

Play Ready Golf

Over the years, the length of time it takes to play 18 holes of golf in the US on a regulation course has increased each and every year to the extent that 5 hour rounds are commonplace. Not only has this discouraged many new golfers from staying in the game, but it has made golf less enjoyable than it might otherwise be. And to golfers good and bad - high handicaps and low, it isn't skill level often times that keeps players from wanting to join you in a round of golf, it is speed and efficiency of time. Here are some things you can do to speed up play and make golf more fun:

1. Always keep pace with the group *ahead* of you - not just ahead of the group behind you;
2. As others in your group are playing their shot, get to your ball and be prepared to hit your shot when it's your turn to play;
3. Save casual conversations for the periods of time between shots;
4. When approaching your ball on the green, walk first to see the line of your putt with the hole between you and your ball;
5. If in a golf car and walking to your ball to play your next shot, always take all the clubs you think you might need to play the shot;
6. Always carry an extra ball in the event you've hit your ball out of bounds or is unretrievable in a hazard;
7. Reduce or eliminate practice swings. Refer back to point #2 and take your practice swings while you wait on others in your group as they play their shots.