

# **BUGGY POLICY**

## **Druids Heath Golf Club Ltd**

### **Use of Ride-on Buggies on the Golf Course**

#### **1. Introduction**

1.1 Use is regulated by Druids Heath Golf Club Ltd policy with due regard to section 6 of The Equality Act 2010

1.2 During normal conditions the use of buggies will be allowed subject to the conditions outlined within this policy.

1.3 At certain times the general condition of Druids Heath Golf Club may not allow use, however, it is recognised that some golfers would be unable to play without such facility. During adverse conditions, use will be subject to health and safety criteria and accessibility to the whole or parts of the course. Where parts of the course are affected a shortened course may be in operation. If a shortened course is required then justification will be recorded detailing time, date and reasons for such action within the golf buggy file.

1.4 A hole by hole risk assessment identifies hazards, some being particular to the use of ride on buggies, these risk assessments are in the club Health & Safety Policy. A general set of safety instructions are included within the policy. It is recognised that at times a specific appraisal of the whole or part of the course should be undertaken - for example in extreme wet conditions / when there is ice or snow.

1.5 Such restrictions apply equally to any person who has their own buggy. Any person wishing to use their own buggy at Druids Heath Golf Club must make advance written application to the Secretary / Manager or Head Golf Professional. Such applications must clearly demonstrate that personal / third party and public liability insurance are in place.

#### **2. General Qualification:**

Use of a ride-on buggy will not be allowed unless authorised by the Club and will be restricted to members, visitors and guests who comply with the club policy, safety instructions and are able to safely use the same.

#### **3. Specific Qualification:**

3.1 At times when the general provision of ride on buggies has been suspended, Druids Heath Golf Club recognises that some golfers may be unable to play. Players who demonstrably have a genuine incapacity to play golf unless aided by the use of the buggy will be allowed use but may be required to use a specific route, and / or find that a shortened course is in operation. The use of the 90 degree rule may also

apply. In order to qualify for use during such times users must be in possession of a medical certification which has been duly signed by the applicant's doctor. Blue Badge holders are not exempt from the need to obtain a medical certificate. (See also `Use in General Play and Competitions` below).

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

3.3 Any person who operates a ride-on 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.

3.4 The safe operation of ride-on buggies on the course requires conscientious application and adherence to the minimum standard of care prescribed by this policy.

3.5 Ride-on buggies must be operated in accordance with the requirements of the following:

Golf Buggy Safety Policy  
Golf Buggy Safe Working Practice  
Golf Buggy Hire Agreement Form

3.6 In order that these conditions can in practice be met, the Club Secretary/Manager or the club Professional or qualified member of the professional shop, must whenever possible, be given prior notice of a requirement by a member, visitor or guest to use a ride on buggy. The Club reserves the right to refuse permission if some or all of the conditions stipulated are not complied with.

3.7 The Course manager / Professional may determine that course conditions or the weather are such that safety or conditions 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. and may require complete or partial closure. Where such conditions arise the club will review the situation. Such conditions must be recorded in the buggy policy file.

#### **4. Use in General Play and Competitions:**

4.1 During general and competition play a ride-on buggy may be used by abled or disabled members, visitors and guests authorised to do so who comply with the policy.

#### **5. Golf Buggy Safety Policy**

5.1 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 ride-on buggy. It is also necessary for the Club to provide adequately safe

means of access for all golfers including those given permission to use buggies. Moreover, the Club has to ensure the safety of golfers who do not wish to use ride-on buggies but who might be at risk from a mechanically defective ride-on buggy or its careless use. This duty of care also applies to members of the public using the various rights of way.

