



LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND LADIES COUNTY GOLF TRANSPORTATION POLICY

This is the Transportation Policy and will be referred to as such in all events organised and managed by Leicestershire and Rutland Ladies' County Golf Association (L&RLCGA). It sets out the circumstance in which golf buggies may be used in L&RLCGA events.

1. Aim Of This Policy

L&RLCGA wishes to encourage participation in golf by all players regardless of disabilities within the meaning given by the Equality Act 2010. This document sets out the circumstances in which L&RLCGA will allow the use of motorised transport (golf buggies) in competitions.

2. The General Rules

2.1. This Policy applies in all L&RLCGA competitions, including Handicap Events, and Scratch Events.

2.2. Short term injuries such as broken bones, pulled muscles, or any other medical condition which does not meet the definition of a "Disability" under the Equality Act 2010 do not meet the criteria for the use of motorised transportation.

3. Handicap Events

3.1. For the purposes of this Policy, a 'Handicap Event' means any golf competition, event or tournament organised by L&RLCGA in which participants play from a playing handicap according to their golfing ability.

3.2. In Handicap Events, there are no restrictions on who may use Motorised Transportation, except as is otherwise provided for in this Policy, including:

- i. Insurance requirements set out at section 8 of this Policy;
- ii. Health and safety requirements set out at section 9 of this Policy; and/or
- iii. Host Venue requirements set out at section 11 of this Policy.

4. Scratch Events

4.1. For the purposes of this Policy, a 'Scratch Event' means any golf competition, event or tournament organised by L&RLCGA in which participants do not play from a playing handicap and instead play from 'scratch' to the course handicap.



4.2. For the avoidance of doubt, the Scratch Events are the County Championship, Scratch Division of the County Shield and the Scratch League. Please note that qualification to any subsequent England Golf Competition will be played in accordance with their transportation policy.

4.3. In Scratch Events, L&RLCGA adopts Model Local Rule G-6, 'Prohibiting Use of Motorised Transportation' as set out in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf 2023.

4.4. Model Rule G-6 states: *'During a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorised transportation except as authorised or later approved by the Committee'*

4.5. The penalty for a breach of the rule set out in paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4 above shall be as follows: *'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'*.

5. Using a Golf Buggy in Scratch Events

5.1. In Scratch Events, motorised transportation (golf buggies) may only be used with the prior approval of the L&RLCGA Executive Committee.

5.2. The Executive may approve a request to use motorised transport (**Buggy Request**) only if such a request complies with the following requirements:

- i. The player or caddie submits a validly completed Buggy Request Form (Form B1) to L&RLCGA in accordance with this policy by the Relevant Date; and
- ii. The player or caddie's Buggy Request Form confirms that the player or caddie currently has a Disability; and
- iii. In L&RLCGA's reasoned opinion, the use of a golf buggy is a reasonable adjustment considering that Disability; and
- iv. The Executive Committee receives the request in writing at least 14 days before the commencement date of the relevant competition(s).

5.3. For the purposes of this policy, '**Disability**' means a physical or mental impairment, that has a substantial and long-term (12 months or more) adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities or play a round and shall be interpreted consistently with the meaning given in section 6 of the Equality Act 2010.



5.4. The Executive Committee may refuse a Buggy Request if the Buggy Request Form required by section 5.2 above is not submitted to L&RLCGA at least 14 days before the commencement date of the relevant competition(s) (the “**Relevant Date**”).

5.5. The Executive Committee may not, without good reasons refuse a Buggy Request if the criteria in this section 5 are met. However, the Committee may refuse a Buggy Request if the Executive Committee has reason to believe that the individual who will use the motorised transportation will not do so safely and/or in accordance with all relevant rules, having regard to the requirements set out in paragraph 10.2 of this Policy below.

5.6. Where a player is under the age of 18 years and has met the criteria in section 5, the Executive Committee reserves the right to specify that the golf buggy is driven by another person of the Executive Committee’s choice in the event that the person having parental responsibility for the player is unable or not competent or qualified to do so.

5.7. 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 Executive Committee in the event that permission is granted.

