

# Pace of Play at the USGA Championships

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PRESENTED BY THE **USGA** 

# USGA Championship Pace of Play Overview



# Advanced Analysis

## Three Components:

- Pace of Play Guidelines/Policy
- Logistical/operational considerations
- Identifying potential bottle-necks



# Pace of Play Guidelines/Policy

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## USGA Open Championships Pace of Play Guidelines

Rule 6-7 provides that "The player must play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines that the Committee may establish," and thereafter prescribes penalties for slow play.

### Maximum Allowable Time

**Maximum allowable time** is the **MAXIMUM** time deemed necessary by the Committee for a group to complete its stipulated round. This is expressed in a per-hole and aggregate time format on the chart attached to this document.

- A group's **maximum allowable time** begins at its assigned starting time, or if the starting time is delayed, at the adjusted starting time.
- Time associated with playing the game, e.g., for rulings and walking times between holes, is included in all **maximum allowable times**.

### Definition of "Out of Position"

A group is **out of position** when it:

- Completes play of a hole (replaces the flagstick) later than the **maximum allowable time** given (see attached chart) **and**:
  - a) Reaches a par-3 hole that is clear of all play and all players in the preceding group have played their strokes from the teeing ground of the next hole.
  - b) Reaches a par-4 or par-5 hole which is not clear of all play but which becomes clear of all play **before** all players in the group have played their strokes from the teeing ground.
  - c) Reaches a par-4 or par-5 hole which is clear of all play.

**Note:** If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs which causes the group in question to be out of position, that group is expected to regain its position within a reasonable time.

The walking referee with each group can be a source of information about the group's pace of play. A player may ask the referee at any time about the group's pace of play status. Each referee has been instructed to proactively alert the group if it is approaching an **out of position** status as defined herein.

### Timing

When the Committee determines that a group (or individual) will be timed, all players (or a specified individual) in the group will be notified by a Rules Rover.

**Other than on the putting green**, the timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is his turn to play and he can play without interference or distraction. Time spent determining yardage and other conditions (such as wind) will count as time taken for the next stroke.

**On the putting green**, the timing of a player's stroke will begin after he has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace his ball, repair ball marks and remove loose impediments on his line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole or to the side of and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

For the good of the game®

# Use of “Pace of Play Calculator”

Pace of Play Chart for 2014 U.S. Senior Open							
Hole	Par	Yardage	Walk from Previous Putting Green	Discretionary Time	Reduced Discretionary Time	Playing Time	Allotted Time
1	4	407	01:53			14:36	16:00
2	4	474	00:40			15:42	16:00
3	4	469	01:17			15:33	17:00
4	3	175	00:30			10:44	11:00
5	4	454	00:56			15:19	16:00
6	4	438	00:53			15:04	16:00
7	5	511	00:45		00:30	17:56	18:00
8	3	201	00:42			11:00	12:00
9	4	411	01:08		00:30	14:39	15:00
10	4	437	00:40			15:03	16:00
11	4	383	01:00			14:14	15:00
12	5	585	00:33			18:37	19:00
13	3	206	00:28	01:00		11:22	13:00
14	5	599	00:44			18:44	19:00
15	4	364	00:25			13:56	14:00
16	4	455	00:29			15:33	16:00
17	3	180	00:27			10:49	11:00
18	4	470	00:52			15:34	16:00
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>7219</b>	<b>14:22</b>	<b>01:00</b>	<b>01:00</b>	<b>4:24:26</b>	<b>4:36:00</b>

Instructions							
1) Fill in the par, yardage and walk from previous green							
2) Use column F to add discretionary time (00:00:00 format)							
3) Use column G to subtract discretionary time (00:00:00 format)*							
4) Column I has the allotted time of playing time plus walking time rounded to the nearest minute							
5) Par, yardage and walk time are transferred from the 3 Ball to the 2 Ball							
6) You can only edit the green cells							
* The allotted time is a true rounding, so a calculated time of 31s will round up. To reduce the allotted time, enter time in column G							

