



Buggy Policy

2018-2019



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Use of ride-on buggies at Queen's Park Golf Course

Introduction

It is recognised that some golfers cannot play golf without the assistance of a motorised ride-on buggy. This document sets out the safe and considerate operation of motorised ride-on buggies on Queens Park Golf Course regardless as to whether they are privately owned or Council owned. The document also sets down the criteria to be applied and conditions to be met when the course considers applications for their use and the conditions in which their permission for use will be withdrawn or temporarily suspended.

Definitions

Buggy

A small-motorised ride-on vehicle designed for use by golfer and his/her equipment – single-seater for privately owned and two-seater for Council owned.

Disability

As defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, i.e. “physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on ability to carry out normal day to day activities”.

Certificate of Insurance

For a policy that provides a buggy user with Third Party Liability cover of at least £1,000,000.

Authorisation

The use of a privately owned buggy is granted only to members of the public who have demonstrated incapacity to play golf unaided. Any golfer who accepts the privilege of using a buggy is deemed by so doing to have the full knowledge, training and skill to operate the buggy safely, to have the required insurance cover and to be fully accountable for his/her actions and the consequences thereof.

Course buggies are to be used at the discretion of the Course Manager, following the Buggy Safety Policy, Code of Operating Practices and by signing the Safety Policy Acceptance Form.

Queen's Park Safety Policy Acceptance Form

This form, when completed and signed by both parties, authorises the applicant to use a buggy on Queens Park Golf Course from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020

Applicant:

Address:

Post Code:

By signing below I acknowledge that:-

- I have read and understood the Safety Policy.
- I understand and will adhere to the stated Conditions of Buggy Use and the Code of Operating Practice.
- I will follow the preferred routes and avoid areas that are prohibited for buggies of which I am fully aware.
- My buggy is maintained in a safe working condition (copy of maintenance record to be given when requested at any time)
- I confirm that I have a Disability within the meaning of the Disability Discrimination Act, which prevents me from playing golf without the use of a buggy.
- I have a valid insurance policy that covers liability for risks to third parties, arising from buggy use, to a minimum of £1,000.000, and have supplied the Course with a copy of the current Certificate of Insurance.

I agree to indemnify Queens Park Golf Course against all claims, costs and demands arising out of, or in connection with, the use of a buggy.

Signature of Applicant:

Date:

Signature of Course Manager:

Date:



Any personal information you provide us with, will be held and used in accordance with the law and the Data Protection Act 2018. If you would like to find out more information about how we use your information, please see our Privacy Notice here: bcpcouncil.gov.uk/privacy

Queen's Park Golf Course Code of Operating Practice

The buggy used shall, at all times –

1. Not move off until all persons properly seated
2. Remain seated while the buggy is in motion
3. Hands, feet and head must be kept inside the buggy at all times while the vehicle is in motion
4. Not to enter prohibited areas
5. Use the buggy only to progress the game, avoiding excessive detours, e.g. repeatedly driving backwards and forwards when looking for golf balls, especially within environmentally sensitive areas e.g. heather
6. Keep away from tees, greens and the slopes leading to them
7. Stay at least 5m away from any greens, bunkers, ditches or ponds – or slopes leading to them – except when using designated routes or bridges
8. Check area behind the buggy before reversing
9. Set the parking brake before leaving the buggy
10. Ensure the buggy is immobilised before leaving the vehicle by removing the key and employing the parking brake
11. Drive only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow, and never more than 8mph (13kph)
12. Be alert to prevailing conditions – terrain, vehicular, pedestrian and animal traffic conditions and other environment factors – that may affect buggy operation. In particular the user shall:
 - * avoid tipping over on severe slopes – bypassing them if possible or driving straight up and down severe slopes to minimise tilt
 - * slow down before corners
 - * make turns 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.

Note:

If the buggy breaks down, is damaged or involved in an accident:

DO NOT move the buggy and report the incident and position to the Course Manager immediately (01202 451675).

