

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

1. AIM OF POLICY

- 1.1. This Policy is the Transportation Policy referred to in the Conditions of Competition for Wales Golf Championships. It sets out the circumstances in which golf buggies may be used in events organised and managed by Wales Golf.
- 1.2. Wales Golf wishes to encourage the participation in golf of all players with disabilities. This Policy is in accordance with Wales Golf's obligations under the Equality Act 2010 ('The Act').
- 1.3. For the purposes of this Policy any reference to 'golf buggy' shall include any vehicle deemed to be a golf buggy by the Wales Golf Championship Committee.
- 1.4. For the purposes of this Policy any reference to a 'member of the Committee' shall refer to any member of the Wales Golf Championship Committee with responsibility for taking a decision on the use of a golf buggy.
- 1.5. For the purposes of this Policy a disability is a long term physical or mental impairment which affects a person's normal day to day activities. Long term would normally mean 12 months or more.
- 1.6. For the purposes of this Policy, valid medical confirmation of disability shall mean a valid medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner certifying that the player, caddie or spectator is a disabled person within the meaning of 'The Act' together with any additional information that a Committee member considers necessary in the circumstances.
- 1.7. For the purposes of this Policy all references to a player permitted to use a golf buggy shall also apply to a caddie permitted to use a golf buggy.
- 1.8. This Policy has been prepared specifically for Wales Golf. Other golf club should take separate legal advice in the event that they wish to put in place a transportation policy appropriate for their specific needs.

2. WHO MAY USE A GOLF BUGGY

- 2.1. It shall be a condition of any competition organised and managed by Wales Golf that players must walk at all times during a stipulated round, unless permitted to ride by a member of the Committee, in accordance with the Wales Golf Transportation Policy. The penalty for a breach of this condition is detailed under the specimen Condition on pages 159-160 of the 2016 Rules of Golf as published by R&A Rules Limited.

The policy will also apply to the official practice day of a competition organised and managed by Wales Golf unless otherwise stated in the conditions or player information for such a competition.

- 2.2. A golf buggy may be used by a player who:
 - (a) can provide a valid medical certificate of disability in accordance with this Policy;
 - (b) has requested permission to use a golf buggy by the closing date for that competition; and/or

- (c) has obtained written permission to use a golf buggy from [a member of] the Committee 7 days in advance of play or, if this advance permission is not possible, on the day of proposed play.
- 2.3. For disabled Players under the age of eighteen years 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.
- 2.4. A golf buggy may be used by a caddie who:
- (a) can provide a valid medical certificate of disability in accordance with this Policy;
 - (b) has requested permission to use a golf buggy by the closing date for that competition; and/or
 - (c) has obtained written permission to use a golf buggy from a member of the Committee 7 days in advance of play or, if this advance permission is not possible, on the day of proposed play.
- 2.5. In the event that a player has no valid medical certificate then a member of the Committee may in exceptional circumstances still permit the player to use a golf buggy if he/she deems the use of a golf buggy appropriate and necessary in the circumstances as a result of the player's physical impairment which is believed to be consistent with the definition of disability in point 1.5 above.
- 2.6. In cases where a player is permitted to use a golf buggy but due to the nature of the disability is unable to drive the golf buggy, then a second person shall, at the discretion of a member of the Committee, be entitled to drive the golf buggy on the player's behalf.
- 2.7. In cases where a member of the Committee refuses to permit the use of a golf buggy then he/she shall inform the player of the decision, the reasons for it, and the right to appeal this refusal to the Appeals Committee in accordance with this Policy.

3. CONDITIONS IN WHICH USE OF A GOLF BUGGY MAY BE PERMITTED

- 3.1. In determining whether or not to permit a player or caddie to use a golf buggy, a member of the Committee shall have regard to the following health and safety considerations:
- (a) relevant weather conditions;
 - (b) topography and ground conditions;
 - (c) condition of and suitability of the golf buggy; and
 - (d) any other considerations which could impede the safe use of a golf buggy.
- 3.2. In the event that a member of the Committee believes that for reasons of health and safety a golf buggy should not be used by players at a particular time he/she may:
- (a) refuse to grant permission for the use of a golf buggy, and shall inform the player of the decision; or

- (b) revoke any such permission in the event of new health and safety considerations having come to light since the granting of the initial permission to use a golf buggy; and shall inform the Player of the reasons for it and the right to appeal this refusal to the Appeals Committee under this policy.

4. CONDITIONS FOR USE OF GOLF BUGGIES

- 4.1. A player permitted to use a golf buggy must agree to the following terms and conditions of use:
 - (a) Any person operating a golf buggy must do so with the utmost courtesy, care and consideration for the safety and convenience of others and in accordance with any relevant golf buggy operating guidelines.
 - (b) The Committee may require that a golf buggy must not exceed walking pace and/or must not have a covered roof.
 - (c) A golf buggy shall be for the sole use of the player and his/her equipment, unless a member of the Committee deems that for reason of physical impairment a second person is required to drive the golf buggy.

5. APPEALS PROCEDURE

- 5.1. Any decision by a Committee Member:-
 - 5.1.1. refusing a player permission to use a golf buggy in the competition under clause 2.5;
 - 5.1.2. refusing a player permission or revoking permission to use a golf buggy in the competition for reasons of health and safety under clause 3.2; or
 - 5.1.3. refusing a player permission to use a golf buggy in the competition under clause 4.2 can be appealed by the player to the Appeals Committee comprising three members of the Wales Golf Appeals Committee.
- 5.2. An appeal shall be made in writing to the Appeals Committee within 5 working days of the date of the initial decision. Any written appeal request shall also include a statement by the player of the reasons why she is seeking to appeal the decision.
- 5.3. The Appeals Committee shall make a decision on an appeal and communicate it to the Player within 10 working days of the initial appeal.

6. URGENT APPEALS PROCEDURE

- 6.1. In exceptional circumstances where a player has appealed against a decision on the day of a competition, then an Urgent Appeals Committee comprising the Chief Referee, the Chairman of Championships of Wales Golf, or an appointed deputy, and a Wales Golf Council Member will be required to take any decision regarding use by the player or caddie of a golf buggy.
- 6.2. The Urgent Appeals Committee will be required to reach a prompt decision to enable the player's use of a golf buggy where appropriate.

7. SPECTATORS

- 7.1. For reasons of championship management and health and safety, spectators will not be allowed to use a golf buggy at events organised and managed by Wales Golf.
- 7.2 If a spectator has a valid medical confirmation of disability a member of the championship committee shall arrange for the spectator to be transported to, and brought back from, an appropriate vantage position on the golf course where this is reasonable to do having regard to the number of Wales Golf officials present at the event.

15 November 2017