

## **SBPLGC PACE OF PLAY RULES FOR LOS VERDES GC – 2022**

The following NEW rules will apply to all tournaments held at Los Verdes and many of the key point below should also be used as solid guidelines for events at the other courses we play. The course is planning to retain 10 minute tee intervals and in return it is absolutely essential that we keep our events on this tee off schedule and complete ALL rounds in not over 4:30. It is proven we can do this easily without rushing and while still having a good time as long as everyone is in sync and is alert and plays with a purpose and follows ready golf! The below rules have special provisions to make play faster and to allow groups to catch up quickly if they fall behind, but these will only work if all players are aware of them and commit to follow them. Due to the seriousness of this matter, there will be no room for exceptions and penalties as described below will be enforced with no further warnings or introductory periods. The purpose of this policy is to maintain our access to Los Verdes with large field sizes and so that everyone regardless of tee time can have a good experience. If you are not comfortable in following these rules, it would be better to not sign up for events at Los Verdes.

### **Group collective responsibility and basis for group penalties**

We recognize that some groups consist of regular foursomes and others are assembled to where you may not previously know some of your playing partners. This is just how tournaments work and it affords the great opportunity to make new friends! Regardless of how the group is formed, good communications and pace of play is the collective and equal responsibility of every member of the group. This is about self accountability and self policing for the benefit of all, and not just reacting only if asked by a marshall. Marshalls are very limited and we simply need to take ownership of the pace of play commitment on our own, group by group. In almost all cases, if there is a penalty, the penalty will be to every player in the group because pace is the entire group's responsibility. We do not have the resources to monitor hole by hole so it is virtually impossible to trace issues to a specific player, and even if we could it's the full group's responsibility to work with any specific player(s) who may be having difficulties. Only in very rare cases where there is clear and certain evidence that unduly slow pace was solely caused by one of more specific players (and that others in the group still made best efforts to help but to no avail) will only those identified players be sanctioned instead of the complete group.

1. **Field Sizes determined event by event:** We have had more difficulty with larger fields so depending on the format we may seek different field sizes to help with pace. At the same time we remain under close watch and warning by the course, so issues at one event will likely cause the course to reduce our capacity at the next event. Field sizes will be reviewed with the course and set on a rolling and adjustable basis and finalized about 30 days prior to each LV event. Tournaments at Los Verdes will continue with a lottery system for the foreseeable future.
2. **Lottery System:** For all events at Los Verdes, the lottery link will be emailed around 30 days in advance and kept open for about a week. Every player who wants to play needs to use the link

not just one player per group as we need all to reply to get a proper count! Players wanting to play who do not enter the lottery may have opportunities post lottery but only on a lower priority basis and subject to space availability. Payments will only take place from the link on sbplgc.com after the lottery and players who gain a spot in the lottery but who do not pay and register within the prescribed time period will **LOSE THEIR SPOTS.**

Tee times post lottery have to date also been done via a random draw process to provide the most equity to all and equal chances to get earlier tee times. Due to the issues we have had with pace, for the time being we are going to modify the way tee times at Los Verdes are assigned to a “modified blind draw process.” Hopefully once we get better with pace we will be able to return to the old process. The new process is based on demonstrated experience that the first part of the field is critical to the total complexion of the day’s pace so we really need to have our early groups set the tone on proper pace. Under the new process starting 7-22, the earlier part of the field will be specifically selected players and groups with prior demonstrated fast pace, and then the later part of the field will be placed based on the historical random draw process. So, if in our data base of timings, you have done well and had good finishing intervals behind the group in front of you, right now you have the best opportunities for earlier tee times at Los Verdes.

