

# HARROGATE GOLF CLUB 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 the 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.

Harrogate Golf Club wishes to encourage the participation in golf of all players regardless of disabilities and is in accordance with the Club's obligations under the Equality Act 2010.

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

1. Ride-on buggies must be operated reasonably and safely. 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. Any player or caddy aged 18 or over may use a golf buggy provided they have read and signed a 'Golf Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form' in the professional's shop prior to starting their round. Children aged 7 and over may be passengers in a buggy but must be supervised at all times and must not interfere with the driving of the buggy in any way.
4. A person suffering from a disability within the meaning of section 6 of the Equality Act 2010 or any statutory modification thereof may use a buggy anytime the course is open. A medical form, completed by the applicant's doctor, should be filed with the Secretary who will enter them onto a register which shall be maintained in the office. The Club will make every effort to ensure that as many areas of the course as possible are accessible to such persons but ground conditions may be such that only a limited route around the course is in operation at certain times of poor ground conditions.
5. The Club is aware that some able-bodied golfers struggle to play golf without a buggy and therefore there is no year round ban. However, between the months of November and March, this period being extended if there has been adverse weather and ground conditions, the Head Greenkeeper will make a daily decision as to whether ground conditions are suitable for general buggy use.
  - a. This decision will be made on a daily basis during the week, and on Friday for the weekend.
  - b. If buggies are not permitted the website shall display the message ' no general use of buggies'
  - c. Golfers wishing to use buggies shall be required to ascertain in advance whether buggies, either their own or the Club's, are permitted on that day.
  - d. Golfers will be required to follow the map provided with the buggy; failure to do so will result in withdrawal of the privilege. Copies are also available from the office.
  - e. A maximum of 2 of the Club's buggies will be permitted on the course at any one time during the winter period specified above.
6. Ride- 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.
7. Ride-on 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.

8. The Harrogate 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 the servants or agents.
9. No ride-on buggy will be operated in excess of 15km per hour. All speed limits must be observed.
10. Ride-on buggies shall be used only between dawn and dusk.
11. 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.
12. Operators must stop the buggy at blind intersections and proceed with caution.
13. Ride-on buggies must not be driven in prohibited areas
14. 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
15. The vehicle must not be used on tees, greens or the slopes leading up to them
16. The vehicle must not be used within 2 metres of any bunkers, ditches or ponds or slopes leading to them except when using the designated bridges
17. Check the area behind the vehicle before reversing and set the parking brake before leaving the vehicle
18. Always consider the terrain, existing vehicular and pedestrian traffic conditions as well as environmental factors that may affect your ability to operate the vehicle safely
19. Drive the vehicle only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow
20. To avoid tipping over, drive the buggy straight up and down severe slopes
21. Slow down before corners and all turns must be executed at reduced speeds
22. Avoid sudden stops or changes of direction that may result in loss of control
23. Be extra careful when the course is wet and muddy
24. The consumption of alcohol and/ or the improper use of drugs is not permitted when using the ride-on buggy.
25. 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.
26. There must be in force an appropriate policy of insurance for the use of the buggy. Such policy indemnifying the Club against any liability for its use.