Chipping Sodbury Golf Club Buggy Policy

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to establish a standard for the safe operation of all ride-on buggies operated on the Courses at Chipping Sodbury Golf Club. The document also sets down the criteria to be adopted and conditions to be met for their use.

The Club has a number of buggies available for hire and they can be booked in advance, by telephoning the Professional Shop on 01454 319042 and choosing option 1. Any booking is subject to restrictions that may be imposed owing to the condition of the Course. No guarantee can be given that a buggy will be available unless it has been pre-booked.

Qualifications

In normal conditions, there is no restriction on the use of ride on buggies. In some circumstances, however, it may be necessary to restrict their use (see Buggy Restrictions).

Chipping Sodbury Golf Club has decided that it would be beneficial to devel op a policy that encompasses all Members who, while not fulfilling the legislative definitions of being disabled, need the help provided by a motorised ride-on buggy to play golf. To facilitate this a list of authorised buggy users will be maintained by the General Manager to whom applications can be made.

Use of a ride-on buggy will not be allowed unless authorised by the General Manager. Any person who operates a ride-on buggy on the Golf Course is deemed by so doing, to have the knowledge, training and skill to safely operate the buggy and be fully accountable for their actions and the consequences thereof.

The safe operation of ride-on buggies on the Course requires conscientious application and adherence to the minimum standard of care prescribed by this policy.

Buggies and Ride-on buggies must be operated in accordance with the requirements of the following:

- Golf Buggy Safety Policy (set out below)
- Golf Buggy Safe Working Practice (set out below)

The General Manager reserves the right to refuse permission if some or all the conditions stipulated are not met. The General Manager also reserves the right to withdraw authorisation of a buggy at a disabled rate if the medical condition or disability necessitating the use of a ride-on buggy ceases, or the conditions for its use are not fully met.

Approved 15th September 2025

Buggy Restrictions

The Club staff may determine that the state of the Course or the weather is such that safety on, or the condition of the Course may be unacceptably compromised if a ride-on buggy is used. This might apply to the whole or just part of the Course. Potentially unsuitable conditions include water logging, frost, etc.

When course access is restricted, visiting disabled golfers will be permitted to use a Buggy on receipt of evidence of their disability (within the meaning of section 6 of The Equality Act 2010) with a copy of their third-party liability insurance if using their own buggy. If the evidence is not available, they may be refused access to the Course. Members with a disability (within the meaning of section 6 of The Equality Act 2010) will be permitted to use a Buggy.

Disabled golfers are advised to check the Course status before their visit.

General Play and Competitions

During general (non-competition) play a ride-on buggy shall only be used by Members, visitors and guests authorised to do so.

Any Member wishing to use a ride on buggy during a Club competition must either be on the authorised users list or apply on a case by case to the Competitions' Committee.

Golf Buggy Safety Policy

The Club has a duty of care to all users of the golf courses. The topography (including deep water) 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 also necessary for the 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.

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 are only for the use of Members, green fee-paying visitors, entrants in competitions or other persons so authorised by the General Manager
2. 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. Please note that the Course have footpaths that cross fairways, so pedestrians include walkers as well as other golfers
3. The signs and instructions employed on the Course to warn buggy riders of potential danger areas or the potential to cause unacceptable wear and tear to the Course, must be followed at all times
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 the buggy for the period that the buggy is on the property owned by the club

6. Chipping Sodbury 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

for those operated by staff. The Club will accept no responsibility for any loss or damage caused to any property

7. No ride-on buggy will be operated in excess of what is safe in the circumstances. When the ground is wet, muddy, or negotiating narrow routes, the maximum permissible speed is walking pace. Operators must, however, ensure that they drive at the appropriate speed and in the appropriate manner for the prevailing conditions
8. Ride-on buggies shall be used only between dawn and dusk
9. 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 roadway
10. Operators must stop the buggy at blind intersections or road crossings and proceed with caution
11. If in the opinion of the General Manager a person is in an unfit condition to use a buggy; he / she has the authority to immediately prohibit any such person from using or being carried on a ride-on buggy

Golf Buggy Safe Working Practice

- Persons driving a buggy must be over 17 years of age and hold a full valid driving license
- Never allow children to drive the ride-on buggy
- Persons using a privately-owned buggy must provide a copy of a valid certificate of insurance

Buggy and Single Ride on Instructions Off Course

- All operators of ride-on buggies, including privately owned buggies, must comply with Chipping Sodbury Golf Club Buggy Policy before they are permitted to drive the buggy
- A ride-on buggy must only be used for the number of occupants it was designed to carry and only by people who are authorised and have completed the Disability Buggy Request Form and have been issued a buggy tag.
- When the buggy is left un-attended, please make sure that the parking brake is engaged, operating key is in the off position and the key removed from the ignition.