# Logistical/Operational Considerations – Tee Times

United States Golf Association, Golf House, Far Hills, NJ  
**69th U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP**®  
 Pinehurst Resort & Country Club, Pinehurst No. 2  
 June 19-22, 2014

Groupings and Starting Times  
 Thursday, June 19th and Friday, June 20th  
 EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME



**69th U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP**®

#1 Tee Thursday AM	#10 Tee Friday PM	No.	#10 Tee Thursday AM	#1 Tee Friday PM	No.
6:45	12:30	1	6:45	12:30	40
		(a) Bailey Tardy, Norcross, Ga.			Nicole Garcia, South Africa
		2			41
		Xyra Suetysugh, Honolulu, Hawaii			Misuzu Narita, Japan
		3			42
		Rebecca Hudson, England			(a) Samantha Gotcher, Clarksville, Tenn.
6:56	12:41	4	6:56	12:41	43
		Weiling Hsu, Chinese Taipei			Kelsey Macdonald, Scotland
		5			44
		Erica Popson, Davenport, Fla.			(a) Paige Lee, Folsom, Calif.
		6			45
		(a) Jessica Povasnik, Hinckley, Ohio			(a) Madison Kerley, Scottsdale, Ariz.
7:07	12:52	7	7:07	12:52	46
		Jane Park, Seal Beach, Calif.			Catherine O'Donnell, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.
		8			47
		Jennifer Song, Ann Arbor, Mich.			(a) Lucy Li, Redwood Shores, Calif.
		9			48
		Lisa McCloskey, Houston, Texas			Jessica Wallace, Canada
7:18	1:03	10	7:18	1:03	49
		Stacey Heald, Australia			Seiyoung Kim, Republic of Korea
		11			50
		Lala Anai, Japan			Teresa Lu, Chinese Taipei
		12			51
		Nikki Campbell, Australia			Carlota Ciganda, Spain
7:29	1:14	13	7:29	1:14	52
		Birdie Kim, Republic of Korea			Pernilla Lindberg, Sweden
		14			53
		Sarah-Jane Smith, Australia			Katherine Kirk, Australia
		15			54
		Kate Burnett, Brunswick, Ga.			Giulia Sergas, Italy
7:40	1:25	16	7:40	1:25	55
		Yoolim Choi, Republic of Korea			Sakura Yokomine, Japan
		17			56
		Montya Jutanugarn, Thailand			Jodi Ewart Shadoff, England
		18			57
		Ailsun Washie, Westford, Mass.			Meena Lee, Republic of Korea
7:51	1:36	19	7:51	1:36	58
		Jessica Korda, Bradenton, Fla.			UK Kim, Republic of Korea
		20			59
		Se Ri Pak, Republic of Korea			Azahara Munoz, Spain
		21			60
		Caroline Hedwall, Sweden			Hana Jang, Republic of Korea
8:02	1:47	22	8:02	1:47	61
		Lexi Thompson, Coral Springs, Fla.			Inbee Park, Republic of Korea
		23			62
		Karrie Webb, Australia			Stacy Lewis, The Woodlands, Texas
		24			63
		Soyeon Ryu, Republic of Korea			(a) Emma Talley, Princeton, Ky.
8:13	1:58	25	8:24	2:09	28
		Sun Young Yoo, Republic of Korea			Juli Inkster, L
		26			29
		Julietta Granada, Paraguay			Cheyenne Woods, Phoenix, Ariz.
		27			30
		Eun Hee Ji, Republic of Korea			Natalie Gulbis, Lake Las Vegas, Nev.
8:24	2:09	28	8:35	2:20	31
		Juli Inkster, Los Altos, Calif.			Marta Silva, Spain
		29			32
		Cheyenne Woods, Phoenix, Ariz.			Holly Clyburn, England
		30			33
		Natalie Gulbis, Lake Las Vegas, Nev.			Chie Arimura, Japan
8:35	2:20	31	8:46	2:31	34
		Marta Silva, Spain			Jaye Marie Green, Boca Raton, Fla.
		32			35
		Holly Clyburn, England			(a) Brooke Mackenzie Henderson, Canada
		33			36
		Chie Arimura, Japan			Stephanie Na, Australia
8:46	2:31	34	8:57	2:42	37
		Jaye Marie Green, Boca Raton, Fla.			Eri Joma, Japan
		35			38
		(a) Brooke Mackenzie Henderson, Canada			(a) Yuting Shi, People's Republic of China
		36			39
		Stephanie Na, Australia			Karlin Beck, Montgomery, Ala.
8:57	2:42	37			
		Eri Joma, Japan			
		38			
		(a) Yuting Shi, People's Republic of China			
		39			
		Karlin Beck, Montgomery, Ala.			

