

GOLF BUGGY POLICY



PRIVATELY OWNED SINGLE SEATER BUGGIES



Approved by the Policy & Steering Committee on 18th August 2009



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Privately Owned Single Seater Buggies

Introduction

Due to disability, some members and visitors may not be able to play golf without the help provided by a motorised Golf Buggy. The purpose of this document is to establish a standard for the safe operation of all Golf Buggies operated on the course at Ferndown Golf Club. The document also sets down the criteria to be applied and conditions to be met when the Club considers applications for the use of a Privately Owned Single Seater Buggy.

Qualifications:

Use of a Privately Owned Single Seater Buggy will not be allowed unless authorised by the Club and will be restricted to members, visitors and guests demonstrably having a genuine incapacity to play golf unless aided by the use of the buggy. (See also `Use in General Play and Competitions` below).

Any person who accepts the privilege of operating a Privately Owned Single Seater Buggy on the golf course is deemed by so doing, to have the knowledge, training and skill to safely operate this vehicle and be fully accountable for their actions and the consequences thereof.

The safe operation of Golf Buggies on the course requires conscientious application and adherence to the minimum standard of care prescribed by this policy.

Golf Buggies must be operated in accordance with the requirements of the following documents:

- Golf Buggy Safety Policy
- Golf Buggy Safe Working Practice
- Golf Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form.

In order that these conditions can in practice be met, the General Manager or their approved nominee must whenever possible be given prior notice of a requirement by a member, visitor or guest to use a Privately Owned Single Seater Buggy. The Club reserves the right to refuse permission if all of the conditions stipulated are not complied with.

The Club also reserves the right to withdraw authorisation if the medical condition or disability necessitating the use of a Privately Owned Single Seater Buggy ceases, or, the conditions for its use are not fully complied with.

From time to time Club Officials authorised to Close a Course in terms of Clause 7 of the Course Policy Document may determine that the state of the course or the weather is such that safety on or the condition of the course may be unacceptably compromised if a Golf Buggy is used. This might apply to the whole or just part of the course. Potentially unsuitable conditions include waterlogging, frost, etc. Where such conditions arise the club will review the situation on at least a twice daily basis.

Use in General Play and Competitions

During general (non-competition) play a Golf Buggy shall only be used by members, visitors and guests authorised to do so.

Golf Buggies may be used during closed and open competitions by those suffering from a disability within the meaning of the Disability Discrimination Legislation.



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Golf Buggy Safety Policy

The Club has a duty of care to all users of the golf course.

The topography of certain areas of the course is such that caution and prudence must be shown by the user of a Golf Buggy. It is also necessary for the Club to provide adequately safe means of access for all golfers including those given permission to use Golf Buggies. Moreover, the Club has to ensure the safety of golfers who do not wish to use Golf Buggies but who might be at risk from a mechanically defective Golf Buggy or its careless use. This duty of care also applies to members of the public who may, from time to time, justifiably be on the course.

To assist the safe employment of Golf Buggies all potential users (members and visitors) shall comply with the following conditions:

1. Only electrically driven Golf Buggies – with three or four wheeled - are permitted at Ferndown Golf Club as Privately Owned Single Seater Buggies.
2. Privately Owned Single Seater Buggies must be either ridden or transported to Ferndown Golf Club within the confines of the owner's vehicle. Transportation using a trailer is not permitted due to restricted car park space,
3. Facilities to store or re-charge Privately Owned Single Seater Buggies are not available at Ferndown Golf Club.
4. Privately Owned Single Seater Buggies on Ferndown Golf Club property are only for the use of members and visitors who are disabled within the meaning of the Disability Discrimination Legislation.
5. Golf Buggies must be operated with the utmost courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of pedestrians. Pedestrians must be afforded the right-of-way at all times.
6. The signs and instructions employed on the course to warn Golf Buggy users of potential danger areas or areas forbidden to Golf Buggies because of concerns about danger or the potential to cause unacceptable wear and tear to the course, must be followed at all times.
7. Golf Buggies must be operated and parked in such a manner that they do not impede or interfere with normal pedestrian or vehicular flow on roadways, ramps or pavements.
8. Golf Buggy operators will be responsible for the security of ignition keys for the period that the buggy is on the property owned by the Club.
9. Ferndown Golf Club has no responsibility for ensuring the safe operation of Golf Buggies on or beyond the confines of the course and the club car-parks other than those operated by their servants or agents. The Club will accept no responsibility for any loss or damage caused to any property other than that arising from the negligent use of a Golf Buggy by their servants or agents.
10. No Golf Buggy will be operated in excess of 16 km / 10 miles per hour. All speed limits must be observed.
11. Golf Buggies shall be used only between dawn and dusk.
12. Golf Buggies must be operated in compliance with the common `rules of the road` regardless of whether Golf Buggies are operated on pavements or roadways.
13. Operators must stop the Golf Buggy at blind intersections and proceed with caution.
14. The consumption of alcohol and/or the improper use of drugs when using a Golf Buggy is not permitted.
15. The General Manager has the authority to immediately suspend or prohibit any individual from using or being carried in a Golf Buggy. Application for reinstatement of permission to use a Privately Owned Single Seater Buggy can only be made to the Captain's Committee.