6. Authorisation to Use a Golf Buggy

6.1. Following receipt of a valid Buggy Request, Executive Committee (Competition Secretary and Honorary Secretary) will consider and respond to the request. The Committee may either accept or reject a Buggy Request.

6.2. Where a Buggy Request is accepted, the Competition Secretary will email the player confirming the authorisation and any conditions that go with that authorisation. This email shall constitute evidence that the player has received authorisation to use a golf buggy in a Scratch Event.

6.3. A Buggy authorization email is only valid for the Scratch Event that is named on the email. Authorisation will be required for each Scratch Event in which motorised transportation is to be used.

6.4. Where the Executive Committee refuses a Buggy Request, the player shall be informed of the decision, the reasons for it and the right to appeal this refusal to the Appeals Committee (see below) in accordance with this policy.



7. Enforcement and Evidence

7.1. Players and Caddies are required to self certify that they meet the criteria to use motorised transportation in accordance with this Policy. No medical evidence or doctors reports will be required in the first instance.

7.2. Notwithstanding the above, if the Executive Committee has reasonable grounds to suspect that a Player or Caddie has applied for and received a Buggy Certificate based on incorrect or false information, the Executive Committee may revoke authorisation to use motorised transport and invalidate that authorisation by giving notice to the Player or Caddie in writing, by email, or by phone.

7.3. Where the Executive Committee revokes or invalidates authorisation in accordance with paragraph 7.2 above, the Executive Committee may require a Player or Caddie to submit medical evidence from a practicing medical professional (GP, Consultant, Surgeon etcetera) before authorisation is reissued.

7.4. If a Player or Caddie submits a Buggy Request which contains misleading or untrue information and subsequently uses a buggy where they otherwise would not be entitled to do so, L&RLCGA reserves the right to disqualify that player from any relevant competition, apply any appropriate penalties or sanctions allowed by the Rules of Golf, and/or take disciplinary action where it deems appropriate.

8. Insurance

8.1. Where authorization has been granted, the buggy user must have 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 L&RLCGA

8.2. 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. If 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.

9. Health and Safety Considerations

9.1. Where authorisation has been granted, L&RLCGA, the Executive Committee, and/or the host venue of any competition reserves the right to refuse the use of motorised



transport where, in their reasonable opinion, it would be unsafe to allow the use of motorised transportation having regard to the following:

- i. any relevant weather conditions
- ii. the topography and ground conditions
- iii. the condition and suitability of the golf buggy; and/or
- iv. any other relevant considerations which could impede the safety of the golf buggy or impact on the safety of others

10. Provision and Use of Golf Buggies

10.1. Nothing in this policy shall oblige L&RLCGA 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.

10.2. 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 conditions
- 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. the speed of the buggy should be limited to 15mph at a maximum.

10.3. A golf buggy shall be for the sole use of the player and their equipment unless the the Executive Committee has deemed that for reason of age or disability a third party is required to drive the golf buggy.

10.4. The driver must comply with all directional signs and not use prohibited areas, including public highways and pavements.

10.5. The driver must certify that they are competent to drive a golf buggy.

10.6. The driver is solely responsible for the safe use of the buggy.

10.7. Liability for any injury or damage caused is the liability of the driver.

11. Host Venue Requirements

11.1. The venue at which an event is being held (the “Host Venue”) has discretion to enact its own rules regarding the use of motorised transportation on their premises.



11.2. Regardless of any Host Venue rules and requirements, neither L&RLCGA nor any Host Venue will discriminate directly or indirectly against any player or caddie on the basis of a disability.

12. Appeals

12.1. Any decision by the Executive Committee in 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 consist of three members of the Executive Committee (other than those making the original decision)

12.2. An appeal should be made in writing to the Appeals Committee within 5 working days of the date of the initial decision

12.3. Any appeal requests must include a statement where the player or caddie give the reasons why they are seeking to appeal a decision.

12.4. The Appeals Committee shall make a decision on an appeal and communicate it to the player or caddie within 5 working days of the initial appeal.

12.5. The decision of the Appeals Committee is final.