



Dunning Golf Club

DUNNING GOLF CLUB BUGGY POLICY

(March 2025)

The purpose of this policy is to establish a standard for the safe operation of any ride-on buggies authorised and operated within the confines of Dunning Golf Club, including both those which are hired and personally owned. Dunning Golf Club recognises all 3-4 wheeled single seat golf buggies.

PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO THE DESIGN AND TERRAIN OF OUR COURSE PLUS THE CONSTRAINTS OF THE BRIDGES, ONLY SINGLE SEATER BUGGIES ARE PERMISSIBLE

Our Commitment

- Dunning GC has a responsibility to ensure that access to on-course play is inclusive for our playing membership and visitors.
- Dunning GC's guiding principle is to provide all golfers with as much regular on-course playing opportunities as possible throughout the year.
- This policy is in accordance with Dunning's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy, and encapsulates the obligations stated within the Equality Act 2010.
- Dunning GC is committed to taking positive steps to counteract the effects of physical barriers that restrict the opportunity for all sections of the community to participate equally and fully.
- To enable all our members and visitors to access our course we will provide, support or contribute to the appropriate measures required. To achieve this, we are committed to the following approaches:
- We will strive to ensure that buggies can always access our course as long as weather permits
- We will establish a traffic light system to assess restrictions due to differing factors (primarily the weather and the associated ground conditions).
- We will carry out a hole-by-hole risk assessment to ensure safety of all playing on the course. This will be reviewed annually before the start of each summer season.
- We will make reasonable adjustments for any member or visitor who may require additional support to access our golf course.
- We will ensure confidentiality when requesting personal information related to the use of a buggy on our course.

Course Conditions

The course greenkeeper, along with club management, are responsible for determining the condition of the course in respect of buggy use, when weather conditions challenge the safety of users or would be to the detriment of the golf course.

To minimise the damage to the course under dry, wet or frozen ground conditions, a hole-by-hole risk assessment has been conducted to minimise risk to individuals. With this information, Dunning Golf Club will operate a traffic light system for buggy use:

- Green - No Restrictions.
- Red – The use of buggies will not be permitted in order to protect the course

Whilst we have no designated buggy route around the Dunning Golf Club at Rollo Park, all drivers are expected to comply with the following guidelines:

- No buggies permitted on greens or fringe areas - buggies should be kept at least 2 metres away from the greens or fringe areas.
- No buggies permitted on tee boxes - buggies should be kept at least 2 metres away from tee boxes.
- Buggies should remain at least 1 metre from the bunkers at all times and should not enter the bunkers
- Buggies should remain at least 2 metres from the burn and the ponds on the course.
- All stone bridges are accessible with single seater buggies although we would prefer drivers to predominantly use the two main “emergency vehicle” bridges – left of approach to 5th green and to the front / right of the 7th medal tee. Drivers should adjust their speed to ensure the safe navigation of the bridges.
- Stay clear of all young / staked trees and course signage.
- Buggies should not enter wooded areas and should be aware of low hanging branches on the course.
- Do not drive in the long rough – between holes 2 & 5, between holes 5 & 6.
- Buggy users moving from the 5th green to the 6th medal tee and 7th green to the 8th medal tee should look right to ensure it is safe to cross the fairway. Players may be teeing off from the 1st/10th tee.
- Buggy user who have used the 6th and 8th medals tees should look left to ensure it is safe to cross the fairway. Players may be teeing off from the 1st/10th tee.
- Extreme caution should be used when operating a buggy in the car park and clubhouse area.

The buggy status is set each morning by the course greenkeeper and reviewed daily. Course change of status must be communicated to all members, customer facing staff and committee management at the earliest convenience via our Course Status on our website and also via our Starters

Persons who may use a golf buggy

It shall be a condition of any competition organised by Dunning Golf Club that players must walk at all times during a stipulated round, unless permitted to use a golf buggy by the Committee in accordance with this Policy. The penalty for a breach of this condition is detailed within the Rules of Golf as published by R&A Rules Limited in 2023.

