



## **KENT GOLF LIMITED ("Kent Golf") Transportation Policy**

This policy sets out the circumstance in which golf buggies may be used in these events.

### **1 Aim of This Policy**

Kent Golf wishes to encourage participation in golf by all players regardless of disabilities with the Equality Act 2010.

### **2 General**

2.1 The basic rule is set out in Model Local Rule G-6 'Prohibiting Use of Motorised Transportation' of The Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2019. This states that during a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee.

2.2 The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

### **3 Persons who shall use a buggy**

3.1 It shall be a Local Rule of any competition organised by Kent Golf that players must walk at all times during a stipulated round, unless permitted to use a golf buggy by a member of the Committee, in accordance with this policy.

3.2 A golf buggy may be used by a player or a caddie who can provide a current medical certificate (or copy) of disability in accordance with this policy and who has requested permission to use a golf buggy by closing date of the competition in which they seek to enter or caddie. Where the disability prevents the player from driving the buggy, they may nominate a third party to drive the buggy for them, the driver must be approved by the Committee if permission is granted.

3.3 The Committee may not without good reason refuse a request for permission to use a golf buggy if the criteria at 3.2 is met.

3.4 Where a player is under the age of 18 years and has met the criteria in paragraph 3.2 above, a member of the Committee shall reserve the right to specify that the golf buggy is driven by another person of that Committee member's choice, if that the person having parental responsibility for the player is unable or not competent or qualified to do so.

3.5 In cases where the Committee refuses to permit the use of a golf buggy the player shall be informed of the decision, the reasons for it, and the right to appeal this refusal to the Appeals Committee in accordance with this Policy.

### **4. Insurance**

4.1 Where a determination has been made that the use of a buggy may be permitted, there must be in place an appropriate policy of insurance covering liability for all third-party liabilities.

4.2 If the buggy is provided by a Club, it is incumbent upon the Club to ensure that there is in force an appropriate policy of insurance covering third party liabilities and the terms of use have been communicated to the user of the buggy.

## **5 Health and Safety**

5.1 Where a determination has been made that the use of a buggy may be permitted by a player or where appropriate a caddie or third party, a member of the Committee shall have regard to the following additional health and safety considerations before granting approval:

- (a) any relevant weather conditions;
- (b) the topography and ground conditions;
- (c) the condition of and suitability of the golf buggy; and
- (d) any other relevant considerations which could impede the safety of the golf buggy or impact on the safety of others.

5.2 If a member of the Committee believes that for reasons of health and safety a golf buggy should not be used by players, caddies or third parties at a particular time he/she may:

- (a) refuse to grant permission for the use of a golf buggy and shall inform the player, caddie or third party of this decision; or
- (b) revoke any such permission if new health and safety considerations have come to light since the grant of the initial permission to use a golf buggy;

5.3 It shall be a requirement of any player, caddie or third party granted permission to use a buggy to complete and sign a copy of this Transportation Policy prior to use.

## **6 Use of golf buggies**

6.1 A player, caddie or third party permitted to use a golf buggy does so under the following terms and conditions:

the buggy must be driven in a reasonable and safe manner. In considering what is 'reasonable and safe' the driver will have regard to:-

- (i) the ground conditions
- (ii) the safety of others
- (iii) giving way to pedestrians.
- (iv) not impeding any other user on the course.
- (v) limiting the speed of the buggy operating to 15 mph.

6.2 A golf buggy shall be for the sole use of the player and his/her equipment unless a member of the Committee has deemed that for reason of age or disability a third party is required to drive the golf buggy.

6.3 The driver must comply with all directional signs and not use prohibited areas, including public highways and pavements.

6.4 The driver will certify that they are competent to drive a golf buggy.

6.5 The driver is solely responsible for the safe usage of the buggy on the course and environs.

6.6 Liability for any injury or damage caused is the liability of the driver

6.7. Permission to use a golf buggy is conditional upon the user agreeing to the terms and conditions set out.

## **7 Appeals Procedure**

7.1 Any decision by a Committee Member refusing a player or caddie permission to use a golf buggy may be appealed by the player or caddie to the Appeals Committee which shall comprise of three members of the Kent Golf Board of Directors.

7.2 An appeal should be made in writing to the Appeals Committee within 5 working days of the date of the initial decision.

7.3 Any written appeal requests shall include a statement in which the player or caddie sets out the reasons why he/she is seeking to appeal a decision.

7.4 The Appeals Committee shall make a decision on an appeal and communicate it to the player or caddie within 10 working days of the initial appeal.

7.5 The decision of the Appeals Committee is final.

## **8 . Definitions**

8.1 'Disability' shall have the same definition as that contained in section 6 of the Equality Act 2010. A person has a disability, if they have either a physical or mental impairment and that impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect of their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

8.2 Any reference to 'golf buggy' shall include any vehicle deemed to be a golf buggy by the Kent Golf Championships' Committee.

8.3 Any reference to Committee shall refer to the Kent Golf Championships' Committee which is responsible for taking the decision on the use of a golf buggy and 'member of the committee' shall be construed accordingly.

8.4 Valid medical confirmation shall mean a valid medical certificate (or copy) from a registered general practitioner or consultant registered with the General Medical Council that the player or caddie is suffering from a disability.