

# **RULES of GOLF CORNER - Time allowed to search**

**One of the major changes in the 2019 Rules of Golf revision was the reduction of the search time for a lost ball from 5 minutes to 3 minutes. Along with many other Rules changes, this change was made in the best interest of pace of play. If a ball is not found within 3 minutes after the player or his caddie begin to search for it, the ball is LOST.**

**It is highly recommended that once the player or caddie start to search for their ball, they should also start the clock on the search time. This time may be kept by any player or caddie in the group, or by any other person asked to do so. It is the responsibility of the player to have an accurate running clock, so that a ball is clearly found or lost at the expiration of 3 minutes, without any questions.**

**Keeping accurate time on a ball search should be done to protect the rights of the player involved, or in turn, to protect the rest of the field. All too often this simple requirement is over-looked, and the co-operation of all PGA TOUR players and caddies is appreciated.**



**QUESTIONS? SEEK A MEMBER OF THE PGA TOUR RULES COMMITTEE**