



## **Brierley Forest Golf Club**

### **BUGGY SAFETY POLICY 2023**

#### **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 Brierley Forest Golf Club. The document also sets down the criteria to be adopted 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 clubhouse on 01623 550761. 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. In some circumstances, however it may be necessary to restrict their use.

Use of a ride-on buggy will not be allowed unless authorised. 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 the 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.

The management & staff reserves the right to refuse permission if some or all of the conditions stipulated are not met. They also reserve the right to withdraw authorisation of a buggy at a disabled rate if the medical condition or disability necessitating the use of a ride-on buggy ceases, or, the conditions for its use are not fully met.

##### **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's staff will review the situation on at least a twice-daily basis. When access is restricted, disabled golfers will be permitted to use a Buggy on the receipt of evidence of their disability (within the meaning of section 6 of The Equality Act 2010) and a copy of their third-party liability insurance or they may be refused access to the Course. Disabled golfers are advised to check the Course status before their visit.

## **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 must 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 Brierley Forest 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 Management or staff.
2. Ride-on buggies must be operated with the utmost courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of pedestrians. Pedestrians must be always afforded the right-of-way.
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 always followed.
4. Ride-on buggies must be operated and parked in such a manner that they do not impede or interfere with normal pedestrian on public pathways.
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. Brierley Forest 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.
7. No ride-on buggy will be operated more than what is safe in the circumstances. All speed limits must be observed. When the ground is wet, 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. The consumption of alcohol and/or the improper use of drugs are not permitted when using the ride-on buggy.
9. If in the opinion of the Management or staff a person is in an unfit condition to use a buggy; he/she 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 Clubs Board. Application for reinstatement of permission can only be made to the management & committee.

## **Golf Buggy Safe Working Practice / Conditions of Use**

Ø Ride-on buggy operators must not be under the influence of alcoholic drinks or drugs

Ø For certain medical conditions e.g. dementia, epilepsy, stroke, where appropriate a doctor's note must be shown that it does not affect your ability to drive safely on a ride on buggy.

Never allow children to drive the ride-on buggy

Ø Persons driving a buggy must be over 17 years of age and hold a full valid driving license

Ø Persons using a privately owned buggy must provide a copy of a valid certificate of insurance providing cover for third party risk.

Ø A ride-on buggy must 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**

Ø Do not move off until the occupants are seated

Ø Always remain seated and hold on while the vehicle is in motion

Ø Hands, feet and head must be kept inside the buggy at all times while the vehicle is in motion

Ø Ride-on buggies must not be driven in prohibited areas

Ø 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

Ø The vehicle must not be used on tees, greens or the slopes leading up to them

Ø The vehicle must not be used within 5 metres of any green, bunker, ditch or slopes leading to them except when using the designated bridges or paths

Ø Between green and bunkers

Ø Check the area behind the vehicle before reversing

Ø Always set the parking brake before leaving the vehicle

Ø 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

o Drive the vehicle only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow

o To avoid tipping over, drive the buggy straight up and down severe slopes

o Slow down before corners.

o All turns must be executed at reduced speeds

o Avoid sudden stops or changes of direction that may result in loss of control

o Be extra careful when the Course is wet and muddy

### **After Use**

When the vehicle is left un-attended, please make sure that the parking brake is engaged, operating key is in the off position and the key removed from the ignition.

## **Storage**

Staff to ensure buggies are stored away safely in their allocated bays on charge overnight where electric and the gate to the buggy park locked at night ready for green staff to open in the morning.

## **Privately Owned Buggies**

A small number of privately owned buggies are authorised to be kept or stored on the Club premises. Privately owned buggies are for the sole use of the owner only and under no circumstance are they to be lent or hired out to third parties.

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

Users of privately owned buggies do so entirely at their own risk. Brierley Forest 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.

Visitors may not use their own personal ride on buggy, but if any person who is registered to do so at their home club, on the grounds of disability, may hire one of the Club's rental buggies for an appropriate fee which is given at the discretion of the Management or staff, providing advance notice is given.