



ASHBURNHAM GOLF CLUB
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E-MAIL: admin@ashburnhamgolfclub.co.uk

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BUGGY POLICY

Use of Ride-on Buggies on the Golf Course

Introduction

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

The Club has a number of buggies available for hire and they can be booked in advance, by telephoning the Professional on 01554 832269. Any booking is subject to restrictions that may be imposed owing to the condition of the course. No guarantee can be given that a buggy will be available unless it has been pre-booked.

Qualifications:

In normal conditions there is no restriction on the use of ride on buggies other than in certain areas of the course (see Conditions of Use).

In some circumstances however it may be necessary to restrict their use (see Buggy Restrictions).

Use of a ride-on buggy will not be allowed unless authorised by the Club. Any person who operates a ride-on buggy on the golf course is deemed by so doing, to have the 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 by this policy.

Ride-on buggies must be operated in accordance with the requirements of the following documents:

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

The Club reserves the right to refuse permission if some or all of the conditions stipulated are not complied with.

Buggy Restrictions:

The Club staff may determine that the state of the course or the weather is such that safety on or the condition of the course may be unacceptably compromised 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, etc. Where such conditions arise the club will review the situation on at least a twice daily basis.

Use in General Play and Competitions

Ride-on buggies may be used during general (non-competition) play and also during closed and open competitions.



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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.

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 on Ashburnham Golf Club property are only for the use of members, green fee paying visitors, entrants in competitions or other person so authorised by either the Manager or the Professional.
2. Ride-on buggies must be operated with the utmost courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of pedestrians. Pedestrians must be afforded the right-of-way at all times.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Ride-on buggy operators will be responsible for the security of the buggy for the period that the buggy is on the property owned by the Club.
6. Ashburnham 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 their servants or agents.
7. No ride-on buggy will be operated in excess of what is safe in the circumstances. All speed limits must be observed. When the ground is wet or muddy or negotiating narrow bridges or routes, the maximum permissible speed is walking pace. Operators must however ensure that they drive at the appropriate speed and in the appropriate manner for the prevailing conditions.
8. Ride-on buggies shall be used only between dawn and dusk.
9. 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.
10. Operators must stop the buggy at blind intersections and proceed with caution.



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11. The consumption of alcohol and/or the improper use of drugs is not permitted when using the ride-on buggy.
12. If in the opinion of the Manager or Professional a person is in an unfit condition to use a buggy; she/he has the authority to immediately prohibit any such person from using or being carried on a ride-on buggy. A written report will be submitted to the Directors. Application for reinstatement of permission can only be made to the Board of the Club.

Golf Buggy Safe Working Practice / Conditions of Use

- Ride-on buggy operators must not be under the influence of alcoholic drinks or drugs
- Never allow children to drive the ride-on buggy.
- Persons driving a buggy must be over 17 years of age and hold a full valid driving license.
- Persons using a privately owned buggy must provide a copy of a valid certificate of insurance providing cover for third party risk of at least £1,000,000 (one million pounds)

Before use

- All operators of ride-on buggies, including privately owned buggies, must sign a Safety Policy Acknowledgement form before they are allowed to drive the buggy
- A ride-on buggy shall only be used for the number of occupants it was designed to carry and only by people who are authorised to use one.

During use

- Do not move off until the occupants are seated
- Always remain seated and hold on while the vehicle is in motion
- Hands, feet and head must be kept inside the buggy at all times while the vehicle is in motion
- Ride-on 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 leading up to them
- The vehicle must not be used within 5 metres of any green, bunker, ditch, pond or slopes leading to them except when using the designated bridges or paths
- Between green and bunkers
- Check the area behind the vehicle before reversing
- Always 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 your 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 vehicle is left unattended please make sure that turn the parking brake is engaged, operating key is in the off position and the key removed from the ignition.



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Private Owned Buggies

Privately owned buggies for the sole use of the owner and one passenger only and under no circumstance are they to be lent or hired out to third parties.

All privately owned buggies may only be driven by the buggy licence holder and they must have a submitted a record of their up to date insurance with the Club.

All private buggy owners must be over 17 years of age and hold a full valid driving license.

All private buggy owners must provide a copy of a valid certificate of insurance providing cover for third party risk of at least £1,000,000 (one million pounds).

Users of privately owned buggies do so entirely at their own risk. Ashburnham Golf Club will not accept liability for any loss or damage to the privately owned buggies or any other property arising from the negligence of the Club or any of its servants or agents.



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Golf Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form
All golfers must complete this form prior to operating a Golf Buggy

Any person who operates a Ride-on buggy on Ashburnham Golf Club premises is deemed, by so doing, to have the knowledge, training and skill to safely operate the vehicle and shall be fully accountable for their actions and consequences thereof. The safe operation of Ride-on buggies requires conscientious application and adherence to the minimum standard of care prescribed by this policy.

Name of User:.....

Address:.....

.....

Emergency Telephone Number:.....

E-mail Address:
@

By signing below I acknowledge that:

- I have read The Ashburnham Golf Club Buggy Safe Working Practice.
- I understand the terms and conditions of The Ashburnham Golf Club Golf Buggy Safety Policy.
- I have been given the opportunity to ask questions related to this Policy.
- I am aware of the areas where I am unable to take a ride-on buggy.
- I will ensure that the buggy will be maintained and operated in accordance with The Ashburnham Golf Club Golf Buggy Safety Policy.
- I have lodged with the Club Manager a copy of my valid insurance policy to cover liability for risks to third parties in taking out a privately owned buggy.
- I agree to indemnify Ashburnham Golf Club against all claims costs and demands made against Ashburnham Golf Club arising out of or in connection with the use of the golf buggy.

Users of golf buggies do so at their own risk. Ashburnham Golf club will not accept any liability for any loss or damage to the golf buggy or any other property arising from the negligence of the club or any of its servants or agents

Signature of User.....

Date.....

Signature of Manager/Professional.....

Date.....



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Checklist for users of ride-on buggies

Know the controls and how to use them

- Ignition switch and immobiliser key (where provided)
- Accelerator
- Footbrake
- Parking brake – Set the brake before leaving the ride-on buggy
- Reversing Control

Know your driving conditions

Ride-on buggies can only be used for the number of occupants it was designed to carry and by those authorised to do so

Where permanent or temporary buggy paths are provided buggies must stay on those paths

Ride-on buggies must not be used on the areas of the course where prohibitive signs are placed.

The vehicle must not be driven up and down the course when looking for golf balls

The vehicle must not be used on tees, or within 5 metres of greens or slopes leading up to them

The vehicle must not be used within 5 metres of or, on the slopes leading to any bunkers, ponds or ditches (except when crossing designated bridges)

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

- Drive the vehicle only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow
- To avoid tipping over, drive buggies straight up and down slopes
- Slow down before corners.
- All turns must be executed at reduced speeds
- Avoid sudden stops or change of direction that may result in loss of control

Problems on the course

Avoid wet and muddy areas, drive slowly, and be in control at all times.

Always drive up and down slopes, not across them.

Stay well away from ditches, ponds, bunkers etc.