5.2 To assist the safe use of ride-on buggies all potential users (members, visitors and guests) shall comply with the following conditions:

a. Ride-on buggies on Druids Heath Golf Club property are only for the use of members and visitors or disabled persons within the meaning of the Equality Legislation.

b. 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. Specific mention is made of the public footpaths throughout the course and the road crossing from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> holes, 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> holes, 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> holes and 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> holes.

c. The instructions employed warn buggy users of potential danger areas or, areas forbidden to ride-on buggies because of concerns about danger or, the potential to cause unacceptable wear and tear to the course, and the instructions must be followed at all times.

d. 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.

e. Ride-on buggy operators will be responsible for the security of ignition keys and buggy for the period that the buggy is on the property owned by the Club.

f. Druids Heath Golf Club have 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 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 ride-on buggy by their servants or agents.

g. Ride-on buggies shall be used only between dawn and dusk.

h. Ride-on buggies must be operated in compliance with the common `rules of the road` regardless of whether ride-on buggies are operated on pavements or roadways.

i. Operators must stop the buggy at blind intersections and proceed with caution especially when crossing Hobs Hole Lane from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> holes, 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> holes, 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> holes and 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> holes.

j. The consumption of alcohol and/or the improper use of drugs is not permitted when using the ride-on buggy.

k. The Secretary/Manager, Club Professional, their agent or Member of the Committee has 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.

l. When applicable, ride on buggies must follow the designated route as displayed in the Pro Shop.

m. Where a shortened course is in operation users must comply with such instruction including any specific route and or 90 degree rule.

## **6. Safe Working Practice:**

Buggy operators must not be under the influence of alcoholic drinks or drugs. Users under 18 may not drive the buggy and must be accompanied by an adult aged over 18 over who takes responsibility for all incidents or accidents.

**BEFORE USE: All** operators of ride-on buggies must sign a Safety Policy Acknowledgement form before they are allowed to drive the buggy – the 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.

The operator must be conversant with the controls i.e. Ignition switch and immobiliser key, Accelerator, Foot and Parking brake, Reversing Control.

**DURING USE: Do** not move off until all occupants are seated and hold on while the vehicle is in motion

Buggies must not be driven up and down excessively, e.g., when looking for golf balls or on slopes as this may affect your ability to operate the vehicle safely

At times the 90 degree rule may also be applied whereby you drive through the rough and when you get level with your ball you make a 90 degree turn and drive to your ball. After playing your shot follow your track back to the rough.

Drive the vehicle only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow to avoid tipping over, drive the buggy straight up and down slopes, and 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 and be extra careful when the course is wet, muddy or frost.

AFTER USE when the vehicle is left unattended, engage the parking brake, turn the operating key to the off position, and remove the key. Where applicable the buggy should be left in the appropriate buggy parking area. All keys must be returned to the professional shop or if closed to the bar.

Any incident must be immediately reported to the Secretary /Manager, Club Professional or Member of the Committee.

### **Druids Heath Golf Club Designated Route**

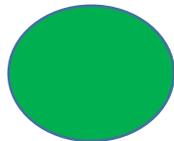
The Course Manager/Professional may determine that course conditions or the weather are such that safety or conditions may be unacceptably compromised if a ride-on buggy is used. This might apply to the whole or just part of the course.

All routes are displayed on our website and you will be notified of the route in play by the Professional or qualified member of the professional team

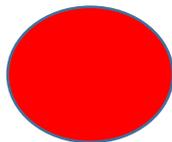
Druids Heath Golf Club operates the following Designated Routes, please follow the designated route as outlined below.

1. **Full Summer Route:** The full course is in play, Buggies have full access to all holes on the golf course, and no restrictions apply.
2. **Designated Routes** subject to Health & Safety and or Weather conditions. There are three routes

**a. Green**



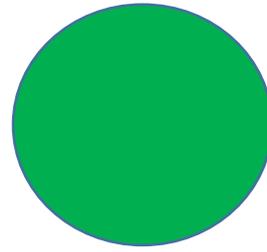
**b. Red**



3. **Course closed** to all golfers.

