

# **Buckingham Golf Club Limited**

## **Ride-on Buggy Policy**

### **Document Control**

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<b>Reviewed &amp; revised</b>	Greg Hannah Andrew Nicholson Sharon Dale Geoff Robb	3 Nov 2017
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### **Aim and Purpose of Policy**

This policy aims to set out the circumstances in which Golf Buggies may be used in general play and events organised and managed by Buckingham Golf Club Limited (hereon as “The club”). The purpose of this policy is to set down the criteria to be applied and conditions to be met when The Club considers applications for buggy use and to establish a standard for the safe operation of all Ride-on buggies operated at The Club.

### **Scope of this Policy**

The Club recognises it has a duty of care to all users of the golf course. It is necessary for The Club to provide adequate safe means of access for all golfers including those given permission to use buggies.

It should be noted that those members who pay a reduced fee are being granted this as a concession.

The Club also has to ensure the safety of golfers who do not use Ride-on Buggies but who might be at risk from mechanically defective Ride-on buggies or its careless use. This duty of care also applies to members of the public using the various rights-of-way through the golf course.

### **Restricted Mobility Persons**

Due to restricted mobility some members, guests and visitors may not be able to play golf without the help provided by a motorised ride-on buggy. The Club wishes to encourage the participation in golf of all players regardless of any disabilities.

In circumstances where demand for use of a buggy is high, The Club shall aim to prioritise persons of restricted mobility over able-bodied players for use of ride-on buggies.

In line with Club practices, where a member seeks consideration from The Club on the use of a Ride-on Buggy at concessionary rates due to restricted mobility then a valid medical certificate ‘Medical Form’ from a registered general practitioner or consultant registered with the Health Professions Council in support of this request shall be required.

### **Personal Ride-on Buggies**

In general, all buggies used at the club are those maintained and serviced by The Club, however The Club recognises that some members, guests or visitors may wish to use their own Ride-on Buggy. The Club Manager and/or Club Professional can approve the use of personal Ride-on Buggies owned by playing members, guests and visitors. Such approvals shall be reliant upon the member guest or visitor agreeing to comply with this ‘Buggy Policy’ its conditions and recommended ‘Safe Operation Practice’.

Members or visitors may use their own Ride-on Buggy subject to approval by the club Manager or his approved nominee, provided that:

1. They are adequately insured and have produced a valid Certificate of Insurance to the Club Manager or his approved nominee before play is commenced, confirming that they have accidental damage and public liability cover, with the minimum public liability limit of £5,000,000 in place
2. The buggy conforms to the following specifications:
  - The buggy must have four wheels
  - The buggy must have wide pneumatic tyres
  - The buggy must have a minimum distance of 35 1/2 inches between the outer edges of the rear tires
  - The buggy must have the minimum distance of 30 1/2 inches between the outer edges of the front tyres
3. By signing a 'Buggy Safety Acknowledgement Form'

Note: An example of an approved Ride-on Buggy is the Electrokart Voyager ([www.electrokart.com](http://www.electrokart.com))

## Categories of Users and Qualifications

Users of Ride-on Buggies at the Club will fall into one of four categories:

1. Those who have a disability within the meaning of the Equality Act 2010 and are unable to play golf, or have undue difficulty playing golf without the use of a motorised Ride-on Buggy
2. Those who do not have a disability within the meaning of the Equality Act 2010 but who have a permanent medical condition meaning that they are unable to play golf, or have undue difficulty playing golf without the use of a motorised Ride-on buggy
3. Those who do not have a disability within the meaning of the Equality Act 2010 but who have a temporary medical condition meaning that they are unable to play golf, or have undue difficulty playing golf without the use of motorised Ride-on Buggy. *Users in this category will have their case reviewed every three months and will be removed from the category when the medical condition or disability necessitating the use of ride-on buggy cease*
4. *Members who do not fall into any of the above categories*
5. *Visitors to Buckingham Golf Club who wish to a Ride-on Buggy*

Any person who hires or accepts the privilege of operating a ride-on buggy on the golf course is deemed by doing so, 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 Ride-on Buggies on the course requires conscientious application to the minimum standard of care prescribed by this policy.