Buggy and Single Ride on User Instructions on Course

- Do not move off until all occupants are seated
- Always remain seated and hold on while the buggy is in motion
- Hands, feet and head must be kept inside the buggy at all times while the buggy is in motion
- Buggies must not be driven in prohibited areas
- Buggies must be used to progress the game and must not be driven up and down excessively, e.g., when looking for golf balls
- Buggies must not be used on tees, greens nor the slopes leading up to them
- Buggies must not be used within 5 metres of any green, bunker, ditch or lake
- Check the area behind the buggy before reversing
- Always set the parking brake before leaving the buggy
- To avoid tipping over, drive the buggy straight up and down severe slopes
- Slow down before corners to avoid course damage
- All turns must be executed at reduced speeds

- Avoid sudden stops or changes of direction that may result in loss of control or skidding
- Be extra careful when the Course is wet and muddy
- The instructions and Course Map for the route of buggies must be adhered to with no exception

Privately Owned Buggies

A small number of privately owned buggies are approved and authorised on application to be used on Club premises, Old and New. Privately owned buggies are for the sole use of the owner and under no circumstance are they to be lent or hired out to third parties.

All private buggy owners must be over 17 years of age and hold a full valid driving license.

All private buggy owners must provide a copy of a valid certificate of insurance and an annual certification of servicing showing that the buggy is in good working order.

Users of privately owned buggies do so entirely at their own risk. Chipping Sodbury Golf Club will not accept liability for any loss or damage to the privately owned buggies or any other property arising from the negligence of the Club or any of its servants or agents.

Visitors may not use their own personal ride on buggy, but in the event that any person who is registered to do so at their home club, on the grounds of disability, may hire one of the Club's rental buggies for an appropriate fee which is given at the discretion of the General Manager, providing advance notice of the need to hire is given.

Administration

Club Office Staff will retain on file a fully completed and signed "Medical Certificate for the use of a Golf Buggy", together with Medical Certification. Club Office Staff will also ensure that staff in the Golf Professional shop are in possession of an up-to-date copy of the register of Authorised Buggy Users for whom documents are held on file and to whom authorisation has been granted for buggy use.

Version Control:

Version	Risk Committee review Date	Board Endorsement Date	Changes
V1			

Buggy, Electric & Manual Trolley Usage Policy

The aim of this policy is to make every effort to maximise as many Members as possible to play the course in all weather conditions. However, there will be a need to balance the aim of this policy with the need to protect the course from undue damage, thus protecting the best interest of all Members.

There will also be restrictions on buggy use where Health & Safety is concerned.

In addition, when placing restrictions on buggy and trolley use it is recognised that special consideration must be given to the needs of the disabled as required by the Equality Act

2010. This and other measures in support of the disabled are set out in a separate document entitled "Chipping Sodbury Golf Club's Commitment to the Disabled".

Below is our System for determining Buggy, Single Ride On, Electric Trolley, Push Trolley & Carry Only, this is determined by the Course Status that all Golfers will need to adhere to as conditions on the course

change:

Status	Disability
Golf Course Open – No Restrictions	Standard Buggies & Single Ride On
Electric Trolleys	Single Ride On 90 Degree Rule from buggy route to golf ball position
Push Trolleys	Single Ride to remain on buggy route only and walk to ball
Carry Only	Electric Trolley winter wheels

Full Buggy Ban

Under exceptional circumstances the condition of the course may be such, for safety reasons, a full buggy ban that must be introduced.

Course Protection and User Safety

Designated routes will be established via roped posts for trolley users on a hole-by-hole basis to enable safe access to the course and minimize wear and tear. Buggy users will be asked to stay on Pathways, if needed.

Buggy User Safety

All Buggy Users must sign and complete a "Chipping Sodbury Golf Club Buggy Policy".

Communication

Chipping Sodbury Golf Club will endeavour to communicate to all Members any restrictions that may be in place on that day. Course checks will take place at the earliest available time when it is safe to do so. This information will then be communicated to Members as soon as possible.