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Golf Buggy Safe Working Practice

- Golf Buggy operators must not be under the influence of alcoholic drinks or drugs
- Never allow children to drive the Golf Buggy

BEFORE USE

- All operators of Golf Buggies must sign a Golf Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement form before they are allowed to use the buggy
- A Golf Buggy shall only be used for the number of occupants it was designed to carry and only by people who are authorised to use one.

DURING USE

- Always remain seated and hold on while the vehicle is in motion
- Hands, feet and head must be kept inside the Golf Buggy at all times while the vehicle is in motion
- Golf Buggies must not be driven in prohibited areas
- The vehicle must be used to progress the game and must not be driven up and down excessively, e.g., when looking for golf balls
- The vehicle must not be used on tees, greens or the slopes leading up to them
- The vehicle must not be used within 2 metres of any bunkers, ditches or ponds or slopes leading to them except when using the designated bridges
- The vehicle must not be driven into any heather on the course
- Check the area behind the vehicle before reversing
- Set the parking brake before leaving the vehicle
- Always consider the terrain, existing vehicular and pedestrian traffic conditions as well as environmental factors that may affect your ability to operate the vehicle safely
- Drive the vehicle only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow
- To avoid tipping over, drive the buggy straight up and down severe slopes
- Slow down before corners.
- All turns must be executed at reduced speeds
- Avoid sudden stops or changes of direction that may result in loss of control
- Be extra careful when the course is wet and muddy

AFTER USE

When the vehicle is left unattended, turn the operating key to the off position, remove the key and engage the parking brake.

PROBLEMS ON THE COURSE

PLEASE OBTAIN DETAILS FROM THE PRO SHOP STAFF OR THE CHALK BOARD OUTSIDE THE PRO SHOP.



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CHECK LIST FOR USERS OF GOLF BUGGIES

Know the controls and how to use them

- Ignition switch and immobiliser key
- Accelerator
- Footbrake
- Parking brake – Set the brake before leaving the Golf Buggy
- Reversing Control

Know your driving conditions

- Golf Buggies can only be used for the number of occupants it was designed to carry and by those authorised to do so
- Golf Buggies must not be used on the areas of the course where prohibitive signs are placed.
- The vehicle must not be driven up and down the course when looking for golf balls
- The vehicle must not be used on tees, greens or slopes leading up to them
- The vehicle must not be used within 2 metres of or, on the slopes leading to any bunkers, ponds or ditches (except when crossing designated bridges)
- Always consider the terrain, existing vehicular and pedestrian traffic conditions, as well as environmental factors that may affect your ability to operate the vehicle safely
- Drive the vehicle only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow
- To avoid tipping over, drive buggies straight up and down slopes
- Slow down before corners.
- All turns must be executed at reduced speeds
- Avoid sudden stops or change of direction that may result in loss of control



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Sample Medical Certification

To:

**Ferndown Golf Club
119 Golf Links Road
Ferndown
Dorset
BH22 8BU**

I Dr.....

of.....

.....

Certify that I have examined

of.....

.....

and am of the opinion that he/she has a disability within the meaning of the Disability Discrimination Legislation and is unable to play or has undue difficulty in playing golf without the use of a motorised Golf Buggy.

Signed

Dated

ADMINISTRATION

In respect of Privately Owned Single Seater Buggies, Club Office Staff will retain on file a fully completed and signed "Golf Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form", together with Medical Certification as per the example above. Club Office Staff will also ensure that the Pro Shop Staff are in possession of an up to date copy of the register of Authorised Buggy Users for whom documents are held on file and to whom authorisation has been granted for use of a Privately Owned Single Seater Buggy.



GOLF BUGGY POLICY



Privately Owned Single Seater Buggies

Golf Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form

This form must be completed by all golfers prior to operating a Golf Buggy

Any person who accepts the privilege of operating a Golf Buggy on Ferndown Golf Club premises is deemed, by so doing, to have the knowledge, training and skill to safely operate this vehicle and shall be fully accountable for their actions and consequences thereof.

The safe operation of Golf Buggies on the Courses requires conscientious application and adherence to the minimum standard of care prescribed by this policy.

Name:

Address:

.....

By signing below I acknowledge that:

- I have read the Ferndown Golf Club Buggy Safe Working Practice
- I understand the terms and conditions of the Ferndown Golf Club Buggy Safety Policy
- I have been provided with the opportunity to ask questions related to this policy
- I will ensure that the Golf Buggy is maintained and operated in accordance with the Ferndown Golf Club Buggy Safety Policy
- I accept that it is my duty alone to ensure that I have sufficient insurance to cover liability for risks to third parties.
- I agree to indemnify Ferndown Golf Club against all claims costs and demands made against Ferndown Golf Club arising out of or in connection with the use of the Golf Buggy.

Signature:

Date: _____

Users of Privately Owned Single Seater Buggies do so at their own risk. Ferndown Golf club will not accept any liability for any loss or damage to the Privately Owned Single Seater Buggy or any other property arising from the negligence of the club or any of its servants or agents