Ride-on Buggies must be operated in accordance with the requirements of the following documents:

1. Buggy Safety Acknowledgement Form & Checklist
2. Buggy Safe Operation Practice
3. Medical Form (completed and signed by a doctor)

In order that these conditions can be met in practice, the Club Manager or his proved nominee, must whenever possible be given written prior notice (at least five working days) of a requirement by a member or visitor to use a Ride-on Buggy. The Club reserves the right to refuse permission if all of the conditions stipulated are not complied with.

The Club reserves the right to withdraw authorisation if the medical condition or disability which necessitated the use of a Ride-on buggy ceases, or the conditions for its use are not fully complied with.

From time to time, Club staff may determine that the state of the course or the weather is such that safety or the condition of the course may be unacceptably compromised if a Ride-on Buggy is used. This might apply to the whole or just part of the course. Potentially unsuitable conditions include water logging, frost etc.

## Conditions

To assist the safe deployment of Ride-on Buggies all potential users (members, visitors and guests) shall note and comply with the following conditions:

1. Only persons with a valid driving license shall be allowed to drive a Ride-on Buggy, regardless of whether it is the property of the club or self owned
2. All persons agree to operate the Ride-on Buggy in compliance with this policy and the The Club's 'Safe Operation Practice'
3. Drivers of a Ride-on Buggy must not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs
4. Ride-on 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
5. The signs and instructions employed on the course to warn Buggy riders of potential danger areas or, it is forbidden to ride on Buggies because of concerns about danger or, the potential to cause unacceptable wear and tear to the course, must be followed at all times
6. Ride-on 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
7. Ride-on 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
8. The club has no responsibility for ensuring the safe operation of Ride-on Buggies on or beyond the confines of the course and The Club car parks other than those operated by their staff. The Club will not accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused to any property other than that arising from the negligent use of a Ride-on Buggy by their staff
9. No Ride-on Buggy shall be operated at a speed considered excessive. All speed limits must be observed
10. Ride-on buggies shall be used only when the course is open for play and when there is no Buggy ban in force
11. Ride-on Buggies must be operated in compliance with the Highway Code regardless of whether Ride-on Buggies are operated on pavements or roadways
12. The Club Manager and Club Professional have the authority to immediately prohibit any individual from using or being carried on a Ride-on Buggy. Application for reinstatement of permission can only be made to The Club
13. Guests and visitors shall sign a 'Buggy Policy Consent Form' when they are not escorted by a member on the buggy
14. Failure to agree to the terms and conditions contained in the 'Safe Operation Practice' and the 'Buggy Policy Safety Acknowledgment Form' will result in permission been withdrawn to use a Ride-on Buggy

## Hire Charges

Ride-on Buggy hire charges per round, for each of the categories (see section above) are:

- *Category 1* £7.50 (*excl those previously agreed at no cost*)
- *Category 2/3* £7.50
- *Category 4* £20.00
- *Category 5* £25.00

The Club operates a number of Ride-on Buggies which can be hired at the above rates.

Where more than one person hires and uses a Ride-on Buggy in the same game they **must** share the buggy. The cost of the buggy will be charged at the higher applicable rate. It is expected that the cost will be split between the users.

If members who play in the same game do not share a buggy then the charge will be at the full member rate of £20.00.

## **Use of Ride-on Buggies in Competitions**

Ride-on Buggies may only be used in competitions at Buckingham Golf Club by users in categories 1,2 and 3 above.

## **Annual Review**

It is expected that there will be an annual review of all buggy users to ensure that there have been no changes to the person's personal circumstances. In addition the charges for the buggies will be reviewed. This will be carried out by the Club Manager, or his approved nominee.