**BUGGY POLICY**

Policy for the use of Ride-on Buggies on the Golf Course

**Buggy Policy**

The purpose of this document is to establish a standard for the safe operation of all ride-on buggies operated on the course at Gogarburn Golf Club. The document also sets down the criteria to be applied and conditions to be met when the Club considers applications for their use.

In order that these conditions can in practice be met, the Secretary Manager or their approved nominee must be given written notice of a requirement by a member, to use a ride-on buggy. The Board of trustees will consider each application but 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 ride-on buggy ceases, or, the conditions for its use are not fully complied with.

**Who can use a Golf Buggy**

1. Use of a ride-on buggy will not be allowed unless authorised by the Club and will be restricted to members, visitors and guests - See also `Use in General Play and Competitions` below.
2. Privately owned buggies may only be used with prior permission of the Club.
3. Members and Green fee paying visitors hiring Club buggies.
4. No person under the age of 18 may operate a buggy.

**Use in General Play and Club Competitions**

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

Any member wishing to use a ride on buggy during a club competition must either:

1. Be suffering from a disability as defined in the Equality Act 2010.  A written doctors’ note confirming this must accompany the application.  This only applies to those members wishing to use a ride on buggy in general play and in club competitions.
2. Gogarburn Golf Club has also decided that it would also be beneficial to develop a policy that encompasses all members who, while not fulfilling the legislative definitions of being disabled, need the help provided by a motorised ride-on buggy to play golf. This applies only to club competitions.

**Buggy Restrictions**

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 all users of ride-on buggies

In the interests of safety (to passengers and vehicles) the club operates a policy whereby buggy use is restricted during adverse ground conditions.  The precise timing, details and duration of any restriction will be decided on a daily basis and as far as possible, notice will be given.  During any period of restriction, the clubs hire buggies will be withdrawn from any service and the use of privately owned buggies will not be permitted.

**Buggy Maintenance**

The Golf course manager will be responsible for ensuring that all club hire buggies are maintained, serviced correctly and are fit for hire.

Members and visitors wishing to use buggies, other than those hired from the club, are responsible for ensuring that they are maintained and serviced correctly.  Records of maintenance should be available on request.

**Where and When Buggies can be used**

All signs directing traffic movement must be strictly observed.

No buggy shall be driven on or near any tees, greens or bunkers.

Wet areas and ground under repair must be avoided.

The Club may prohibit the use of buggies when ground conditions are unsafe.

During wet/winter conditions.

**Safe use of a Golf Buggy**

Pedestrians must be afforded the right-of-way at all times.

No more than 1 person and 1 set of Clubs shall be carried on a single seater buggy and no more than 2 persons and 2 sets of clubs on a 2 seater.

Drivers should be fully conversant with the controls of the buggy.

Brakes should be applied gently to avoid skidding.

No standing on a buggy while it is in motion.

Hands and feet must be kept inside the buggy at all times.

Caution must be exercised when reversing.

Caution must be exercised on all slopes and inclines.

Always apply the parking brake when leaving the buggy.

Drive only as fast as the terrain allows.

The consumption of alcohol and / or the improper use of drugs when using a ride-on buggy is prohibited.

**Insurance & Liability**

Privately owned buggies must have comprehensive insurance cover and be maintained in accordance with the manufacturers’ recommendations.

Buggy operators who have hired a buggy from the Club are responsible for the security of the vehicle during their hire period, and the return of keys thereafter.

The Golf 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.

The Club accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage caused to any property.

The club will not accept responsibility or liability for any injury or damage sustained or caused by the driver or passenger.

I have read and understand the conditions applicable to using a Ride on Buggy at Gogarburn Golf Club.

Name:……………………………………………………………….

Signature:………………………………………………………….

Date:…………………………………………………………………

This section of the policy to be returned to the Secretary, duly signed