

Buggy Policy

Brinkworth 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 Brinkworth Golf Club must be those maintained and serviced by Brinkworth Golf Club and TH White. It is also necessary for Brinkworth 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.

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 afforded the right-of-way at all times.
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 followed at all times.
3. Authorised users must not permit any unauthorised person to drive a buggy, whether hired or privately-owned; and the liability for any loss or injury caused by an unauthorised driver will lie jointly and severally with that driver and the authorised user who wrongly permitted him or her to do so.
4. 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.
5. 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. Brinkworth 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 Course and Clubhouse Director and Professional has the authority to cancel the use of a buggy. Application for reinstatement of permission can only be made to the Club.
11. Use in Competitions; The club's General Committee has determined under Local Rule that use of golf buggies in competitions is permitted for all players without the need for any medical exemption and regardless of any disability.

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 buggy.

Before Use:

- All operators of ride-on buggies must sign a Buggy Safety Policy 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 it.
- 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 may not be driven into heather areas.

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. **DO NOT** drive with the parking brake on.

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.

After Use:

When returning the buggy, turn the operating key to the off position, engage the parking brake and return the key to clubhouse staff.

Remember to take your belongings and put any rubbish in the bins provided.