



St Neots Golf Club Buggy Safety Policy

Duty of Care

The Club has a duty of care to its employees and all users of the golf course. Caution and care must be shown by all users of buggies. The Club must also ensure adequate safe means of access for all golfers as well as those given permission to use buggies. Moreover, the Club has to ensure the safety of the majority of golfers who do not use buggies but who might be at risk from a mechanically defective buggy or its careless use. The Club's duty of care also applies to any members of the public who may be on the course.

Conditions of Use

To ensure the safe use of buggies, all users are required to comply with the following conditions:-

- Buggies may only be used by those authorised by SNGC so to do.
- Buggies must be operated with the utmost common sense, courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of pedestrians. Pedestrians must be afforded the right-of-way at all times.
- Users will be responsible for the security of ignition keys for the period that the buggy is in use in their care and on Club property.
- Any signs and instructions used to warn buggy riders of potential danger areas or areas in which buggies must not be used because of the potential to cause unacceptable wear and tear to the course must be complied with at all times.
- SNGC has no responsibility for ensuring the safe operation of 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 buggy by their servants or agents.
- SNGC reserves the right to ban all buggy use when the course conditions caused by adverse weather deem buggy operation unsafe or detrimental /damaging to the golf course playing surfaces.
- It shall be a condition of any competition organised by SNGC that players must walk at all times during a stipulated round, unless permitted to use a golf buggy by a SNGC committee decision, in accordance with this policy. The penalty for a breach of this condition is detailed under the Specimen Condition on page 146 of the English edition of the 2008-11 Rules of Golf as published by the R&A Rules Ltd.

Buggy Safe Working Practice

Before Use

All users must sign a Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form (below) before they are allowed to drive a buggy at St Neots Golf Club. This can be signed and sent back to us before the day of play or on the day prior to playing having signed it before teeing off.

All users must ensure that they are familiar with the buggy controls and the constraints on buggy use.

All users must familiarise themselves with the SNGC Buggy Use Guidelines displayed on the noticeboard outside the changing room.

During Use

Users must:-

- Be satisfied that the buggy is well maintained and fully serviceable.:
- Adhere to the SNGC General Rules of Buggy Operation below:

General Rules of Buggy Operation

1. Buggies may only be driven by persons over the age of 18 years and a holder of a valid driving licence unless special exemption has been granted.
2. No buggy shall be allowed to carry more than the number of passengers for which it was designed. Drivers must remain seated with hands, feet and head kept inside the buggy at all times while the buggy is in motion.
3. Buggies must be operated with the utmost common sense, courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of pedestrians. Pedestrians must be afforded the right-of-way at all times.
4. Buggies must not be driven at excessive speed but be kept at a speed that the terrain allows and users must always apply the parking brake before leaving the buggy;
5. Buggy drivers should not operate the vehicle with tight or speedy turns and always slow down before turning and always avoid excessive braking.
6. In so far as possible, buggies must be kept to the designated pathways, hard standings or fairways edge / light rough and then traverse 90 degrees to the ball position.
7. Buggies must be kept out of the heavy rough, and any ecological areas.

8. Under no circumstances should a buggy be driven over greens, tee boxes, through bunkers or other hazards or between greens aprons and greenside bunkers, or any other area designated for protection by wire framing or roped off areas.
9. Buggies must be kept at least 2 meters away from edges of any bunkers, ditches, ponds and the reservoir.
10. SNGC reserves the right to ban all buggy use when the course conditions caused by adverse weather deem buggy operation unsafe, detrimental or damaging to the golf course.
11. Any club member/official using a buggy for competition support purposes, marshalling or course inspection work must adhere to this policy.
12. Medical exempt personal buggy users must read and comply with the Course Route Guidelines for use in wet and winter conditions when allowed on the course. These guidelines are a subset of the Course Risk Assessment Document found on the club website. A copy of this can also be obtained from the club office.

This applies to all buggy users

After Use

After use, any club buggy should be parked on the grass in front of the entrance to the Pro Shop / Clubhouse, the parking brake engaged, the operating key turned to the off position ready for handing in to a member of Pro Shop. Personal Buggies must be taken to the member's vehicle for safe/ secure stowage unless they are road worthy buggies used by golfers to drive to the club. These should be parked in view of the clubhouse, but not in a position to be a nuisance to members, for the security of buggy and golf equipment on board.

Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form

All golfers must complete this form prior to using a Golf Buggy ("Buggy")

Any person/s who accept the privilege of operating a buggy on St Neots Golf Club are required in so doing, to have the knowledge, training and skill to operate the buggy safely and shall be fully accountable for their actions and consequences thereof.

The safe operation of buggies requires responsible application and adherence to the minimum standard of care prescribed by this policy.

Name of User.....

Address of User.....

E Mail Address of User.....Contact
Tel.....

By signing below I acknowledge that:

- I have read and understand SNGC's Buggy usage guidelines.
- I understand the terms and conditions of SNGC's Buggy Safety Policy.
- I have been given the opportunity to ask questions related to this Practice and Policy.
- I am aware of the areas where I am unable to take a ride on buggy.
- Where applicable I possess and have produced a copy of certified medical evidence, which disables me from playing golf without the use of a ride on buggy.
- I will not loan or rent out a personal buggy to any other SNGC club member or visitor.
- Personal buggies on towed car trailers are to be parked in the overflow parking area adjacent to the green staff shed.
- I will ensure a personal buggy will be maintained and operated in accordance with the St Neots Golf Club buggy safety policy.
- Any personal buggy is approved EU manufactured design and type recorded.
- I confirm that I have a current and valid insurance policy to cover liability for risks to third parties. I also confirm I have a current & valid driving licence.
- Personal buggies will not be stored on the course.
- I agree to indemnify SNGC against all claims costs and demands made against SNGC arising out of or in connection with the use of the golf buggy

Signature of User _____ Date _____

Signature of Club Official _____ Date _____

Name _____ Position _____

Users of golf buggies do so at their own risk. SNGC will not accept any liability for any loss or damage to the golf buggy or any other property other than arising from

the negligence of the Club or any of its servants or agents. *The English Golf Union provides a comprehensive policy on the use of golf buggies (Transportation Policy) via their website*