



## Optimist Junior Golf Program PACE OF PLAY POLICY

### **Definition of “Out of Position”**

The first group to start will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, the group is behind their allotted time. Any following group 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 hole is clear, fails to clear the tee of a par 4 hole before the preceding group clears the putting green **or** arrives at the teeing ground 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.**

### **Group Notification**

Groups **WILL BE NOTIFIED** when they are out of position and given an opportunity to regain their position. If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs which causes a group in question to lose its position, that group is expected to regain its position in a reasonable time [within two holes]. If a group fails to regain their position, they will be notified and subject to being timed.

### **Timing**

A group may be monitored or timed for compliance with this pace of play guideline if it is “out of position.” When a group is “out of position” a player in the group is expected to play any stroke within 40 seconds.

Other than on the putting green, the timing of a player’s stroke will begin when he has had a reasonable opportunity to reach his ball, it is his turn to play and he 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 his ball, repair his ball mark and other ball marks on his line of putt and remove loose impediments on his 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:** The Committee reserves the right, at any time, to time a group when the Committee deems it necessary. 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 his group get back in position. An example of this would be a player who unduly delays play between shots.

### **Pace of Play Penalties**

The following are the penalties, in sequence, for any player in a group out of position who takes more than 40 seconds to play a stroke when it is his turn to play:

One bad timing	warning
A second bad timing	one penalty stroke
A third bad timing	two penalty strokes
A fourth bad timing	Disqualification

**NOTE:** If the group in question regains its proper position, any previous timings of more than 40 seconds will be carried over for the remainder of that round in the event that group requires additional monitoring.

***A PLAYER MAY PROTEST ANY PACE OF PLAY PENALTY WHEN THEY ARRIVE IN THE SCORING AREA PRIOR TO SIGNING THEIR SCORECARD. THEY MUST ASK FOR A RULES OFFICIAL. 2/11/2013***