

# Kinsale Golf Club

## Pace of Play Policy

21<sup>st</sup> March 2017

### 1. Introduction

This Policy is designed to ensure competition rounds are played at an appropriate pace. The Men's Committee recognises that slow play can adversely impact on the level of enjoyment for our members.

While the Rules of Golf do not include explicit time allowances for a round of golf, they do require players to "play without due delay" and make provision for Committees to adopt Pace of Play guidelines with sanctions for failure to comply.

### 2. Max Times

The starting interval between groups is between 8 and 10 minutes, depending on the competition format and all are expected to maintain this interval with the group ahead throughout the round. From time to time circumstances may cause the interval time to exceed eight minutes; however all effort should be made to catch up with the group in front.

#### Max Times:

**Threeball 4 Hours 00 Minutes**

**Fourball 4 Hours 10 Minutes**

### 3. Pace of Play Policy

1. All members of KGC are required to maintain their Proper Position on the golf course and to play without Undue Delay. Each group shall be considered to be in the Proper Position as long as it is on pace with the Max Times outlined above, or if not, as long as it is directly behind the group in front of them.

2. The Pace of Play shall be monitored based on times recorded on the Handicap Master system, using the starting tee time and the entry of a score card on to the computer. Members are asked to promptly enter their scores.

3. If a group is not Keeping Pace with the group ahead, it is expected that they will play Ready Golf until they have caught up with the group ahead. If a group falls a hole behind, they **MUST** call through the following group,

### 4. Enforcement

STAGE 1 - When a group exceeds the Max Time and finishes more than 20 minutes behind the group in front, the members of that group will individually receive a notice requesting that they improve their Pace of Play and comply with the Pace of Play Policy.

STAGE 2 – If an individual again exceeds the Max Time and finishes more than 20 minutes behind the group in front within 3 months of the initial warning, they will receive a second notice requesting that they improve their Pace of Play and that a third occurrence will result in an automatic sanction.

STAGE 3 – If an individual again exceeds the Max Time and finishes more than 20 minutes behind the group in front within 6 months of the Stage 2 second warning, they will receive an automatic sanction.

2. A record of all notices issued to members shall be maintained by the Committee.

## **5. Sanctions**

1. The automatic sanction shall be the removal of the member's playing rights from the next available competition, effective 20 days from the date of the offence giving rise to the sanction or the earliest available competition thereafter.

2. The member may appeal any sanction in writing within 5 days from receipt of the notice to the Committee.

3. All appeals will be heard by a minimum of three members of the Committee.

4. A record of all sanctions imposed shall be maintained by the Committee.

## **6. Appendix**

### **Ready Golf**

Quite simply, Ready Golf is a common sense approach to play the ball when ready:

Dismiss all honours

- Don't wait for others before approaching the tee and hitting;
- Proceed to your ball as quickly as possible
- Play the ball as soon as it is safe to do so. Each player should play when ready, as long as doing so will not interfere with others, especially on the tee. Shorter hitters can often hit first on the tee

### **Guidelines to Members on how to Increase the Pace of Play**

- Arrive on Time – Arrive 15 minutes and be ready to play 5 minutes before tee time.
- Keep Up – One's place on the golf course is immediately behind the players on front, not on front of the players behind! This is the responsibility of each player.
- Use your Rear View Mirrors – if your group is consistently holding up a group behind move on smartly or let them through.
- Speak Up - If your group is falling behind a special effort needs to be made to catch up, it is everybody's duty in the group to speak up!
- Provisionals - If there is a possibility of your ball being lost or out of bounds, immediately play a provisional. Always have a spare ball in your pocket.
- Start the Clock - after five minutes looking for a lost ball, under the rules of golf, the ball is lost! Once you commence searching, start the clock!
- Next Tee - when you arrive at a green, place your golf bag on way to the next tee. Mark score on the tee while other are teeing off. Let shorter hitters go first.
- Move On – don't practice missing putts while others are waiting! No fishing for golf balls!
- Be Ready - When it's your turn, have a selected club in your hand or have read that putt - be ready. Putt out whenever possible.
- Play Away - Except in match play, don't always wait on others – if sensible and agreeable to your partners, play away.
- Talk While You Walk - Don't dawdle or stop for a chat.
- Pick Up – If you have used up your quota or can't improve on your partner's score pick up!
- Visitors – encourage your visitors to Play the KGC Way.