#10 Tee Thursday AM	#1 Tee Friday PM	No.	Name
6:45	12:30	40	Nicole Garcia, South Africa
		41	Misuzu Narita, Japan
		42	(a) Samantha Gotcher, Clarksville, Tenn.
6:56	12:41	43	Kelsey Macdonald, Scotland
		44	(a) Paige Lee, Folsom, Calif.
		45	(a) Madison Kerley, Scottsdale, Ariz.
7:07	12:52	46	Catherine O'Donnell, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.
		47	(a) Lucy Li, Redwood Shores, Calif.
		48	Jessica Wallace, Canada
7:18	1:03	49	Seiyoung Kim, Republic of Korea
		50	Teresa Lu, Chinese Taipei
		51	Carlota Ciganda, Spain

12:29	Stacy Lewis, The Woodlands, Texas	+4
	Paula Creamer, Pleasanton, Calif.	+4
12:40	Chella Choi, Republic of Korea	+4
	Lexi Thompson, Coral Springs, Fla.	+3
12:51	Sakura Yokomine, Japan	+3
	Karrie Webb, Australia	+3
1:02	So Yeon Ryu, Republic of Korea	+3
	Pornanong Phatlum, Thailand	+3
1:13	(a) Minjee Lee, Australia	+2
	Na Yeon Choi, Republic of Korea	+2
1:24	Stephanie Meadow, Northern Ireland	+2
	Juli Inkster, Los Altos, Calif.	+2
1:35	Michelle Wie, Honolulu, Hawaii	-2
	Amy Yang, Republic of Korea	-2

(a) - Denotes Amateur

# 2014 USGA Open Championship Metrics

## Performance Against Allotted Time

**U.S. Open**  
**Year: 2014**

**Location: Pinehurst Number 2**

Round	Allotted Time	Average	Performance (Allotted Time/ Average Time)
1	4:44	5:02	94.04%
2	4:44	5:03	93.73%
3	4:07	4:04	101.23%
4	4:07	3:54	105.56%

**U.S. Women's Open**  
**Year: 2014**

**Location: Pinehurst Number 2**

Round	Allotted Time	Average	Performance (Allotted Time/ Average Time)
1	4:44	5:19	89.03%
2	4:44	5:15	90.16%
3	4:07	4:08	99.60%
4	4:07	4:06	100.41%

**Year: 2014**

**Location: Oak Tree National GC**

Round	Allotted Time	Average	Performance (Allotted Time/ Average Time)
1	4:36	4:54	93.88%
2	4:36	5:00	92.00%
3	4:00	4:01	99.59%
4	4:00	4:00	100.00%

# USGA Open Championships Metrics

## Performance Against Allotted Time

## 2012-2013

### U.S. Open POP Summary

Year: 2012

Location: The Olympic Club

Round		Allotted Time	Average	Performance (Allotted Time/Average Time)
1	1st Tee	4:37	5:16	87.66%
	9th Tee	4:42	5:16	89.24%
2	1st Tee	4:37	5:16	87.66%
	9th Tee	4:42	5:16	89.24%
3		4:03	4:04	99.59%
4		4:03	4:03	100.00%

### U.S. Women's Open POP Summary

Year: 2012

Location: Blackwolf Run

Round		Allotted Time	Average	Performance (Allotted Time/ Average Time)
1		4:37	5:45	80.29%
2		4:37	5:40	81.47%
3		4:09	4:47	86.76%
4		4:09	4:24	94.32%

