

Courtown Golf Club Golf Buggy Policy

January 2022

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to establish a standard for the safe operation of all ride-on buggies operated on the course and its environs at Courtown Golf Club. This document also sets down the criteria to be applied and conditions for their use.

The course is defined as anywhere within the environs of Courtown Golf Club and includes all car parking facilities and pathways.

The club has a number of buggies available for hire and they may be booked, in advance, by calling the Club Pro-Shop on 053 94 25166 Ext. 4.

Any booking is subject to restrictions that may be imposed owing to the condition of the course at any point in time. No guarantee can be given that a buggy will be available, unless it has been pre-booked.

The Club also allows members and visitors to use their own buggies on the course subject to them having their own appropriate insurance, or when they hire them from the Pro-Shop, and agreeing and signing to the requirements set out in relation to our Golf Safety Policy and our Golf Buggy Safe Work Practice.

Qualifications

Under normal conditions there is no restriction on the use of ride-on buggies. Pathways must be used at all times where provided, but it may be necessary to restrict access to other parts of the course in some circumstances as directed by the Head Greenkeeper or the Management Committee.

These restrictions will be advertised via Clubnet App and course information at the Pro-Shop.

Any person who operates a ride-on buggy on the golf course is deemed by doing so, to have the necessary knowledge, training and skill to safely operate this 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 in this policy document.

Golf Buggies must be operated in accordance with the requirements of the the following documents:

- Golf Buggy Safety Policy
- Golf Safe Working Practice
- Golf Buggy Safety Acknowledgement Form

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

In exceptional weather conditions, the Head Greenkeeper or the Management Committee may determine that unrestricted use of buggies will, or may be likely to, cause significant damage to the course. In these circumstances, buggy restrictions will apply.

For general play, competitions and non competition play a golf buggy shall only be used by members, guests and visitors authorised to do so.

COURTOWN GOLF CLUB GOLF BUGGY SAFETY POLICY

The Club has a duty of care to all users of the golf course and its environs. The topography of certain areas of the course is such that caution and prudence must be shown by the user of a Golf Buggy. It is also necessary for the Club to provide adequately safe means of access for all golfers including those given permission to use golf buggies.

Moreover, the Club has to ensure the safety of golfers who do not wish to use golf buggies, but who might be at risk from a mechanically defective golf buggy or its careless use. This duty of care also applies to members of the public who may, from time to time, justifiably be on the course.

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

1. Only recognised golf buggies- with three or four wheels - are permitted at Courtown Golf Club.
2. All Golf Buggies must be fully appropriately insured.
3. Privately owned buggies must be transported to Courtown Golf Club within the confines of the owner's vehicle.
4. Facilities to store privately owned buggies are available at Courtown Golf Club, but only with prior agreement by the Honorary Secretary or Manager (storage of golf buggies is at owner's risk).
5. Member's privately owned buggies on Courtown Golf Club property are only for the use of those members mentioned on the golf buggy insurance certificate, or with the permission of the named insured person, any person authorised to drive any insured vehicle.
6. Golf buggies must be operated with the utmost courtesy to care, and with consideration for the safety and convenience of pedestrians. Pedestrians must be afforded the right of way at all times.
7. The signs and instructions erected on the course to warn golf buggy users of potential danger areas, or areas forbidden to golf buggies because of concerns about danger, or the potential to cause unacceptable wear and tear to the course must be followed at all times.
8. Golf buggies must be operated and parked in such a manner that they do not impede or interfere with the normal pedestrian or vehicular flow on roadways, pathways,

ramps, pavements and the buggy park, and must not be parked in car parking facilities.

9. Golf buggy operators will be responsible for the security of ignition keys for the period that the buggy is on the property owned by the Club.
10. Courtown Golf Club has no responsibility for ensuring the safe operation of golf buggies on, or beyond the confines of the course and the club car park other than those operated by their staff 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 golf buggy by their staff or agents. It is imperative that owners of buggies (members) must have liability insurance included in their insurance policy.
11. No person under the age of eighteen(18) years is permitted to operate a buggy.
12. No golf buggy will be operated in excess of 16km/10 miles an hour.
Golf buggies shall only be used between dusk and dawn.
13. Golf buggies must be used in compliance with the common 'rules of the road' regardless of whether golf buggies are operated on pathways or roadways.
14. Operators must stop the golf buggy at blind intersections and proceed with caution.
15. Golf buggy operators must not be under the influence of alcoholic drinks nor drugs and the consumption of alcohol and/or the improper use of drugs when using a golf buggy is not permitted.
16. All buggy owners are responsible for maintaining their buggy in good working order.
17. The Management Committee has the authority to immediately suspend or prohibit any individual from using or being carried in a golf buggy. Application for reinstatement of permission to use a Club/private owned buggy can only be made to the Management Committee.

COURTOWN GOLF CLUB

GOLF BUGGY SAFE WORKING PRACTICE

At All Times

- Golf buggy operators must not be under the influence of alcoholic drink or drugs.
- Never allow children to drive the golf buggy.
- Never allow an uninsured person to drive your golf buggy.

Before Use

- All operators of golf buggies must sign a Golf Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form before they are allowed to use a buggy.
- Golf buggy shall only be used by the number of occupants it is designed to carry and driven by the person who is authorised to do so.

During Use

- Always remain seated and hold on while the vehicle is in motion.
- Hands, feet and head must be kept inside the golf buggy at all times while the vehicle is in motion.
- Golf buggies must not be driven in prohibited areas.

- The vehicle must be used to progress the game and must not be driven up and down excessively, e.g. when looking for golf balls.
- The vehicle must not be used on tees, greens, or the slopes and areas leading up to the tee and green.
- The vehicle must not be used within 5 metres of any bunkers, ditches, ponds or slopes leading to bunkers, ditches or slopes, except when using designated bridges, and not within 15 metres of any green.
- The vehicle must not be driven into any deep rough on the course.
- Check the area behind the vehicle before reversing.
- Set the parking brake before leaving the vehicle.
- Always consider the terrain, existing vehicular and pedestrian traffic conditions as well as environmental factors that may affect the ability to operate the vehicle safely.
- Drive the vehicle only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow.
- To avoid tipping over, drive the buggy straight up and down severe slopes.
- 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.
- Be extra careful when the course is wet and muddy.

After Use

When the buggy is left unattended, turn the operating key to the off position, remove the key and engage the parking brake.

Checklist

Know the following controls and how to use them:

*Ignition switch and immobiliser key.

*Accelerator.

*Footbrake.

*Parking brake - Set the brake before leaving the golf buggy.

Administration in Respect of Privately Owned Buggies

The Honorary Secretary will retain on file a fully completed and signed "Golf Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form" along with proof of appropriate buggy insurance (copy).

The Honorary Secretary will ensure that the Pro-Shop Staff are in possession of an up to date copy of the register of Authorised Buggy Users, for whom documents are held on file and to whom authorisation has been granted for use of a privately owned buggy.

On behalf of Courtown Golf Club Management Committee

Mary Osborne
Honorary Club Secretary

January 2022