Time

Maximum allowable time is the MAXIMUM time considered necessary by the Committee for a group to complete its round. This is expressed in a per-hole and aggregate time format on the player scorecard and below.

Definition of "Out of Position"

A group is out of position when it:

- Has completed play of a hole (meaning that the ball of the last player in the group to hole out has been removed from the hole) later than the maximum allowable time given (see attached chart) and:
- a) Reaches a par-3 hole that is clear of play and all players in the group in front of them have played their strokes from the teeing area of the next hole.
- b) Reaches a par-4 or par-5 hole that is not clear of play but that becomes clear of play before all players in the group have played their strokes from the teeing area.
- c) Reaches a par-4 or par-5 hole that is clear of play.

Note: If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs that causes the group in question to be out of position, that group is expected to regain its position within a reasonable time.

Players are both allowed and encouraged to play out of turn ("Ready Golf") in a safe and responsible way under Rule 6.4b(2) at any time but especially when their group is out of position.

Timing

When the Committee determines that a group (or individual) will be timed, all players (or a specified individual) in the group will be notified by a Rules Official.

Except on the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is the player's turn to play without interference or distraction. Time spent determining yardage and other conditions will count as time taken for the stroke.

On the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke begins when it is the player's turn to play without interference or distraction and after a player has completed the actions allowed under Rule 13.1, provided the player is not unreasonably delaying play. Time spent surveying the line of play from any angle will also count as time taken for the stroke.

A player is permitted a maximum of **40 seconds** to play a stroke, and an extra 10 seconds (for a total of 50 seconds) will be permitted for the first player to play:

- a) A stroke on a par-3 hole;
- b) A second stroke on a par-4 or par-5 hole;
- c) A third stroke on a par-5 hole;
- d) Around the putting green; and
- e) On the putting green.

Any player in a group being timed who exceeds the maximum allowable time to play a stroke will be informed as soon as practicable by the timing official.

Note: The Committee reserves the right, at any time, to time a group when deemed necessary. Further, if a player is determined by the Committee to be unreasonably delaying play, the player may be timed individually at the Committee's discretion regardless of whether the group is out of position. Players should also be aware that the Committee may assess a "bad time" to a player in a group which is out of position if the player makes no effort to help the group get back in position. An example of this would be a player who is unreasonably delaying play between shots or holes.

Pace of Play Penalties

The following are the penalties, in sequence, for any player in a group being timed who takes more than the maximum allowable time to play a stroke:

- 1st bad timing exceeding the maximum allowable time – Warning
- 2nd bad timing – one penalty stroke
- 3rd bad timing – Additional two penalty strokes
- 4th bad timing – Disqualification

Note: If a group being timed regains its proper position, any previous "bad times" will be carried over for the remainder of that round in the event that group requires additional monitoring. Any player who has a bad time(s) will be reminded of the bad time(s) if he/she or his/her group requires additional timing during the round.

Example Allotted Time Per Hole

Holes Completed	Allotted Time	Total Time	Transit	Holes Completed	Allotted Time	Total Time
1	:19	:19	#9-#10: 2 min	10	:16	2:49
2	:17	:36	#18-#1: 2 min	11	:14	3:03
3	:18	:54		12	:17	3:20
4	:15	1:09		13	:15	3:35
5	:15	1:24		14	:15	3:50
6	:16	1:40		15	:15	4:05
7	:19	1:59		16	:14	4:19
8	:15	2:14		17	:18	4:37
9	:19	2:33		18	:16	4:53