



# TRANSPORTATION POLICY

This policy is the Transportation Policy and will be referred to as such in all events organised and managed by England Golf. It sets out the circumstance in which golf buggies may be used in these events.

## 1. Aim Of This Policy

England Golf wishes to encourage participation in golf by all players regardless of disabilities with the Equality Act 2010.

## 2. General

- 2.1. The basic rule is set out in Model Local Rule G-6 'Prohibiting Use of Motorised Transportation' of The Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2019. This states that during a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee.
- 2.2. The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

## 3. Persons Who May Use a Buggy

- 3.1. It shall be a Local Rule of any competition organised by England Golf 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.
- 3.2. A golf buggy may be used by a player or a caddie where:
  - (i) A Player or Caddie submits a validly completed Medical Certificate for the use of a Golf Buggy in Competition (Form B1) or a Revalidation of a Medical Certificate (Form B2) to England Golf in accordance with this policy by the Relevant Date; and
  - (ii) The medical evidence provided in accordance with paragraph (i) above establishes that the Player or Caddie currently has a disability within the meaning of the Equality Act 2010 and that, in England Golf's reasonable opinion, the use of a golf buggy is a reasonable adjustment in light of that disability; and



- (iii) The Committee approves the request in writing before the date of the relevant competition.
- 3.3. The Committee may refuse a request for permission to use a golf buggy if the evidence and information required under 3.2 above is not submitted to England Golf at least 14 days before the date on which the relevant competition is scheduled to begin (the "Relevant Date").
- 3.4. The Committee may not without good reasons refuse a request for permission to use a golf buggy if the criteria at 3.2 and 3.3 are met.
- 3.5. A validly completed Revalidation of a Medical Certificate shall constitute evidence that a player's existing medical certificate from an earlier date remains a true and accurate reflection of a player's medical circumstances.
- 3.6. If a player wrongly submits a revalidation form which contains misleading or untrue information, or if a player fails to update England Golf regarding their medical circumstances, and subsequently uses a buggy where they otherwise would not be entitled to do so, England Golf reserves the right to disqualify that player from any relevant competition or take disciplinary action where appropriate.
- 3.7. Where a player is under the age of 18 years and has met the criteria in paragraphs 3.2 and 3.3 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 the person having parental responsibility for the player is unable or not competent or qualified to do so.
- 3.8. Where the disability prevents the player from driving the buggy, they may nominate a third party to drive the buggy for them, they must be approved by the Committee in the event that permission is granted.
- 3.9. In cases where a Committee refuses to permit the use of a golf buggy, the player shall be informed of the decision, the reasons for it and the right to appeal this refusal to the Appeals Committee in accordance with this policy.
- 4. Insurance**
- 4.1. Where a determination has been made that the use of a buggy may be permitted, there must be in force, an appropriate policy of insurance covering liability for all personal and



third party claims and the driver must provide a copy of the certificate of insurance on demand to England Golf.

- 4.2. If the buggy is owned by the person using it, there must be in force an appropriate policy of insurance covering liability for all third party liabilities. In the event that the buggy is provided by a Club, it is incumbent upon the Club to ensure that there is in force an appropriate policy of insurance covering third party liabilities and the terms of use have been communicated to the user of the buggy.

## **5. Health and Safety Considerations**

- 5.1. Where determination is made that the use of a buggy may be permitted by a player or where appropriate, a caddie or third party, a member of the Committee shall have regard to the following additional Health & Safety considerations before granting approval: -
- i. any relevant weather conditions.
  - ii. the topography and ground conditions
  - iii. the condition and suitability of the golf buggy
  - iv. any other relevant considerations which could impede the safety of the golf buggy or impact on the safety of others.
- 5.2. In the event that a member of the Committee believes that for reasons of Health & Safety a golf buggy should not be used by players, caddie or third parties at a particular time, he/ she may:-
- i. refuse to grant permission for the use of a golf buggy and shall inform a player, caddie or third party of this decision, or
  - ii. revoke any such permission in the event of new Health & Safety considerations come to light since the grant of the initial permission to use a golf buggy.
- 5.3. It will be a requirement for any player, caddie or third party granted permission to use a buggy to complete and sign this Transport Policy prior to use.



## **6. Usage of Golf Buggies**

- 6.1. Nothing in this policy shall oblige England Golf to provide a player with a golf buggy for use in connection with a competition. It shall remain the responsibility of the player or caddie to source their own appropriate golf buggy.
- 6.2. A player, caddie or third party permitted to use a golf buggy must use the buggy in a reasonable and safe manner. In considering what is 'reasonable and safe' the driver will have regard to the following factors:
  - i. the ground condition.
  - ii. the safety of others.
  - iii. that a buggy should give way to pedestrians.
  - iv. that a buggy should not impede any other user on the course.
  - v. that the speed of the buggy should be limited to 15mph at a maximum.
- 6.3. 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.
- 6.4. The driver must comply with all directional signs and not use prohibited areas, including public highways and pavements.
- 6.5. The driver must certify that they are competent to drive a golf buggy.
- 6.6. The driver is solely responsible for the safe usage of the buggy on the course and environs.
- 6.7. Liability for any injury or damage caused is the liability of the driver.
- 6.8. Permission to use a golf buggy is conditional upon the user agreeing to these terms and conditions.

## **7. Appeals Procedure**

- 7.1. Any decision by a Committee member refusing a player or caddie permission to use a golf buggy may be appealed by the player or caddie to the Appeals Committee which shall comprise of three members of England Golf Championship Committee.



- 7.2. An appeal should be made in writing to the Appeals Committee within 5 working days of the date of the initial decision.
- 7.3. Any written appeal requests shall include a statement where the Player or Caddie give the reasons why they are seeking to appeal a decision.
- 7.4. The Appeals Committee shall make a decision on an appeal and communicate it to the Player or Caddie within 10 working days of the initial appeal.
- 7.5. The decision of the Appeals Committee is final.

## **8. Definitions**

- 8.1. 'Disability' shall have the same definition as that contained in section 6 of the Equality Act 2010. A person has a disability, if they have either a physical or mental impairment and that impairment has a substantial and long term adverse effect of their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.
- 8.2. Any reference to 'Golf Buggy' shall include any vehicle deemed to be a golf buggy by the England Golf Championship Committee.
- 8.3. Any reference to 'Committee' shall refer to the England Golf Championship Committee were responsible for taking the decision on the use of a golf buggy and 'member of the committee' shall be construed accordingly.