## GREEN BUGGY POLICY

All Buggies must stay in the rough using the 90 degree rule.  
Please drive the Buggy on the outside of bunkers



### 1<sup>st</sup> Hole:

Right rough

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Hole:

Right rough. Access to the 3<sup>rd</sup> tee should be made round the back of the 2<sup>nd</sup> green to the path in the hedgeway.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Hole:

Right or Left rough. Access to the 4<sup>th</sup> should be left or right of the 3<sup>rd</sup> green. **Warning: Road Crossing**

### 4<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Right rough. Access to the 5<sup>th</sup> tee should be to the right of the 4<sup>th</sup> green.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Right rough

### 6<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Right rough. **Warning: Road Crossing**

### 7<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Left rough. Exit the 7<sup>th</sup> hole around the back of the green to the 8<sup>th</sup> tee.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Right or Left rough

### 9<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Left rough. **Warning: Danger of balls coming from the direction of the 10<sup>th</sup> tee**

### 10<sup>th</sup> hole:

Right or Left rough. From the left rough access to the next tee must be around the back of the green. **Warning: shout 'FORE RIGHT' if your ball is heading in the direction of the 9<sup>th</sup> hole.**

### 11<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Right rough

### 12<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Right rough

### 13<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Left rough. **Warning: Road Crossing**

### 14<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Buggies should follow the path up the **Left** side of this hole.

### 15<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Right rough

### 16<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Left rough

**Warning: Road Crossing**

### 17<sup>th</sup> Hole:

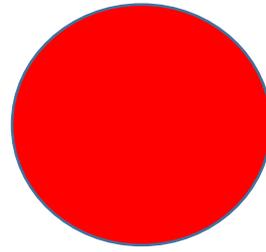
Left rough

### 18<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Right rough. Access to the clubhouse should be around the right back of the green.

## RED BUGGY POLICY

All Buggies must stay in the rough.  
Please drive the Buggy on the outside of bunkers  
Access to your ball should be on foot.  
Buggies may not be driven on the fairway.



### 1<sup>st</sup> Hole:

Right rough

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Hole:

Right rough. Access to the 18<sup>th</sup> tee should be made round the back of the 2<sup>nd</sup> green.

### 18<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Right rough. Follow path to 10<sup>th</sup> tee. **Warning: You will need to intermingle with players playing the full course.**

### 10<sup>th</sup> hole:

Right or Left rough. From the left rough access to the next tee must be around the back of the green.  
**Warning: You will need to intermingle with players playing the full course.**  
Shout 'FORE RIGHT' if your ball is heading in the direction of the 9<sup>th</sup> hole.

### 11<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Right rough

### 9<sup>th</sup> Hole:

Left rough. **Warning: You will need to intermingle with players playing the full course.**  
Danger of balls coming from the direction of the 10<sup>th</sup> tee



## Golf Buggy Hire Agreement Form

Including the use of privately owned one or two seat Buggies

### ALL GOLFERS MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM PRIOR TO OPERATING A GOLF BUGGY AT DRUIDS HEATH GOLF CLUB

Any person who chooses to operate a Ride-on Buggy on the Druids Heath Golf Club premises is deemed, by so doing, to have the knowledge, training and skill to safely operate the vehicle and shall be fully accountable for their actions and consequences thereof. The safe operation of Buggies requires conscientious application and adherence to the minimum standard of care prescribed by this policy. Makes of Buggies vary and our Staff will familiarize users with the controls and the correct driving procedures.

Name of User..... Buggy No.....

Address.....

..... Post Code.....

Email:..... Telephone.....

By signing below I acknowledge that:

- I have read Druids Heath Golf Club Buggy conditions of use
- I understand the terms and conditions of Druids Heath Golf Club Golf Buggy Policy
- I have been given the opportunity to ask questions related to this Policy
- I am aware of the areas where I am unable to take a Golf Buggy
- I will ensure that the Buggy will be maintained and operated in accordance with Druids Heath Golf Club Buggy Policy
- For privately owned and operated Buggies – I agree to indemnify Druids Heath Golf Club against all claims and demands made against Druids Heath Golf Club arising out of or in connection with the use of the Golf Buggy. I confirm that I have a valid insurance policy to cover a minimum sum of £2 million third party, joint injury and property for any one incident
- A £10.00 Key deposit is required on all Buggy hire which will be refunded when the Buggy is returned in a satisfactory condition.

Signature of User:..... Date.....

Signature of Professional..... Date.....

*No person under the age of 18 years may hire or drive a Buggy.*