3. **1<sup>st</sup> tee check in 10 minutes in advance:** All players will be required to check in with the 1<sup>st</sup> tee ambassador at least 10 minutes before their tee time and to remain in that area until tee off (to avoid delays searching for players). Players shall proceed that if the tee is early within this 10 minute range they must tee off early and there will be NO waiting or searching for any players not there. Players late may join on the course subject to penalty under rules of golf. **Players identified as NOT having checked in at least 10 min early on the first tee for ANY reason will not be allowed to the next LV tmt – no exceptions.**
  
4. **Timing of rounds and penalties for over time:** The 1<sup>st</sup> tee ambassador will record the time that each group leaves the first tee and our check out table above the 18<sup>th</sup> green will record the exact time that each group is done, so we will have a precise time for each and every group to measure against the 4:30 maximum guideline. **Groups that do not meet the 4:30 guideline will be subject to the not able to play in the next LV tmt penalty if they also finish more than 12 minutes after the group in front of them. Groups that do meet the 4:30 goal but that have an unacceptable interval may still be subject to penalty on case by case review.** If your group does not finish within 4:30 due to factors beyond your control meaning you finish right behind the group in front within the 12 minutes, then you are not penalized. Each case will be subject to immediate case by case review and determination right then and there, so we ask that all group members come to the scoring table to see your time/interval and then discuss the circumstances if the mark was missed. Mitigating circumstances like an injury or lost ball on the last 1-2 holes will be considered but in general in the absence of very unusual and clear supporting circumstances this will be a very clear cut rule and procedure with very few exceptions.

5. **18<sup>th</sup> hole Marshall:** Since these policies have gone into effect, the most common request for waiver or stated reason for missing the 12 minute finishing interval was something like “we were right there all day but lost a ball on 18 or had mix ups with other players/balls from holes 1 or 10 in #18 fairway.” In recognizing that 18 is a hard hole with a blind tee shot to the fairway, the club is going to PAY one of the course marshalls to specially come out and work this one spot for the entire field. If we can get a club volunteer to do so in exchange for a free future tmt entry, this will also be offered first each event. The marshall will position at the top of the hill and signal when the fairway is clear and help to spot balls and confusions with balls from other holes. This new resource will largely eliminate the basis for waiver based on issues on the last hole.
6. **Respect the course ambassadors:** Please observe all directions from the course ambassadors. Any issues or complaints will be reviewed after the round so please do not consume excessive time or argue with the ambassadors.
7. **Ball Searches Local Rule:** Ball searches are limited to 2 minutes no exceptions. If no provisional was played, NO players will even be allowed to go back period as this simply consumes too much time. Each event will have a per hole maximum score that you will need to take in the event of lost ball and no provisional played. **Penalty for going back is DQ and out of the next LV tmt.**
8. **Out of position rule to skip forward:** If a group reaches a tee on a par 4 or par 5 hole and the group ahead of them has fully completed that hole, then the group MUST skip that hole and immediately move forward to the next tee. A rule will be in place for each event how to score that missed hole. This applies whether instructed by an ambassador or whether no ambassador is present and the group just finds itself badly behind. **Any group found not complying all players will be DQ'd for the event and not allowed in the next LV tmt.**
9. **Carts will be mandatory at Los Verdes very few exceptions:** Substantially all players will be required to ride as this has simply proven faster and easier to catch up if necessary. Only known fast players who regularly walk the course without issues may be granted exceptions and only arranged in advance during the sign up window. These exceptions will be very limited. Players will still pay carts individually at the course to allow them to use scrip or players club discounts. **The course will advise us of any players who did not check in and pay for carts and any violation is a DQ and one tmt ban.**
10. **Concession of short putts:** This procedure saves a lot of time and will be used in most LV events for putts of up to 18 inches and will be announced along with the specific rules for each event.
11. **Ready Golf:** Regardless of format all players shall play Ready Golf at all times! Do your prep while others are hitting and be ready when it's your turn. Keep your pre shot routine short but focused. Putt continuously when possible. Write scores on the next tee and not in the green. Proceed to tee off once you putt out no need to wait for the entire group. Be strategic where

you park your cart and in the fairways use the buddy system and one player can often take a club and short walk to their ball instead of waiting for both players to drive to all locations. In formats that allow pick up if you are out of the hole, please do so. The group is a team and should work together and all help look for balls. **Remember pace is only about keeping up with the group in front of you the group behind you is completely irrelevant!**

- 12. Maximum score per hole:** Depending on the format there will be a maximum per hole score announced in each case – players are encouraged to pick up in the interest of pace of play and record that score after that number of strokes has been taken.