A golf buggy may be used by a player or in certain events a caddie who:

- can provide a valid current medical certificate of disability in accordance with this Policy;
- has requested permission to use a golf buggy by the closing date for any competition they seek to enter or in which they seek to caddie. Unfortunately, due to the design and terrain of our course (particularly the constraints of the bridges), we are unable to accommodate two seater buggies. Only single seaters will be permitted and golfers will have to drive their own buggy. Members who are granted permission to use a buggy, will have this permission for a whole membership year. Visitors competing in Dunning Opens will be given permission on a competition by competition basis.
- The Committee may not without good reasons refuse a request for permission to use a golf buggy if the criteria above are met.

- Where a player is under the age of eighteen years and has met the criteria above, a member of the Committee shall reserve the right to specify that the golf buggy is driven by another person of that Committee member's choice, in the event that a person having parental responsibility for the player is unable or not competent or qualified to do so.
- In cases where the Committee refuses to permit the use of a golf buggy due to a breach in this policy, then they shall inform the player of the decision, the reasons for it, and the right to appeal this refusal as detailed within the club's Disciplinary Procedure.

Reasonable adjustments for players with a disability or mobility impairment.

Dunning Golf Club strives to keep the course open as much as is feasibly possible to maintain access to all throughout the year. The following parameters have been agreed at Committee level to correspond to the Equality Act 2010. Decisions on the course will be made daily and will follow the above traffic light system.

If the buggy status is Red, NO buggies will be permitted on the course. Including golfers who have a disability or long-term mobility impairment.

Dunning Golf Club will ensure that positive provisions are put in place for members who require the use of a buggy, additionally ensuring that they aren't excluded from playing due to additional financial constraints due to the disability or mobility impairment.

Duty of Care

Dunning Golf Club has a duty of care to its employees (paid/voluntary) and all users of the golf course. All users of buggies must show caution and care. Dunning Golf Club must also ensure adequate safe means of access for all golfers as well as those given permission to use buggies. Moreover, the Club must ensure the safety of golfers who do not use buggies, but who might be at risk from a mechanically defective buggy or its careless use.

The Club's duty of care also applies to any members of the public who may be on the course. To assist the safe employment of ride-on buggies all users shall comply with the following conditions:

1. Buggies must be operated with the utmost courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of pedestrians.
2. Any signs and instructions employed on the course, or supplied in writing or verbally, to warn buggy riders of potential dangers / prohibited areas must always be followed.
3. Buggies must be operated and parked in such a manner that they do not impede or interfere with pedestrians or other vehicles.
4. Buggies shall only be used during the opening times of the Starter's Office.
5. Buggies must be operated in compliance with the common rules on the road regardless of where they are operated and when on shared pavements, shared common paths or roads.

Conditions of Use

In addition to the conditions of the Safety Policy above:

1. Buggies may only be used by those authorised by Dunning Golf Club.
2. Buggies must be operated with the utmost common sense, courtesy, care and consideration for all individuals that are within the grounds of the club.

3. The Dunning Golf Club Committee has the authority to immediately prohibit any individual from using or being carried on a buggy. Authorisation will be withdrawn in cases of serious or repeated disregard of the conditions set by this policy. Application for reinstatement of permission can only be made to Dunning Golf Club via our Disciplinary procedure.
4. Users will always be responsible for the security of the ignition keys to buggies supplied to them by Dunning Golf Club whilst under the care and/or control of the User. Users are not allowed to remove the buggy from Dunning Golf Club property.
5. Dunning Golf Club has no responsibility for ensuring the safe operation of buggies on or beyond the borders of the course and the club carpark. The club's buggies are not permitted to leave the boundaries of Rollo Park.
6. Dunning Golf Club will accept no responsibility for any loss or damage caused to any property caused by misuse of a buggy.

Privately owned buggies

Dunning Golf Club welcomes the use of privately owned single seat buggies (2,3 or 4 wheeled) by members and visitors subject to the terms and conditions of use and buggy safety policy. It is the responsibility of the owner and/or user to ensure that the buggy is safe and fit for purpose and that the appropriate conditions for use have been met.

Dunning Golf Club has no facilities for permanent under cover storage of privately owned buggies. Owners should arrange their own comprehensive insurance policy to cover personal injury, third party liability, fire and theft.

