



Murrumbidgee Country Club

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Motorised Golf Cart* Policy

Murrumbidgee Country Club (the Club) encourages the participation of golfers of all abilities.

Recognising that some golfers may want or need to use a motorised cart to play golf, the Club allows the use of privately owned motorised carts on its course.

It also maintains a fleet of Club-owned hire carts.

The Club recognises there are risks involved in operating motorised carts on a golf course and has developed the following Rules to minimise those risks for the benefit of all players and visitors to our Club.

This Policy, and its associated Rules, were developed in accordance with the following Core Values, as outlined in the Club's *Strategic Plan 2023-28*:

- Promote a safe and enjoyable golfing environment; and
- Be open, transparent and accountable in all decision making.

The Rules apply to everyone who operates a motorised golf cart on our course, including passengers and staff of the Club/Pro Shop, whether those carts are privately owned or Club-owned hire carts.

* The term 'motorised golf cart' includes golf carts, ride-on golf buggies, golf skate caddies or any other motorised golf vehicle.

Murrumbidgee Country Club

Rules for the Use of Motorised Golf Carts (the Rules)

1. Definition

- 1.2 For the purpose of these Rules, a motorised golf cart (cart) means any motorised vehicle designed for use on a golf course to carry a person or persons and golf equipment (including golf carts, ride-on buggies and skate caddies).
- 1.3 Only electrically (battery) powered carts will be registered (see s. 2) for use on the Course, other than existing registered petrol carts.
 - 1.3.1 Existing registered petrol carts may continue to be used up until 1 January 2031, as long as they are able to be maintained in good repair and in safe operating condition.

2. Registration

- 2.1 All **privately owned carts** must be registered by the Murrumbidgee Country Club (the Club), and an annual usage fee paid (see s. 3), before they can be used on the Course.
 - 2.1.1 For the purpose of the Rules, 'the Course' includes all areas of play or practice, and all car parking areas and surrounds (*see included map at end of document – Course Perimeter Map – MCC*).
- 2.1 To apply for registration, owners must complete and submit the *Application for Registration & Use of Motorised Carts (as attached)*.
- 2.2 The registration will be valid only for the cart for which it is issued; is not transferable to any other cart; and may not be transferred to the new owner of a cart sold by the registered owner or to anyone else.
- 2.3 The number of privately owned carts will be restricted to a number determined by the Board, which may be varied from time to time at the Board's discretion.
 - 2.3.1 Once the cap is reached, the Club will maintain a wait list for other members wishing to use a privately owned cart.
 - 2.3.2 In exceptional circumstances, the Club may prioritise approval for members who are unable to play golf without using a cart, subject to

the eligibility requirements of the Club's *Cart Registration Fee Waiver Policy* (See Club website for policy).

- 2.4 Visiting players are generally not permitted to bring their own cart to the course, except in 'special circumstances' approved by the General Manager or delegate. A cart usage fee may apply as determined by the General Manager.

3. Cart Registration Fee

- 3.1 An annual cart registration fee (fee) for the use of a **privately owned cart** on the Course is payable in full to the Club, and in advance for the year for which the cart is licensed.
- 3.1.1 There will be no refund of the fee if the registered owner discontinues their membership of the Club or sells their golf cart, except in exceptional circumstances approved by the General Manager or delegate.
- 3.2 The fee paid by registered owners who only use their cart to visit the Clubhouse will include an annual Social Membership to the Club.
- 3.3 The fee may be set by the Board and reviewed on an annual basis.
- 3.4 The fee will be waived for players with a permanent or temporary disability if they meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the Club's *Cart Registration Fee Waiver Policy*.
- 3.5 Fees for the use of **Club-owned hire carts** will be set by the General Manager or delegate in consultation with the Golf Professional and reviewed on an annual basis.

4. Insurance

- 4.1 Operators of all carts on the Course are covered for death and bodily injury under the Club's comprehensive Public Liability Insurance Policy.
- 4.1.1 Operators of carts driven on public roads are not covered by the Club's Public Liability Insurance Policy.
- 4.1.2 Registered owners driving **privately owned carts** on public roads or publicly owned land must meet the requirements of all relevant Road Transport legislation operating in the ACT.

