

# Buggy Policy – Clonmel Golf Club

## Introduction

This document defines the requirements and responsibilities of Clonmel Golf Club and members/visitors regarding the use of ride on buggies. The purpose of this document is to establish a standard for the safe operation of all Club and privately owned ride on buggies operated on the course at Clonmel Golf Club. The document also sets down the criteria to be applied and conditions to be met when the Club considers applications for their use, including with due regard to the Disability Act 2005.

A copy of this Buggy Policy is available to all members and visitors on the Club website <http://www.clonmelgolfclub.com>

## Ownership

The Secretary Manager following consultation with the Honorary Secretary is responsible for the review, up-date and amendment of this Buggy Policy.

## Qualifications

During normal conditions the use of Club and privately owned ride on buggies will be permitted for casual and competition golf as authorised by the Management Committee.

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

At certain times the Course Manager may determine that the general condition of the Course or the weather is such that safety on or the condition of the Course may be unacceptability compromised if a ride on buggy is used.

Where such conditions arise, the Club will review the situation on at least a daily basis.

Information on Course and buggy usage will be available at the Professional shop and the notice board on the First Tee.

The Club will endeavour to ensure that restrictions placed on buggy users will be kept to a minimum.

These Policy Procedures are supported by a ***Golf Buggy Safety Policy*** and ***Safe Working Practice Guide***.

## **Club Buggies**

The Club Professional Shop will be responsible for the day to day running of the Club buggy hire scheme and the following procedures must be observed:

- Club buggies must be returned to the Professional's shop and be stored/locked overnight in the storage area at the rear of the shop.
- At the start of each day staff in the Club Professional shop will arrange for all Club buggies to be ready for hire. A check of each buggy will be made for safety and cleanliness.
- Junior members may not hire or drive buggies on the course unless they have full driving licence.
- Each hired buggy will be signed out by the shop staff and checked on return with any faults recorded.

Details of Clonmel Golf Club's ***Golf Buggy Safety Policy*** and ***Safe Working Practice Guide*** will be displayed in the Professional's shop, the Club noticeboard and on the Club's website.

## **Privately Owned Buggies**

- Privately owned buggies may not be hired for use on the course.
- All members with privately owned buggies must be aware of Clonmel Golf Club's ***Golf Buggy Safety Policy*** and ***Safe Working Practice Guide***.
- Members with privately owned buggies must provide proof of having appropriate insurance (minimum 3<sup>rd</sup> party). Copies of the member's insurance policy must be submitted annually to the Club Office.
- A limited outdoor storage area is available beside the main Club House for privately owned buggies. Application for a space within this area must be made to the Management Committee.
- Clonmel Golf Club requires all those using golf buggies to have a driving licence.

## **Golf Buggy Safety Policy**

The 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 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. The Club must ensure the safety of golfers who do not 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 and visitors) shall comply with the following conditions:

- 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 always.

- Ride on buggies must be operated in compliance with the common rules of the road` regardless of where they are operated.
- The consumption of alcohol and/or the improper use of drugs is not permitted when using the ride-on buggy.
- Drive slowly downhill and set brake when stopped.
- Clonmel Golf Club requires all those using golf buggies to have a driving licence. Club buggies must be driven within the boundaries of Clonmel Golf Club.
- Clonmel Golf Club has no responsibility for ensuring the safe operation of ride on buggies beyond the confines of the course and the club car-parks other than those operated by their servants or agents.
- The Honorary Secretary has the authority to immediately prohibit any individual from using or being carried on a ride on buggy. Application for reinstatement of permission can only be made to the Management Committee.

### **Safe Working Practice Guide**

Before using a ride on buggy on the golf course, members and visitors should make themselves aware of the Buggy Policy Procedures and Safety Procedures for Ride on Buggy Users.

#### **During use**

- Do not move off until the occupants are seated.
- Always remain seated and hold on while the vehicle is in motion.
- Hands, feet and head must be kept inside the buggy while the vehicle is in motion.
- Ride on buggies must not be driven in prohibited areas.
- The vehicle must not be used on tees, greens or the slopes leading up to them.
- Check the area behind the vehicle before reversing.
- Always consider the terrain, existing vehicular and pedestrian traffic conditions as well as environmental factors that may affect your ability to operate the vehicle safely:
  - Drive the vehicle only as fast as the terrain and safety considerations allow
  - To avoid tipping over, drive the buggy straight up and down severe slopes
  - Slow down before corners
  - All turns must be executed 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

#### **After use**

When the vehicle is left unattended, switch off ignition, remove the key and engage the parking brake.

**Signed:**        **Shay Bannon (President)**  
**Date:**         14<sup>th</sup> June, 2022