Application of privately owned buggies

All requests to use privately owned buggies must be in writing to the Course Manager, which prevents them from playing golf without the use of a buggy. If the request is approved the applicant will be asked to complete the Buggy Safety Policy Acceptance Form. Authorisation for buggy use will only be granted upon receipt of the completed and signed form, together with a copy of a valid insurance certificate. Queen's Park Golf Course reserves the right to withdraw the use of a private buggy if his/her disability ceases or if there is non-compliance with the conditions for its use as set out in the Buggy Safety Policy.

First time visitors must apply to the Course Manager prior to the date on which they wish to use a buggy on the course. They will be sent by return copies of the Buggy Safety Policy and Acceptance Form. A register of authorised buggy users will be kept therefore it is only necessary to bring the documents for inspection on the day of play – on the understanding that buggy use will not be re-authorised if the documents are found to be unsatisfactory.

Suspension of authorised usage during adverse environmental conditions.

Queens Park Golf Course prohibits buggy use whenever it is considered that the state of the course, or part of it, and/or the weather constitutes an unacceptable risk – to the safety of the user and/or of damage to the course. Unsuitable conditions could include heavy rainfall; storm force winds, excessive waterlogging and/or frost (see Frost Policy).

To minimise disappointment users should telephone the Booking Office (01202 451675) to check on the situation before travelling to Queen's Park.

The Course Manager's decision will be final.

Queen's Park Golf Buggy Safety Policy

Queens Park Golf Course has a duty of care to all users of the golf course; the course provides safe access for all staff, golfers, dog walkers and members of the public. It also ensures the safety of all users and non-users of golf buggies, who might be at risk from a mechanically defective buggy or the careless use of a buggy.

Conditions of Use

- Private buggies must be single seater only.
- A buggy may only be used on Queens Park Golf Course by authorised persons, who shall under no circumstances allow its use by non-authorised persons, in the event of difficulties (e.g. mechanical breakdown) assistance should be sought from the golf pavilion in the first instance.
- No under 18's are allowed on a buggy at any time.
- The buggy shall remain insured at all times in respect of claims for damages arising out of the buggy's use on Council property and produce a certificate of that insurance for inspection at the Courses request.
- The buggy shall be maintained in a safe operating condition.
- Buggies shall be operated with the utmost courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of other golf course users. Non-buggy users must be afforded the right-of-way at all times.
- Buggies shall follow the preferred route as closely as possible and avoid the prohibited areas. Any additional warning of dangerous or prohibited areas posted at the shop shall be heeded at all times
- Buggies shall be operated and parked in such a manner that they do not impede or interfere with normal use of roadways, ramps, pavements and pathways.
- Operators are responsible for ensuring that buggies are immobilised when left unattended e.g. keys to be removed and parking brakes on.
- No buggy shall be operated in excess of 8mph (13 km per hour)
- Buggies shall only be used between dawn and dusk.
- Buggies shall be operated in compliance with normal "rules of the road" regardless of whether on pavements, roadways or pathways.

- Buggy operators shall stop at blind intersections and proceed with caution.
- The safe operation of buggies on the course requires conscientious adherence to the Buggy Safety Policy attached.
- The buggy shall at all times be driven in accordance with the general Code of Operating Practice as described below.
- Buggy operators must not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs (except those required due to a pre-existing medical condition)
- Queen's Park Golf Course accepts no responsibility for ensuring safe operations of buggies on its property other than any operated by their servants or agents. The course will accept no responsibility for any loss or damage caused to any property other than that arising from the negligent use of a buggy by their servants or agents.
- Buggies must not be used on the ramp adjacent from the car park
- Buggies can only be used within the confines of Queens Park Public Open Space
- Buggies shall follow the route to the car park as described in the map provided in Appendix A.

Users of buggies do so at their own risk. Queen's Park Golf Course will not accept any liability for any loss or damage, however caused, to the golf buggy or by the golf buggy to any other property or persons. Users shall indemnify the Club against third party claims for any such damage.

Appendix A - Approved Buggy Route

