

Ferndown Forest Golf Course
Buggy Policy

Ferndown Forest 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 Ferndown Forest Golf Club must be those maintained and serviced by Ferndown Forest Golf Club. It is also necessary for Ferndown Forest Golf 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. This duty of care also applies to members of the public using the various rights of way through the golf course.

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 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.
2. 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.
3. 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. 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.
5. Ferndown 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.
6. No ride-on buggy will be operated at a speed considered excessive. All speed limits that may be set must be observed.
7. Ride-on buggies shall be used only when the courses are open for play and when no essential buggy prohibition is in force.
8. 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.

9. Operators must stop the buggy at blind intersections and proceed with caution.

10. The Club 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 Club.

Safe Working Practice

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.

BEFORE USE:

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:

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 absolutely not be used on tees, greens or the slopes leading up to them

The vehicle must not be used within two metres of any bunkers, ditches or ponds or slopes leading to them except when using the 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

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 returning the buggy, turn the operating key to the off position, engage the parking brake and return the key to The Professional Shop

Disability

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 the below policy is to establish a standard for the safe operation of all ride-on buggies operated

at FFGC. The policy also sets down the criteria to be applied and conditions to be met when the Club considers applications for buggy use:

1. Aim of Policy

1.1. Ferndown Forest Golf Club wishes to encourage the participation in golf of all players regardless of disabilities. This Policy is in accordance with Ferndown Forest Golf Clubs obligations under the Equality Act 2010.

2. Definitions

2.1 "Disability" shall have the same meaning as the Equality Act 2010. A person has a disability if he/she has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

2.2 Any reference to "golf buggy" shall include any vehicle deemed to be a golf buggy by The Ferndown Golf Club management.

2.3 Any reference to "Committee" shall refer to The Ferndown Forest Golf Club Committee which has responsibility for taking a decision on the use of a golf buggy and "member of the Committee" shall be construed accordingly.

2.4 "Valid medical confirmation of disability" shall mean a valid medical certificate from a registered general practitioner or consultant registered with the Health Professions Council that the player or caddie is suffering from a disability.

3. Persons who may use a golf buggy

3.1 It shall be a condition of any competition organised by Ferndown Forest Golf Club that players must walk at all times during a stipulated round, unless permitted to use a golf buggy by a member of the Committee, in accordance with this policy. The penalty for a breach of this condition is detailed under the Specimen Condition on page 142 of the English edition of the 2012-15 Rules of Golf as published by R&A Rules Limited.

3.2 A golf buggy may be used by a player or caddie who can provide a valid current medical certificate of disability in accordance with this policy and has requested permission to use a golf buggy by the closing date for any competition they seek to enter or in which they seek to caddie. Where the disability prevents the player from driving the buggy, he/she may nominate a third party to drive the buggy for them who must be approved by the Committee in the event that permission is granted.

3.3 The Committee may not without good reasons refuse a request for permission to use a golf buggy if the criteria in paragraph 3.2 are met.

3.4 Where a player is under the age of 18 years and has met the criteria in paragraph 3.2, above, a member of the Committee shall reserve the right to specify that the golf buggy is driven by another person of that Committee member's choice, in the event that a person having parental responsibility for the player is unable or not competent or qualified to do so.

3.5 In cases where a member of the Committee or an officer of Ferndown Forest Golf Club refuses to permit the use of a golf buggy then they shall inform the player of the decision, the reasons for it, and the right to appeal this refusal to the Appeals Committee in accordance with this Policy.

4. Conditions in which use of a golf buggy may be permitted

4.1 Where a determination is made that the use of a buggy may be permitted by a player or where appropriate a caddie or third party to use a golf buggy, a member of

the Committee shall have regard to the following additional health and safety considerations before granting approval:

- (a) Any relevant weather conditions;
- (b) The topography and ground conditions;
- (c) The condition of and suitability of the golf buggy; and
- (d) Any other relevant considerations which could impede the safe use of a golf buggy or impact on the safety of others.

4.2 In the event that a member of the Committee or an officer of Ferndown Forest Golf Club believes that for reasons of health and safety a golf buggy should not be used by players, caddies or third parties at a particular time he/they may:

- (a) Refuse to grant permission for the use of a golf buggy, and shall inform the player, caddie or third party of this decision; or
- (b) Revoke any such permission in the event of new health and safety considerations having come to light since the granting of the initial permission to use a golf buggy;

5. Conditions for use of golf buggies

5.1 A player, caddie or other third party permitted to use a golf buggy must agree to the following terms and conditions of use:

- (a) Any person operating a golf buggy must do so with the utmost courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of others and in accordance with any relevant golf buggy operating guidelines;
- (b) The Committee may require that a golf buggy must not exceed walking pace and/or must not have a covered roof;
- (c) A golf buggy shall be for the sole use of the player and his/her equipment, unless a member of the Committee has deemed that for reason of age or disability a third party is required to drive the golf buggy;
- (d) A golf buggy must not impede or interfere with normal pedestrians or vehicular traffic flow on roadways, ramps and pavements;
- (e) A player who has been granted permission to use a golf buggy (or any caddie or other third party who has been permitted to drive the golf buggy) must remain seated in the golf buggy at all times while the vehicle is in motion;
- (f) Drivers of golf buggies must comply with directional signs and the detailed map found in the buggy for access to the 1st and 10th tees and not use prohibited areas including public highways and pavements;
- (g) A player who has been granted permission to use a golf buggy (or any caddie or other third party who has been permitted to drive the golf buggy) must accept responsibility for any losses or injury sustained as a result of his or her fault whilst using a golf buggy