

BARNARD CASTLE GOLF CLUB

Harmire Road, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham, DL12 8QN



Golf Buggy Policy and Safe Use

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1. Buggy Policy

Introduction

Due to disability, some members, visitors and guests 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 Barnard Castle Golf Club. The document also sets down the criteria to be applied and conditions to be met when the Club considers applications for buggy use.

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 using the various rights of way.

Qualifications

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

In order that these conditions can, in practice, be met, the Club Secretary or their approved nominee must, whenever possible, be given prior notice of a requirement by a member, visitor or guest to use a ride-on buggy. The Club reserves the right to refuse permission if some or all of the conditions stipulated are not complied with.

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.

From time to time the Club staff may determine that the state of the course, or weather conditions, are such that safety on, or the condition of, the course may be unacceptably compromised if a ride-on buggy were to be 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 daily basis.

Use in General Play and Competitions

- During general play a ride-on buggy can be used by members, visitors and guests authorised to do so.
- Ride-on buggies may be used during closed and open competitions by those suffering from a disability within the meaning of Section 6 of 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:
- 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.
- The signs and instructions employed on the course to warn buggy riders of potential danger 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Barnard Castle 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.

- No ride-on buggy will be operated in excess of 15km per hour. All speed limits must be observed.
- Ride-on buggies shall be used only between dawn and dusk.
- 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.
- Operators must stop the buggy at blind intersections and proceed with caution.
- The consumption of alcohol and/or the use of drugs is not permitted when using the ride-on buggy.
- 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 Chairman.
- There must be in force an appropriate policy of insurance for the use of ride on buggies, such policy indemnifying the Club against any liability for its use.
- Operators must be over the age of 17.

Safe Working Practice 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.

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 always 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 to them.
- The vehicle must not be used within 2 metres of any bunkers, ditches, becks or ponds or slopes leading to them except when using designated bridges.
- 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 slopes.
- Slow down before corners.
- All turns must be executed at reduced speed.
- 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, turn the operating key to the off position, remove the key and engage the parking brake.

2.Safe Use of Buggies on the Course

Controls

Know your controls before going onto the Course.

- ◆ Brake & Accelerator
- ◆ Forward & Reverse

General

- ◆ Do not take buggy onto tee boxes.
- ◆ Keep to paths where possible and exercise caution when crossing roads.
- ◆ Do not drive within 2 metres of green surrounds or bunkers.
- ◆ Do not drive within 2 metres of water hazards.
- ◆ Take extra care on steep slopes and bridges.

Specific Hazards

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Hole 1 | Water hazards left off the tee and in front of the green. Steep slope approaching the green. |
| Hole 2 | Out of bounds to the left adjacent to the practice area. |
| Hole 3 | Pond on the left and farm road in front of the green—take buggy left of the pond if possible. |
| Hole 4 | 2 streams to cross. |
| Hole 5 | Same 2 streams to cross. |
| Hole 9 | Road & stream to cross before reaching the green. Steep slope on approach to the green. |
| Hole 10 | Steep slope on leaving the tee. Stream and road to cross. |
| Hole 12 | Water hazard on right in play from the tee and for 2nd shot. |
| Hole 14 | Out of bounds to the left over the boundary fence. |
| Hole 15 | Out of bounds to the left (marked by white posts). 2 water hazards to cross. |
| Hole 16 | 2 water hazards to cross. Farm road to the left for 2nd shot. |
| Hole 17 | Water hazard in front of the tee. The hazard continues laterally towards the green. |
| Hole 18 | Out of bounds on the left by the greenkeeper's shed. |

Holes 6, 7, 8, 11 and 13 have no specific hazards.

This form should be displayed on the windshield of each buggy.

Golf Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form

All golfers must complete this form prior to operating a Golf Buggy at Barnard Castle Golf Club

Any person who accepts the privilege of operating a buggy at Barnard Castle Golf is deemed by doing so to have the knowledge, training and skill to safely operate the buggy and shall be fully accountable for their actions and consequences thereof.

Name of User

Address

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By signing below I acknowledge that:

- I have read the Barnard Castle Golf Club Buggy Safe Working Practice
- I understand the terms and conditions of the Barnard Castle Golf Club Buggy Safety Policy
- I have been given the opportunity to ask questions related to this policy
- I am aware of areas where I am unable to take a buggy
- I will ensure that the buggy will be maintained and operated in accordance with the Barnard Castle Golf Club's Golf Buggy Safety Policy
- I agree to indemnify Barnard Castle Golf Club against all claims costs and demands made against Barnard Castle Golf Club arising out of or in connection with the use of the golf buggy

Signature of user

Date

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