### U.S. Senior Open POP Summary

Year: 2012

Location: Indianwood Golf & Country Club

Round		Allotted Time	Average	Performance (Allotted Time/ Average Time)
1		4:29	4:48	93.40%
2		4:29	4:52	92.12%
3		3:53	3:47	102.64%
4		3:53	3:46	103.10%

Year: 2013

Location: Merion Golf Club

Round		Allotted Time	Average	Performance (Allotted Time/Average Time)
1		4:39	5:11	89.71%
2		4:39	5:10	90.00%
3		4:39	5:18	87.74%
4		4:02	3:58	101.68%

Year: 2013

Location: Sebonack Golf Club

Round		Allotted Time	Average	Performance (Allotted Time/ Average Time)
1		4:40	5:16	88.61%
2		4:40	5:29	85.11%
3		4:40	5:11	90.03%
4		4:08	4:14	97.64%

Year: 2013

Location : Omaha Country Club

Round		Allotted Time	Average	Performance (Allotted Time/ Average Time)
1		4:33	4:38	98.20%
2		4:33	4:36	98.91%
3		4:00	3:37	110.60%
4		4:00	3:38	110.09%



# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines



# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines



## The Foundation of the Guidelines

### Main Components:

- Maximum allowable time
- Four checkpoint holes
- Out of position
  - Over maximum allowable time **AND**
  - Finishing the checkpoint hole more than 14 minutes behind the group in front of them
- Rover and checkpoint official involvement

# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines



## Group Out of Position

When groups are warned, the following takes place:

- The checkpoint official uses a script to notify players
- Rover begins to monitor the group
  - This may include individual timing of players
- Group data prior to the missed checkpoint is collected
- All collected data is used in the review process

# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines

## Penalty Structure for Missed Checkpoints

- 1st missed checkpoint: Warning\*
- 2nd missed checkpoint: Liable to a one-stroke penalty
- 3rd missed checkpoint: Liable to a two-stroke penalty
- 4th missed checkpoint: Liable to disqualification

\*If a group successfully clears each of its first three checkpoints but is out of position (misses) at the 4th checkpoint, each player in the group is subject to a penalty of one stroke.

**Note:** The committee will consider the following circumstances during a review:

- Was the group delayed by a member of the committee (lengthy ruling)?
- Was the group delayed by circumstances beyond its control?
- Was the group delayed by a specific player(s) in the group?



# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines

Playe

**Main**

- Em
- Ch
  - 
  - 
  - Player me
  - Tee Signs
- Placem

## Survey Says:

In surveys of USGA championship contestants in 2013 and 2014, the players agreed with the statement *“I fully understand the USGA’s pace of play policy as it relates to stroke play”* at a rate of 96% and 94% respectively.

## Survey Says:

In 2013 97% of respondents to the players’ survey agreed with the statement *“The checkpoint system used to govern pace of play during stroke play at the USGA’s amateur championships is easy to understand”*



# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines

## Match Play Pace of Play Guidelines

### Highlights:

- Similar to U.S. Open
  - Maximum Allowable Time
  - Out of Position
    - A group is out of position when it is **OVER** its Maximum Allowable Time
- AND:**
- Reaches a par-3 hole that is clear of all play and all players in the preceding match have played their strokes from the teeing ground of the next hole
  - Reaches a par-4 or par-5 hole that is not clear of all play, but becomes clear of all play **before** all players in the match have played all of their strokes from the teeing ground
  - Reaches a par-4 or par-5 hole that is clear of all play

Note: When a group is out of position, all players will be individually timed.

# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines

## Match Play Penalty Structure

### Maximum Time Per Shot Exceeded:

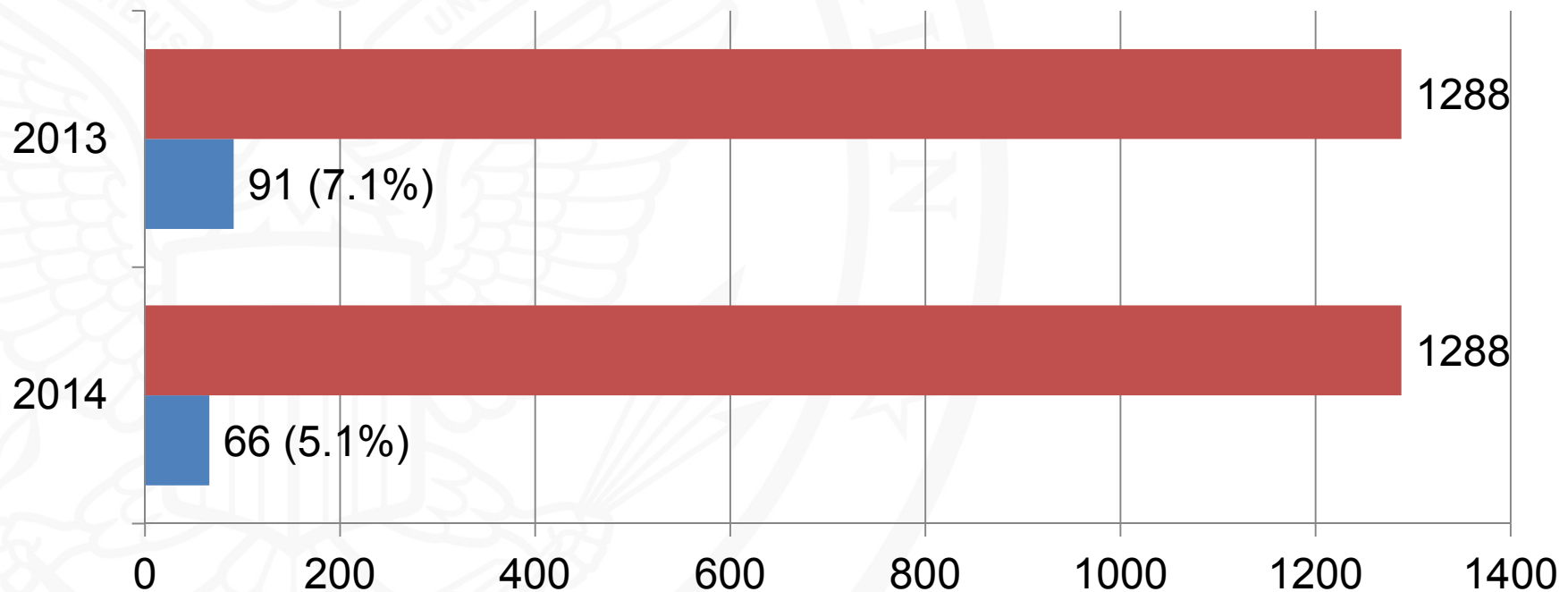
- A player has 40 seconds to play a stroke when the group is out of position
  - 1st breach = Warning
  - 2nd breach = Loss of Hole Penalty
  - 3rd breach = Loss of Hole Penalty
  - 4th breach = Disqualification



# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines

## Demonstrated Improvement in Pace of Play

Number of total groups in our amateur championships vs. the number of groups subject to penalty





# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines

## Demonstrated Improvement in Pace of Play

### Highlights:

- Average finishing time per group in stroke play relative to maximum allowable time was **1.38 minutes slower** across all USGA amateur championships in 2013.
- Average finishing time per group in stroke play relative to maximum allowable time was **2.73 minutes faster** across all USGA amateur championships in 2014.

# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines

## Demonstrated Improvement in Pace of Play

### Highlights:

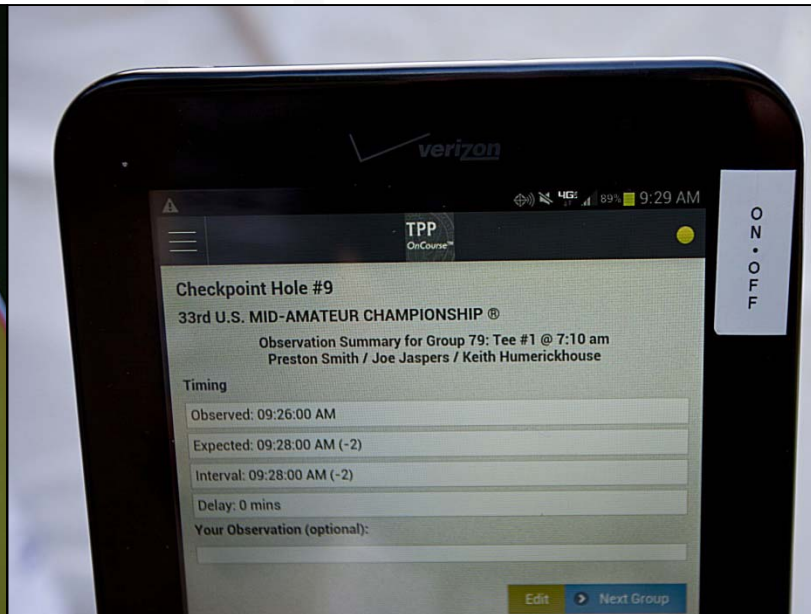
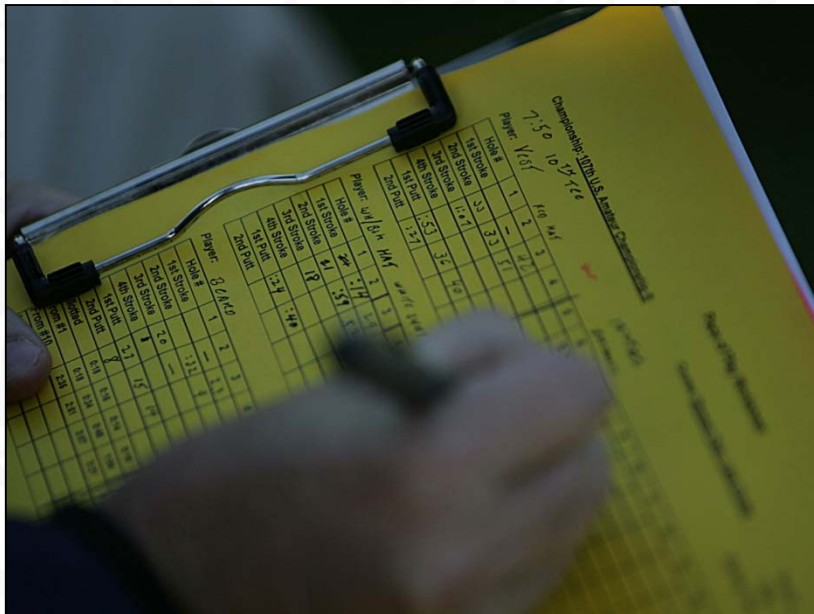
- In 2013, the average finishing time for stroke play for the U.S. Junior Amateur was **1 minute above** the maximum allotted time in stroke play.
- In 2014, the average finishing time for stroke play for the U.S. Junior Amateur was **4 minutes under** the maximum allowable time in stroke play.
- In 2013, the average finishing time for stroke play for the U.S. Senior Amateur was **12 minutes above** the maximum allotted time in stroke play.
- In 2014, the average finishing time for stroke play for the U.S. Senior Amateur was **8 minutes under** the maximum allowable time in stroke play.

# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines

## Demonstrated Improvement in Pace of Play

### Highlights:

- Integration of USGA Pace of Play Tablets



2014 U.S. Senior Amateur Championship

Timing Summary

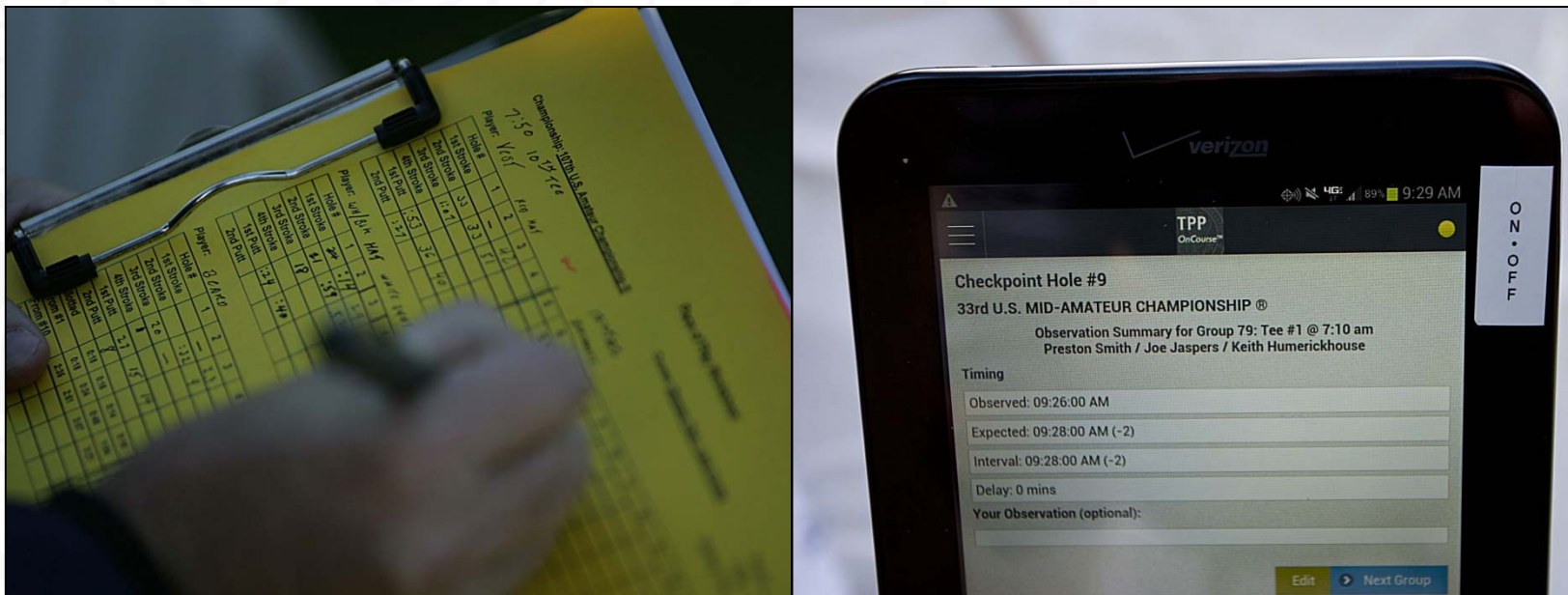
Wave	Group #	Time	Tee	4th	1:00	0:14	9th	2:15	0:14	13th	3:15	0:14	18th	4:35	0:14	Elaps.
2	14	12:05 PM	1	12:53 PM	-12	5	1:59 PM	-21	-5	3:16 PM	-4	-5	4:32 PM	-8	-7	4:27
2	15	12:15 PM	1	1:06 PM	-9	-1	2:08 PM	-22	-5	3:25 PM	-5	-5	4:39 PM	-11	-7	4:24
2	16	12:25 PM	1	1:15 PM	-10	-5	2:16 PM	-24	-6	3:35 PM	-5	-4	4:47 PM	-13	-6	4:22
2	17	12:35 PM	1	1:23 PM	-12	-6	2:32 PM	-18	2	3:42 PM	-8	-7	4:57 PM	-13	-4	4:22
2	18	12:45 PM	1	1:36 PM	-9	-1	2:44 PM	-16	-2	3:53 PM	-7	-3	5:14 PM	-6	3	4:29
2	19	12:55 PM	1	1:50 PM	-5	0	3:01 PM	-9	3	4:02 PM	-8	-5	5:26 PM	-4	-2	4:31
2	20	1:05 PM	1	2:00 PM	-5	-4	3:08 PM	-12	-7	4:08 PM	-12	-8	5:34 PM	-6	-6	4:29
2	21	1:15 PM	1	2:11 PM	-4	-3	3:21 PM	-9	-1	4:19 PM	-11	-3	5:44 PM	-6	-4	4:29
2	22	1:25 PM	1	2:20 PM	-5	-5	3:34 PM	-6	-1	4:29 PM	-11	-4	5:54 PM	-6	-4	4:29
2	23	1:35 PM	1	2:30 PM	-5	-4	3:43 PM	-7	-5	4:38 PM	-12	-5	6:05 PM	-5	-3	4:30
2	24	1:45 PM	1	2:39 PM	-6	-5	3:53 PM	-7	-4	4:52 PM	-8	0	6:14 PM	-6	-5	4:29
2	25	1:55 PM	1	2:50 PM	-5	-3	4:08 PM	-2	1	5:08 PM	-2	2	6:25 PM	-5	-3	4:30
2	26	2:05 PM	1	2:59 PM	-6	-5	4:17 PM	-3	-5	5:20 PM	0	-2	6:42 PM	2	3	4:37
Wave Average:																4:28
Wave	Group #	Time	Tee	13th	0:56	0:14	18th	2:16	0:14	4th	3:20	0:14	9th	4:35	0:14	Elaps.
1	1	12:05 PM	10	12:49 PM	-12	10	2:00 PM	-21	-1	3:10 PM	-15	-3	4:30 PM	-10	-1	4:25
