

POLICY FOR THE USE OF GOLF BUGGIES & GOLF SCOOTERS

Definitions

Ride On Golfing Vehicles (ROGV):

(Double seated golf Buggies, Single seated golf buggies and Golf scooters)

Disability: A person has a disability under Equality Act if they have a physical or mental impairment and that impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

Introduction

Silverstone Golf Club shares the belief of England Golf and Northamptonshire Golf Limited (NGL) that golf belongs to everyone. All who play and all who aspire to play must have an equal opportunity to do so. Silverstone Golf Club is committed to the principles of equality and diversity throughout its Membership, its paid and volunteer workforce and any others with whom Silverstone Golf Club engages. This Policy is designed to support Silverstone Golf Club intention that everyone should play their part in making golf inclusive and aims to ensure that all people, irrespective of background or Protected Characteristics, have a genuine opportunity to engage with golf. We will not disadvantage any individual by imposing conditions or requirements which cannot be justified.

This Policy addresses the use of ROGV's at Silverstone Golf Club.

In normal course conditions ROGV's are permitted to be used by both members and visitors without exception. This is expected to be during the period of April to October when ground conditions are most suitable.

From time to time the Head Greenkeeper 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 ROGV's are used. This might apply to the whole or just part of the course. Potentially unsuitable conditions include waterlogging and frost, etc.

Where such conditions arise Silverstone Golf Club will review the situation daily as part of the course opening inspections and update the course status accordingly.

Use in General Play and Competitions

During general (non-competition) play, ROGV's shall only be used by members, visitors and guests provided they meet the terms of this policy. ROGV's may be used during closed and open competitions by those suffering from a disability within the meaning of the Equality Act and approved by the Silverstone Golf Club.

Any person who accepts the privilege of operating a ROGV on the golf course is deemed by so doing that the ROGV is fit for purpose and to have the knowledge, training, and skill to safely operate this vehicle and be fully accountable for their actions and the consequences thereof.

To help prevent damage to the playing surfaces, we expect all ROGV users to adopt the 90-degree rule. This would mean that riders would drive along a stipulated route and walking at 90-degrees to their ball to play their shot. The Pro-Shop will review any extenuating circumstance if a user is unable to walk to their golf ball.

Personal ROGV Users

- In advance of use, owners of a ROGV must contact the Pro-Shop to request use of their vehicle on Silverstone Golf Club property.
- They must be 18 years of age or over and hold a Full and Valid UK Driving License.
- They must provide the following documentation without exception.
 - Evidence of 3rd party liability insurance in the event of any accident or incident whilst the ROGV is being used on Silverstone Golf Club property
 - Evidence of mechanical service for the ROGV, dated within the last 12 months.
 - Evidence of disability if applicable (Blue Badge or signed Doctor's certification)
- The user must sign to accept the Safety Policy and User Guide (appendix 1) prior to being granted access to the course. This will be available from the Pro-Shop.
 - ROGV users understand they may be asked to leave the course if they fail to adhere to these policies or any instruction given by a member of the club management team, and in such cases would forfeit any monies paid in relation to green fees.

Disability

Due to disability*, as defined in the Equality Act, some members and visitors may not be able to play golf without the help provided by a ROGV. This part of the policy is designed to assist disabled users access the course and continue to enjoy the game of golf in a safe environment throughout the year.

Silverstone Golf Club operates a policy to enable disabled golfers to use a ROGV in conjunction with the “Adverse Weather Conditions Policy” when, due to adverse conditions (YELLOW), ROGV’s would not normally be allowed on the course, however, Blue Badge Holders or golfers with a Doctor’s certification may be allowed at Head Greenkeepers discretion.

This could be a reduced length course or even just one or two holes. The access granted is determined by a hole by hole, inspection and reasonable adjustments being made. A ROGV route would be provided in these instances.

If any Member or visitor requires the use of a ROGV to play golf during periods when they would not normally be permitted, they should present their Blue Badge or Doctor’s certification to Pro-Shop staff on arrival before teeing off.

If the condition or disability necessitating the use of a ROGV ceases, or the conditions for its use are not fully complied with, this arrangement will be withdrawn.

*It is important that the definition is by reference to day-to-day activities, for example going to the supermarket. The test is not whether a person can manage to walk 5+ miles to play golf.

Appendix 1

Golf Buggy and Golf Scooter (ROGV) SAFETY POLICY

Silverstone 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 ROGV's.

It is also necessary for Silverstone Golf Club to provide adequately safe means of access for all golfers including those given permission to use ROGV's. Moreover, Silverstone Golf Club must ensure the safety of pedestrian golfers who might be at risk from a mechanically defective ROGV or its careless use. This duty of care also applies to members of the public using any rights of way.

