

Airdrie Golf Club

GOLF BUGGY POLICY

Use of Ride-on Buggies on the Golf Course

Introduction

The following documents will encompass the minimum criteria to be applied, and the conditions that must be met by anyone who wishes to make use of a motorised ride-on buggy at **Airdrie Golf Club**. These documents will form the Club's policy for the use of golf buggies in the environs of the Club

Users of buggies on the Course fall into two categories,

1. Users of Club owned buggies
2. Users of privately owned buggies

Privately owned buggy users fall into two categories

1. Buggies used by able bodied golfers where Club rules allow their use
2. Buggies used by those who need vehicular assistance to navigate the Course.

Those requiring vehicular assistance can be

1. Those with a recognised disability as defined by the Equality Act 2010.
2. Those who although not officially recognised as being disabled still require vehicular assistance to assist them to play golf.

Equality Act 2010

Primarily, the act concerns itself with anyone who has a disability as defined by this legislation. Under the Act, Golf Clubs and other premises have a legal duty to produce a policy that allows equal access to the Club to those players who have a recognised disability as defined by Section 6 of the Act. The Club has to ensure that all reasonable adjustments which may include the use of a golf buggy are made to allow those with a disability to play Golf. This policy will fulfil this requirement.

The Club has also decided that it would also be beneficial to any future members as well as to our current membership that we develop a policy that encompasses all members and visitors who while not fulfilling the legislative definitions of being disabled but never the less need the help provided by a motorised ride-on buggy to play golf.

Buggy Use

The safety of everyone is of paramount importance, no-one will be allowed to use a buggy within the Club environs until they can demonstrate that they can use it safely to the Club's Professional's/ Head Greenkeepers satisfaction (delete as appropriate).

The purpose of this document is to establish a standard for the safe operation of all ride-on buggies operated on the Course at **Airdrie Golf Club**.



The document also sets down the criteria to be applied and conditions to be met when the Club considers applications for the use of privately owned buggies.

A copy of this policy will be published in the Club's rules and where applicable on the **Airdrie Golf Club** website for both members and visitors.

Where privately owned buggies are allowed to be used a signed Acknowledgement Form (Appendix 4) will be retained by the Club Secretary and a copy given to the applicant.

Privately Owned Buggies

Use of privately owned ride-on buggies will not be allowed unless authorised by the Club. Where privately owned buggies are not normally allowed to be used, their use will be restricted to members, visitors and guests having a genuine incapacity to play golf unless aided by the use of the buggy (See also 'Use in General Play and Competitions' below)

The use of a privately owned motorised ride-on buggy at **Airdrie Golf Club** is subject to completing the attached documents and returning these to the Secretary and obtaining their written approval for use of a buggy. The forms and Policy can be obtained from the Club Secretary.

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.

Qualifications:

Any person operating a ride-on buggy on the golf Course must demonstrate to The Club Professional/Head Greenkeeper (delete as appropriate) that they have the knowledge, training and skill to safely operate the 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 and adherence 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:

Appendix 1 - Golf Buggy Safety Policy.

Appendix 2 – Essential and Safe Operating Practices.

Appendix 3 - Buggy Route Guidelines.

Golf Buggy Users Acknowledgement and Acceptance Form.

The Club reserves the right to refuse permission to use a buggy if all of the conditions stipulated are not complied with.

From time to time, Club staff may determine that the state of the Course or the weather is such that safety of buggy users is unacceptably compromised or the Course may be damaged 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, reduced visibility etc.

Where such conditions arise the club will review the situation on at least a twice a day basis.

The club will endeavour to ensure that restrictions placed on buggy users will be kept to a minimum

Use in General Play and Competitions

Competitions

The use of buggies during competitions is at the Club's discretion. Exceptions are where players have received permission to use buggies due to a disability.

Ride-on buggies may be used during closed and open competitions by those who have a disability within the meaning of section 6 of the Equality Act 2010 which prevents them from playing golf without the use of a ride-on buggy or have received permission to use a buggy from the Club due to having an incapacity that would prevent them from playing golf without the use of a ride-on buggy.

No other player may share a vehicle, nor may their equipment be carried, unless that person is also an authorised buggy user or has a temporary incapacity and it has been agreed with the Club Secretary that he/she can share.

Social Golf

In social golf, sharing is permitted.

I understand, accept and agree to pages 1 - 3 of the **Airdrie Golf Club** Buggy Policy as above, I have had the opportunity to raise questions and such questions have answered to my satisfaction.

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

APPENDIX 1

Golf Buggy Safety Policy

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 walking on the Course.

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

1. Ride-on buggies must be operated with the utmost courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of other Course users. Pedestrians must be afforded the right-of-way at all times.
2. The signs and instructions employed on the Course to warn buggy riders 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, must be followed at all times.
3. 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.
4. **Airdrie 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 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.
5. No ride-on buggy will be operated in excess of the manufacturer's recommended speed limit or at most 15km per hour. All speed limits must be observed.
6. Ride-on buggies shall be used only between dawn and dusk.

Cont.....

7. 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.
8. Buggies used on the public highway must be rated as road worthy and be road taxed and insured accordingly. Drivers will also be required to hold a valid driving licence
9. Operators must stop the buggy at blind intersections with paths and roadways and always proceed with caution.
10. The consumption of alcohol and/or the improper use of drugs are not permitted when using the ride-on buggy.
11. Users of buggies must ensure that they are insured at least for third party injury and damage.
12. The Secretary 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.

I understand, accept and agree to the **Airdrie Golf Club** Buggy Safety Policy as previous (pages 4 & 5).

I have had the opportunity to raise questions and such questions have answered to my satisfaction.

SIGNATURE:

DATE: