



Minchinhampton Golf Club

Buggy and Trolley Use 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 Minchinhampton Golf Club. The document also sets down the criteria to be adopted and conditions to be met for their use and when their use may be limited.

Qualifications

Minchinhampton Golf Club wishes to support all Members who need the help provided by a motorised ride-on buggy to play golf, while not necessarily fulfilling the legislative definitions of being disabled. General use of buggies is not however encouraged. Use of a ride-on buggy may be authorised by either the MGC Professional Team or the General Manager.

A person using a buggy will be fully accountable for their actions and the consequences thereof.

The list of authorised buggy users is held by the General Manager, with a copy of the available in the professional Shop. No persons under the age of 18 will be permitted to use a buggy unless accompanied by a responsible adult. Use of a buggy must be in accordance with the Golf Buggy Hire Agreement

Privately Owned Buggies & E-Bikes

Members may use their own ride-on buggy, subject to prior approval for use.

Responsibility for ensuring that the buggies are in sound working order and suitable for use, without significant impact on the courses, rests with the user. These rules will also apply to other privately owned motorised or wheeled transport aids. Use will require presentation of a current certificate of insurance. Under no circumstances are buggies and aids to be lent or hired out to third parties. Owners of all private buggies must be over 18 years of age and hold a full valid driving license and users do so entirely at their own risk.

Minchinhampton Golf Club will not accept liability for any loss or damage to the buggy or injury to owner or a third party.

Two Wheeled Buggies or E-Bikes are not permitted on the Courses as they provide a higher risk for both players & their partners, particularly in adverse weather conditions. We are keen to assist those who need support to play golf. As guidance, E-Bikes must meet the following criteria:

- At least three wheels of equal size
- Large width of tyres (over 4" inches)
- Limited Power & Speed
- Golf specific manufacturer and un-modified
- Fully Insured

Any approval for use lies with the General Manager, who may consider exceptions where appropriate.

Use Restrictions During Periods of Adverse Weather

As set out in the MGC Adverse Weather Policy, the use of buggies, trollies and other wheeled/motorised aids may be reviewed, and their use suspended on a staged basis, when surface conditions deteriorate to an unacceptable level.

Buggy use may be suspended in the event of significant risk of collision or injury, or to prevent damage to surfaces.

Trolley use may be restricted on occasions to limit impact on the courses but with every effort taken by the club to maintain access for all wherever possible.

Following an appropriate risk assessment, if restrictions to use are introduced this will be confirmed via the website and at course entries, according to the following classification system:

Level 0 – Green Status	No restrictions
Level 1 – Blue Status	Suspension of buggy use
Level 2 – Yellow Status	As blue plus suspension of electric trollies and aids.
Level 3 – Brown Status	Suspension of use of all buggies, trollies, and aids.
Level 4 – Red Status	Course Closed.

If the course(s) move to a changed status up to Level 3 (Brown), after a golfer has started their round, they will be entitled to continue their round, under the original status but may be asked to stay away from sensitive areas such as approaches to greens etc.

If subsequently the courses are closed, Level 4 (Red), all golfers must suspend play and return to the clubhouse(s) as set out in the Adverse Weather Policy.

If due to a late change in status, a visiting golfer who would normally use a buggy or

motorised trolley feels unable to play a round, they will be offered a refund or a chance to re-book for an alternative date.

The Club follows England Golf's Policy regarding Disabled People, and every effort will be made to allow them access to our Courses, unless they have been closed to all. In the event of poor weather conditions, when the use of Buggies has been suspended, we will look for ways to provide access to Buggies for those Disabled People who have registered with the Club, that do not compromise their safety or risk unacceptable damage to the Courses.

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, which will be for the registrant's sole use with shared use by playing partners prohibited, unless they are also an approved buggy user.

A Member wishing to use a ride on buggy during a Club competition, who is not already on the authorised users list, will need to request prior approval from the Golf Team.

At Minchinhampton Golf Club, where Adverse Weather Conditions restrict the use of buggies, trolleys, or other mobility aids, the following staged approach will apply to Pre-Booked Competitions and On-the-Day Competitions.

Pre-Booked Competitions:

Level 1 – Blue Status (Suspension of buggy use)

The competition will proceed.

Players who have registered and intended to use a buggy will receive a refund of their entrance fee.

Level 2 – Yellow Status

Level 3 – Brown Status

Level 4 – Red Status

The competition will be cancelled.

All entrance fees will be refunded.

On-the-Day Competitions:

Level 1 – Blue Status (Suspension of buggy use)

The competition will proceed.

Players intending to use a restricted aid will receive a refund of their entrance fee.

Level 2 – Yellow Status (As per Blue Status, plus suspension of electric trolleys and other powered aids)

The competition will proceed.

Players intending to use a restricted aid will receive a refund of their entrance fee.

Level 3 – Brown Status (Suspension of all buggies, trolleys and aids – carry bags only)

The competition will proceed.

Players intending to use a restricted aid will receive a refund of their entrance fee.

Level 4 – Red Status (Course Closed)

The competition will not take place.

All entrance fees will be refunded.

Version Control:

Version	Risk Committee review date	Board endorsement date	Changes
V1.0	12/01/2022		New Policy
V1.0		31/01/2022	Board Approved – no changes
V1.1			Annual Review
V1.2			Updated version (Feb 2024)
V1.3			Updated version (Mar 2024)
V1.4			Privately Owned Buggies & E-Bikes
V1.5			Restrictions During Periods of Adverse Weather (Nov. 2025)
V1.6		30/03/2026	Changes approved at Golf Committee & Board