To assist the safe use of ROGV's all potential users (members and visitors) shall comply with the following conditions:

1. ROGV's on Silverstone Golf Club property can be used by any member or guest provided they are 18 years of age or over, hold a Full and Valid UK Driving License and have provided the following documentation to the Pro-Shop in advance.
 - a. Evidence of 3rd party liability insurance in the event of any accident or incident whilst the ROGV is being used on Silverstone Golf Club property.
 - b. Evidence of mechanical service for the vehicle, dated within the last 12 months.
2. ROGV's 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 always.
3. Any signs and/or instructions employed on the course to warn users of potential danger areas or, areas forbidden to ROGV's because of concerns about danger or, the potential to cause unacceptable wear and tear to the course, must be always
4. ROGV's 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. ROGV operators will be responsible for the security of ignition keys for the period that the ROGV is on the Silverstone Golf Club property.
6. Silverstone Golf Club has no responsibility for ensuring the safe operation of ROGV's on or beyond the confines of the course and Silverstone Golf Club car-parks other than those operated by their servants or agents. Silverstone Golf Club will accept no responsibility for any loss or damage caused to any property other than that arising from the negligent use of a ROGV by their servants or agents.
7. No ROGV will be operated more than 15km per hour.
8. ROGV's shall be used only between dawn and dusk.

9. ROGV's must be operated in compliance with the common rules of the road regardless of whether ROGV's are operated on pavements or roadways.
10. Operators must stop at blind intersections and proceed with caution.
11. ROGV's must only carry up to the maximum number of people they have seats for.
12. Any Silverstone Golf Club Official or management has the authority to ask any ROGV users to leave the course/club grounds if they are acting in a manner that potentially endangers themselves, other club users, the course or club property. If this relates to a club member, then that member may be suspended until issue resolved.
13. ROGV users must fully comply with the Silverstone Golf Club "Adverse Weather Conditions Policy."

Double Seated Golf Buggy Hire - USER RULES

All users of buggies must adhere to Golf Buggy and Golf Scooter (ROGV) Safety Policy (Appendix 1)

1. No one under the age of 18 is permitted to operate a Golf Buggy
2. All persons hiring a buggy from Silverstone Golf Club must have a valid driving licence and adequate insurance to cover any accident or incident whilst on hire.
3. A Golf Buggy shall only be used for the number of occupants it was designed to carry.
4. Do not move off until the occupant is seated
5. Always remain seated and hold on while the Golf Buggy is in motion
6. Hands, feet, and head must be always kept inside the Golf Buggy whilst it is in motion
7. Golf Buggies must not be driven in prohibited areas including within staked/roped areas, white lines.
8. The Golf Buggy must be used to progress the game and must not be driven up and down excessively, e.g., when looking for golf balls
9. The Golf Buggy must not be used on tees, greens or the slopes leading up to them
10. The Golf Buggy must not be used within 2 metres of any bunkers, ditches, ponds, or slopes leading to them except when using the designated bridges
11. Check the area behind the Golf Buggy before reversing
12. Set the parking brake before leaving the Golf Buggy
13. Always consider the terrain, existing vehicular and pedestrian traffic conditions as well as environmental factors that may affect your ability to operate the Golf Buggy safely
 - a. Drive the Golf Buggy only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow.
 - b. To avoid tipping over, drive the Golf Buggy straight up and down severe slopes
 - c. Slow down before corners.
 - d. All turns must be executed at reduced speeds
 - e. Avoid sudden stops or changes of direction that may result in loss of control
 - f. Be extra careful when the course is wet and muddy
14. When the Golf Buggy is left unattended, turn the operating key to the off position, remove the key and engage the parking brake.
15. Golf Buggies are used at the user's risk and any damage to the Golf Buggy is the sole responsibility of the user.

I have read and acknowledge the **Golf Buggy and Golf Scooter (ROGV) SAFETY POLICY** and agree to abide with all of the conditions.

I have read the **Double Seated Golf Buggy Hire - USER RULES** and agree to abide by them.

I understand that I may be asked to leave the course if I fail to adhere to these policies, conditions, user rules or any instruction given by a member of the Silverstone Golf Club management team in relation to Golf Buggy use and would forfeit any monies paid in relation to green fees.

Signed: _____

Printed: _____

Dated: _____

Appendix 2

Silverstone Golf Club

Medical Support for Use of Golf Buggy relating to Disability.

I, Dr _____

Of _____

Tel _____

Certify that I have examined _____ Of

_____ and am of the
opinion.

that he/she has a disability within the definition of the Equality Act 2010, has a physical or mental impairment and that impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities and as such would require a motorised mobility aid to participate in the game of golf.

Signed: _____

Printed: _____

Dated: _____