



Bull Bay Golf Club Buggy Safety Policy

NGCAA Template

May 16, 2024

The Use of Ride-on Buggies on the Course

1 Introduction

Due to disability, some members and visitors may not be able to play golf without the help provided by a motorised ride-on buggy.

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

The Equality Act 2010
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>

2 Qualifications:

Use of a ride-on buggy will not be allowed unless authorised by the Club. (See also 'Use in General Play and Competitions' below). Any person who accepts the privilege of operating 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.

*At the end of this document.

There are three arrangements for Ride-on Buggies

- a) Buggies rented out to members and visitors for a fee administered by the Golf Shop.
- b) Buggies owned by members and either kept at the course or brought to the Club when needed. Agreement to the Golf Buggy Safety Policy, yearly proof of adequate third-party insurance and payment of any fees as determined by the Club are prerequisites.
- c) Buggies brought to the course by visitors. Agreement to the Golf Buggy Safety Policy by signing the form and proof of insurance will be required.

Club staff, usually via the Golf Shop, must whenever possible be given prior notice of a requirement by a member, visitor or guest to bring and use a ride-on buggy. The Club reserves the right to refuse permission if all of the conditions stipulated are not complied with. The Club also reserves the right to withdraw authorisation if the conditions for its use are not fully complied with.

From time to time the Club staff may determine that the state of the course or the weather is such that *safety on the course 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 waterlogging, frost, etc. Where such conditions arise the club will review the situation on at least a daily basis.

The Club makes a number of Ride-on Buggies available for hire by visitors and these may be booked in advance. A booking provides NO guarantee that Buggies will be allowed on the course on the day if course conditions are unsuitable.

3 *Use in General Play and Competitions*

Ride-on buggies may be used during closed and open competitions by those suffering from a disability within the meaning of the Disability Discrimination Legislation. Their use by other members and visitors is a matter for the Competitions Committee.

The Equality Act 2010
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>

4 *Golf Buggy Safety Policy*

The Club has a duty of care to all users of the golf course, including;

- a) Golfers with permission to use ride-on buggies.
- b) Golfers who do not need or wish to use ride-on buggies.
- c) People using any rights of way crossing or bordering the course.

It is also necessary for the Club to provide adequately safe means of access for all golfers including those given permission to use buggies. All of these groups might be at risk from a mechanically defective ride-on buggy or its careless use. 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. To assist the safe use of ride-on buggies all potential users (members and visitors) shall comply with the following conditions:

- 4.1 Ride-on buggies on Bull Bay Golf Club property are primarily for the use of members and visitors who are disabled within the meaning of the Disability Discrimination Legislation.

- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 There are signs and instructions on the course to warn buggy riders of actual or potential danger areas and areas forbidden to ride-on buggies because of the potential to cause unacceptable wear and tear to the course. These instructions must be followed at all times.
- 4.4 Buggy operators encountering areas of the course which are unexpectedly slippery or otherwise dangerous MUST NOT persist in attempts to pass, but should take a safer route and report the issue to the Club Shop so that Greens Staff may be informed.
- 4.5 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.
- 4.6 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.
- 4.7 The Bull Bay 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.
- 4.8 No ride-on buggy will be operated in excess of 15km per hour. All speed limits must be observed.
- 4.9 Ride-on buggies shall be used only between dawn and dusk.
- 4.10 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.
- 4.11 Operators must stop the buggy at blind intersections and proceed with caution.
- 4.12 The consumption of alcohol and/or the improper use of drugs when using the Ride-On Buggy is strictly forbidden
- 4.13 The Bull Bay Golf Club's employees and Committee members have 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 Green Committee.

Safe Working Practice

- Ride-on buggy operators must not be under the influence of alcoholic drinks or drugs
- Children under 18 years of age MUST NOT be allowed to drive the ride-on buggy.

Before Use

- All operators of ride-on 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.
- Buggy owners must check that the buggy is operating correctly before venturing onto the course and should not continue to use it if, for example, the brakes fail during a round.

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, especially roped-off 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 2 metres of any bunkers, ditches or ponds or slopes leading to them.
- 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 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

If a buggy breaks down during a round this should be reported for safe retrieval. It is forbidden for golfers to use another buggy to tow it.

5 *After Use*

At the end of the round, the buggy should be returned to the parking area by taking the route to the right of the eighteenth green and between the two buildings. When the vehicle is left unattended, turn the operating key to the off position, remove the key and engage the parking brake.



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 The Bull Bay Golf Club premises is deemed 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 require adherence to the minimum standard of care prescribed by the policy.

Name of User: _____

Address: _____

By signing below, I acknowledge that:

- I have read The Bull Bay Golf Club Buggy Safety Policy.
- I am competent to drive a golf buggy.
- I understand the terms and conditions of The Bull Bay 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 Bull Bay Golf Club Golf Buggy Safety Policy.
- I have lodged with the Office or Shop a copy of my valid insurance policy to cover liability for risks to third parties.
- I agree to indemnify The Bull Bay Golf Club against all claims, costs and demands made against the Club arising out of or in connection with the use of the golf buggy.

Signature of User: _____ Date: _____

Signature of
Staff member: _____ Date: _____