Where a privately owned buggy is transported to Dunning Golf Club users should park their trailer utilised for transporting the buggy in such a way to not create a hazard or inconvenience to other users of the car park.

Golf Buggy Safe Working Practice

Before Use

- a) All users must sign a Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form before they are allowed to drive a buggy at Dunning Golf Club. This can be signed and returned to the club prior to day of play from our website or completed on the day itself. Once signed by a Member or Visitor, this form will authorise the user the use of a buggy on our course.
- b) All users (driver) must ensure that they are familiar with the buggy controls and the constraints on buggy use.
- c) All users must be over the age of 18 years, exceptions will be considered for those between 16-17 years who have a disability or mobility limitation. Under 16 years must be in the company of an adult.

During Use

A buggy shall only be used for the number of occupants it was designed to carry and only by those who are authorised to do so by Dunning Golf Club.

Users must:

- 1) Be satisfied that the buggy is well maintained and fully serviceable.
- 2) Keep the buggy stationary until occupant is seated.

- 3) Always remain seated with hands, feet and head kept inside the buggy whilst the buggy is in motion.
- 4) Keep the buggy within the parameters of the golf course and club car park.
- 5) Must not drive the buggy in tight circles or into deep rough or semi rough even when looking for golf balls.
- 6) Check the area behind the buggy before reversing.
- 7) Apply the parking brake before leaving the buggy.
- 8) Always consider the terrain, existing vehicular traffic, and pedestrians as well as environmental factors that may affect their ability to operate the buggy safely.
- 9) Drive the buggy no faster than the terrain and safety considerations allow.
- 10) Drive the buggy directly up, down, sharp slopes slowly to avoid the risk of it tipping over.
- 11) Slow down before cornering and take corners at a reduced speed.
- 12) Avoid sudden stops or changes of direction to prevent loss of control or damage to grass.
- 13) Take extra care in high winds or when the course is wet or frosted.

After Use

Unless advised otherwise, the buggy should be parked outside of the Starter's Office with the parking brake engaged and the operating key turned to the off position.

- 1) Report any concerns to the Starter.
- 2) Remove all personal items and rubbish from the buggy, so it is ready for the next user.

Appeals Procedure

Dunning Golf Club will take seriously complaints of refusing a player permission to use a golf buggy due to ability and will deem this action as discrimination and treat any such complaint with sensitivity.

In line with the existing club Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures, any report of an alleged breach of will be investigated and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken, based on the outcome of the investigation.

No member or visitor will be penalised for raising a complaint.

Any appeals or complaints should be reported to the Honorary Secretary providing as much information as possible. Grievances may be made in confidence. A verbal report should be followed, where possible, by one in writing to secretary@dunninggolfclub.co.uk

Review

The Club Committee will review the policy annually to ensure that any new amendments are embedded for the following golfing year.



Dunning Golf Club

Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form 2025

All users must complete this form prior to using a Golf Buggy ("buggy")

Any person who accepts the privilege of operating a buggy at Dunning Golf Club are required, in so doing, to have the knowledge, training and skill to operate the buggy safely and shall be fully accountable for their actions and consequences thereof.

The safe operation of buggies requires responsible application and adherence to the minimum standard of care prescribed by this policy.

Name of user:	
Contact Number:	
Email Address:	
Category:	Member / Visitor

By Signing below, I acknowledge that:

- I have read and understand the terms and conditions of Dunning Golf Club Buggy Policy, which includes the Conditions of Use and Buggy Safe Working Practice and will adhere to them.
- I am competent to drive a golf buggy and will adhere to all conditions, paths and any restrictions that may be imposed on the day.
- I will report any mechanical issues that may arise while operating the buggy.
- I have been given the opportunity to ask questions regarding this policy.
- I agree to remunerate Dunning Golf Club against all claims costs and demands made against Dunning Golf Club arising out of or in connection with mis-use of the buggy.
- Failure to comply with conditions outlined in our policies may lead to the hirer and their playing partner being asked to leave the course by management, with their decision being final.

Signature of User:	
Date:	

Users of golf buggies do so at their own risk. Dunning Golf Club will not accept any liability for any loss or damage to the golf buggy or any other property other than arising from negligence.