

Keeping Pace: Flagstick Monitoring Tool

The best way to avoid delays on the course is for facility operators to identify and clear backups before they decrease golfer enjoyment and add to round times. The USGA has worked with Spectrum Technologies to develop a flagstick-based tool that allows a single person to keep track of all the golfers on the course. If one group has trouble on a hole, the facility operator can get that group back on pace and prevent delays that would have rippled down to every subsequent group. Here is a quick look at the technology.

HOW IT WORKS

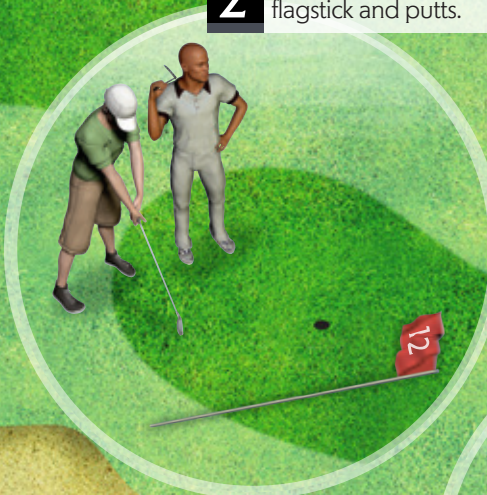
1

The device records when Group 1 puts the flagstick in the hole after putting out.



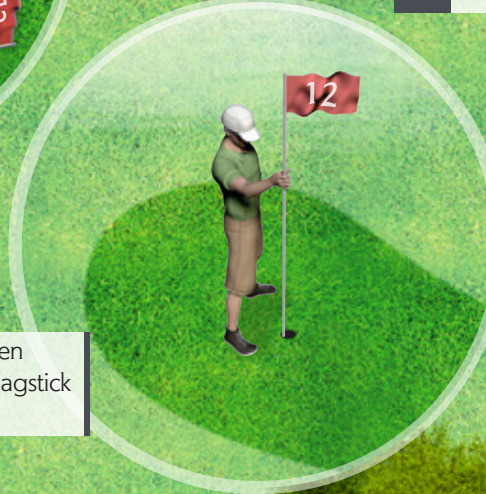
2

Group 2 pulls out the flagstick and putts.



3

The device records when Group 2 replaces the flagstick after finishing the hole.



5

If a group has a longer-than-expected cycle time, course staff can quickly get the group back on track instead of letting the delay increase waits and playing times of the following groups.



4

The device sends the gap between the groups, called "cycle time," to a central source: computer, tablet or smartphone.



INSIDE THE TECHNOLOGY