- 4.2 The registered owner of a **privately owned cart** is responsible for any injury to any person or damage to any property arising out of its misuse and indemnifies the Club against any claim or action in respect of such injury or damage.

5. General usage

- 5.1 Golf carts will only be allowed on the Course for the purposes of playing golf, administering golf or visiting the Clubhouse or Club facilities.
- 5.2 Carts may be used during general, closed and open competitions unless stated otherwise by the Club, Golf Australia, Golf NSW, District Golf Association or the Central Southern Golf Association.
- 5.3 Before commencing play, the registered owner of a **privately owned cart** must register at the Pro Shop and pay applicable green fees, competition fees and course utilisation fees.
- 5.4 All golf play must originate at the Pro Shop, on assigned tees and at assigned tee-off times.
- 5.3.1 Golf play must not start from a private residence or any other location on the course.
- 5.5 **Privately owned carts** must only be operated by the registered owner, their immediate family and one (1) designated driver nominated on the Club's *Application for Registration & Use of Motorised Carts (at end of document)*.
- 5.5.1 The Club must be informed of any change of designated driver during that 12-month period.
- 5.6 All players using a **Club-owned hire cart** must sign a declaration form agreeing to the Terms and Conditions of its use.

6. Safety First

- 6.1 All carts may be prohibited from being used for golf on the Course if the Course Superintendent, in consultation with either the Director Course or General Manager, deems that conditions make it unsafe to do so (see 'Closed to Carts Procedure' under the *Course Closure Policy (see Club's website for policy)*)
- 6.2 All carts, whether privately owned or owned by the Club, must be maintained at all times in good repair and safe operating condition.

- 6.2.1 Registered owners of **privately owned carts** are fully and totally responsible for maintaining their carts.
- 6.3 Only people who hold a valid (provisional or full) Driver's License may operate a golf cart on the Course.
 - 6.3.1 Persons who are employed by the Pro Shop or the Club who don't hold a valid Driver's License may be authorised to operate a cart in limited areas of the course after completing 'safe operating' training for cart usage.
- 6.4 A cart is only permitted to carry up to the maximum number of people and sets of golf clubs for which it was designed.
- 6.5 Anyone who chooses to use a cart on the course will be deemed to have the knowledge, training and skills needed to operate a cart and will be fully accountable for any injury or damage arising from operating a cart under their control.
- 6.6 Cart operators must always drive in a manner that considers the terrain, course conditions and safety of passengers, pedestrians and other cart operators. For further details on operating procedures and risk assessment, please refer to the *Club's Safe Operating procedures (see Club's website)*.
- 6.7 All carts must drive to or below (depending on course conditions) the course speed limit of 15 km/h.
- 6.8 Cart operators must not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
 - 6.8.1 Using Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) guidelines, if Club staff suspect, on reasonable grounds, that a person is incapable of operating a cart safely, that person will be prohibited from using a cart.
- 6.9 All passengers in a cart must be seated while the cart is in motion, and keep all parts of their body inside the cart.

7. Course Protection

- 7.1 Wherever possible carts must be driven on paths.
- 7.2 Carts must not be driven in areas of the Course when prohibitive signs are displayed, in roped-off areas or through ground-under-repair, damaged or wet areas.

- 7.3 Carts must not be driven within ten (10) metres of tees and greens unless on a designated path.
- 7.4 Carts must not be driven near the edge of waterways or bunkers, except when crossing at designated points or bridges.
- 7.5 Sand buckets must be carried and used to repair divots.

8. Complaints handling/Breaches of Rules

- 8.1 All complaints about the behaviour of cart operators or breaches of these Rules will be handled in accordance with the procedures outlined in Murrumbidgee Country Club's *Rules of the Club* and *By-Laws* (see *Club's website*).

9. Communication

- 9.1 All applicants for Cart Registration of privately owned carts will be emailed a copy of this Policy and its associated Rules and asked to sign, pay and return the *Application for Registration & Use of Motorised Carts* (as attached) before using their cart on the Course.
- 9.2 QR codes outlining this Policy and its associated Rules will be placed at all access/entry points to the Course.

Course Perimeter Map – MCC

