

# NYSGA Pace of Play Policy

(Revised February 1, 2026)



The NYSGA Pace of Play Policy is a condition of competition for all NYSGA/allied golf association competitions.

## “Out of Position” Defined

A group is considered “in position” if they meet either of the following conditions: (1) the group is within its Maximum Allotted Time (MAT) as printed on each competitor’s scorecard, or (2) upon arriving at the teeing area, the group ahead has not yet progressed beyond the following point:

**Par 3** – The group ahead has not yet left the tee of the next hole

**Par 4** – The group ahead has not yet cleared the putting green

**Par 5** – The group ahead has not yet all reached the putting green

A group is “out of position” when both of the following are true: (1) the group is behind their MAT, and (2) the group is not in position with the group ahead (defined above).

The first group of the day is considered out of position solely based on MAT.

## Timing and Penalties

A group which is out of position and behind their allotted time will be notified by a designated Pace of Play official that they are being placed on the clock.

When being timed, a player’s stroke time is measured as follows:

**When Timing Begins:** Timing begins when it is your turn to play, you have a reasonable opportunity to reach your ball, and you can play without interference or distraction.

**On the Putting Green:** Before timing begins, you are allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean, and replace your ball; repair ball marks and remove loose impediments on your line of putt.

**Time Allowed:** The first player to play a stroke is allowed 50 seconds. All subsequent strokes must be played within 40 seconds.

**What Counts Toward Your Time:** Time spent on practice swings, pre-shot routine, club selection, walking forward or backward for yardages, and reading the line of putt from any angle counts as part of your stroke time.

Any player being timed who exceeds the allotted time for a stroke (50 seconds for first to play, 40 seconds thereafter) receives a ‘bad time’ and is subject to the following penalties:

**1<sup>st</sup> Bad Time: 1 Stroke || 2<sup>nd</sup> Bad Time: 2 Strokes || 3<sup>rd</sup> Bad Time: Disqualification**

**Note #1:** If a group being timed regains its proper position, any previous bad times remain cumulative for the remainder of the tournament if the group requires additional timing.

**Note #2:** If a ruling or other uncontrollable delay causes a group to lose its position, the group is expected to regain its position within a reasonable time.

