**PACE OF PLAY POLICY**

The following Pace of Play policy will be implemented for all YLCGA Championship events in order to improve the pace of play in our Championships, and hopefully improve the enjoyment of the game. This is in line with Policies being implemented by the R & A and England Golf. Penalties will be strictly applied.

Definition of “Out of Position”

A group will be considered “out of position” if it is more than the starting interval behind the group in front. The first group shall be ‘out of position’ if it is holding up the following group.

Procedure when Group is “Out of Position”.

A Group “Out of Position” shall be asked by the referee or Committee member to get back into position within a specified time, or may be timed. However, if their pace of play is not affecting following groups, no action shall be taken. If the following group are being ‘held up’, the group ‘out of position’ shall be asked to improve their pace of play. If the group does not regain their position within the specified time, penalties will be applied.

If a decision is taken to time a group, each player in the group will be informed the group is out of position. At the referee’s or Committee Member’s discretion, each or any player within that group may be subject to individual timings.

The maximum time allocated per shot is 40 seconds. An extra 10 seconds are allowed for the first player to play:

1. on a par three hole;
2. an approach shot;
3. a chip or putt

The time will start when the player has had sufficient time to reach her ball, it is her turn to play, and she is able to play without interference or distraction.

On the putting green, timing will start when the player has had a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace her ball, repair pitch marks, and move loose impediments on her line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball is included in the time allowed for the stroke.

Timing ceases when a group is back in position. Players will be advised accordingly.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF CONDITION

(Note Rule 5.6 and Exception 3 to Rule 21.1c}

Stroke Play:

1 Bad Time One stroke penalty (Stableford: 1 point from total)

2 Bad Times Further two strokes penalty (Stableford: 2 further points from total)

3 Bad Times Disqualification

Match Play:

1 Bad Time One stroke penalty

2 Bad Times Loss of hole, and final warning

3 Bad Times Disqualification

“Random Timings Without Warning”

In addition to the above a player without notice may be individually timed (whether “In Position” or not). If their time exceeds 60 seconds the player will incur a warning. Any future bad times will result in penalties being imposed as highlighted above.