1	2	12:15 PM	10	1:10 PM	-1	7	2:30 PM	-1	16	3:23 PM	-12	-1	4:37 PM	-13	-7	4:22
1	3	12:25 PM	10	1:17 PM	-4	-7	2:38 PM	-3	-6	3:35 PM	-10	-2	4:45 PM	-15	-6	4:20
1	4	12:35 PM	10	1:24 PM	-7	-7	2:46 PM	-5	-6	3:46 PM	-9	-3	4:53 PM	-17	-6	4:18
1	5	12:45 PM	10	1:32 PM	-9	-6	2:59 PM	-2	-1	4:05 PM	0	5	5:12 PM	-8	5	4:27
1	6	12:55 PM	10	1:45 PM	-6	-1	3:06 PM	-5	-7	4:13 PM	-2	-6	5:21 PM	-9	-5	4:26
1	7	1:05 PM	10	1:55 PM	-6	-4	3:18 PM	-3	-2	4:21 PM	-4	-6	5:32 PM	-8	-3	4:27
1	8	1:15 PM	10	2:09 PM	-2	0	3:26 PM	-5	-6	4:32 PM	-3	-3	5:43 PM	-7	-3	4:28
1	9	1:25 PM	10	2:23 PM	2	0	3:44 PM	3	4	4:41 PM	-4	-5	5:54 PM	-6	-3	4:29
1	10	1:36 PM	10	2:33 PM	1	-4	3:50 PM	-2	-8	4:52 PM	-4	-3	6:04 PM	-7	-4	4:28
1	11	1:45 PM	10	2:41 PM	0	-6	3:57 PM	-4	-7	5:01 PM	-4	-5	6:14 PM	-6	-4	4:29
1	12	1:55 PM	10	2:55 PM	4	0	4:09 PM	-2	-2	5:08 PM	-7	-7	6:23 PM	-7	-5	4:28
1	13	2:05 PM	10	3:07 PM	6	-2	4:25 PM	4	2	5:17 PM	-8	-5	6:32 PM	-8	-5	4:27
Wave Average:																4:25
				Round Low: 4:18	High: 4:37				Median: 4:29				Average: 4:28			

# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines

## Demonstrated Improvement in Pace of Play

### Highlights:

- Integration of USGA Pace of Play Tablets
- Enhanced Player Educational Efforts



# USGA Amateur Championship Pace of Play Guidelines

## Ongoing Education and Continuous Improvement

### Examples:

- Guidelines reviewed annually
- Change to written guidelines (wording)
- Collaboration for consistency



- Making first three checkpoints and missing the last
  - Added language in our player education talking points at player registration
  - Added an encouraging script to the third checkpoint