**Filton Golf Club**

**Operating A Golf Buggy**

Filton Golf 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 therefore recognised that all buggies used at Filton Golf Club must be regularly maintained and serviced including member owned single seat styles.

Proof of servicing must be provided by a member annually.

It is necessary for Filton Golf 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 through the golf course.

Users of personal buggies must show that they carry sufficient public liability insurance annually.

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, 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.
* 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.
* 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.
* Filton 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.
* Buggies shall be used only when the courses are open for play and when no essential buggy prohibition is in force.
* 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 Green Staff and Professional Staff 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 General manager or Compliance Director.

**SAFE WORKING PRACTICE**

In addition to the above:

* Ride-on buggy operators must not be under the influence of alcoholic drinks or drugs.
* Children under the age of 18 are not allowed to drive the ride-on buggy.
* During the use of buggies at no time should any items be carried in the front of the buggies all belongings and club etc. should be stored in the correct holding area of the buggy.

**BEFORE USE**

All operators of Pro shop buggies must sign a Buggy Safety Policy Form before they are allowed to drive the buggy. Members using their own buggies must sign the Buggy Safety Policy Form annually.

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. In particular, standing on the back of a buggy is expressly forbidden.

**DURING USE**

1. Do not move off until the occupants are seated.
2. Always remain seated and hold on while the vehicle is in motion.
3. Hands, feet and head must be kept inside the buggy at all times while the vehicle is in motion.
4. Ride-on buggies must not be driven in prohibited areas.
5. 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.
6. The vehicle must absolutely not be driven onto tees, greens or the slopes leading up to them.
7. The vehicle may not be driven into areas of long rough.
8. The vehicle must not be used within ten metres of any bunkers, ditches or ponds or slope leading to them except when using the designated bridges or paths.
9. Check the area behind the vehicle before reversing.
10. 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:
11. Drive the vehicle only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow.
12. To avoid tipping over, drive the buggy straight up and down severe slopes.
13. Slow down when approaching corners.
14. All turns must be executed at reduced speeds.
15. Avoid sudden stops or changes of direction that may result in loss of control.
16. 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.

Agreed by Filton Golf Club Board of Directors: 29th January 2024

To be reviewed annually

Responsibility: General Manager/ Course Director/ Compliance Director