

Guide to Slow Play



Slow play on the Golf Course is usually a condition that a golfer acquires over time, as he or she acquires bad habits. Or quite often is the result of the golfer never having been taught proper golf course etiquette. This unfortunate affliction **CAN** be cured, but as with all disease's, the golfer has to be aware of their ailments, and that's where others golfers come into the play.

As we often take a look at other golfers whilst on the course and notice the offences they commit contributing to slow play, so should we look at ourselves. When we do, we often discover we're doing many of the same things to slow down play that we are complaining about others doing.

It is important to note it is not necessary to ***"rush your play"*** but rather, be ready to play and with using common sense and good etiquette on the course, we can all speed up play.

Here are some tips for helping to minimize round times:

- Attend the 1st Tee promptly, in plenty of time to be ready to play at your allotted Tee time.
- Be ready to play at all times, don't wait until it's your turn to put your glove on, select your club while waiting for others to play, have sufficient tees/balls to avoid walking back to your bag, replace your head cover once you've played, even if you have to take it to the tee with you.
- When standing on the tee, waiting for the forward group to clear, let the shorter hitters play their shots, try playing "ready golf" (where rules allow of course)
- All players should ball spot on the Tee to assist in the event of a wayward shot.
- If you are unsure whether your ball has come to rest out of bounds, or a chance your ball may be lost, hit a provisional so you don't have to return to the original point of play.
- If you have lost your ball, be conscious of the 5 minute rule, only the player should spend time looking, while others play theirs.
- Be aware of your position with regard to the group in front, it is your responsibility to ensure you keep up with the speed of play.
- If you are falling behind the group in front, advise your playing partners and try to catch up quickly.
- In the event you lose a clear hole and you are delaying the group behind, invite the group to play through.



- Calculate your yardage on route to your ball, not once you get there.
- On arrival at the green place your bag at the exit point to the next tee so as to allow quick movement off the Green once completed.
- When chipping around the green, carry your desired wedge and take your putter with you.
- Begin reading the green and lining up putts as soon as you reach the green. Line up your putt while others are doing theirs. If you are the first to putt pick up the flag ready for the last to finish.
- Move off the green as soon as possible as soon as all players have played out, mark score cards on route to or on the next tee.
- Restrict your practice shots, on the Tee, Fairway and Green, a good pre shot routine is a short and concise one, walk briskly between shots don't amble.
- Be aware of Competition rules and when you should stop play and pick up your ball, i.e. Stableford & Better Ball competitions

Below are typical approximate times that would be expected for General Play:

	2/3 Ball	4 Ball
Holes: 1~4	35 mins	50 mins
5~9	45 mins	60 mins
10~13	50 mins	65 mins
14~18	50 mins	65 mins
Total:	3 Hours	4 Hours

And remember, if you keep up with the group in front, you can't be accused of

SLOW PLAY!