



NGC Winter Course Policy

Updated March 2024

It is the aim of Nuneaton Golf Club to provide an attractive, impressive and challenging golf course set, and maintained, to recognised and established high standards that enables golf to be played 'near all year round'.

During the winter months traffic management schemes (roped areas) around the course will be in place and we ask that these are respected. In addition we would ask that all players do not to take their trolley or buggy:

- Onto the tees and greens
- Between a greenside bunker and the green
- Onto the fringes & aprons of the greens

We also recognise that during the winter months it is important to introduce a Winter Trolley/Buggy Policy to help protect the course. These measures will be reviewed annually, and appropriate changes will be made where necessary.

This Winter Course Policy will take effect on the 6th November 2023 until 1st April 2024

As part of this Policy, there will be 3 defined stages:

- Stage 1: Winter Wheels Rule
- Stage 2: Trolley/Buggy Restrictions
- Stage 3: Course Closed

STAGE 1: Winter Wheels Rule

We would encourage all players, who are able to do so, to use carry bags and carry their clubs if they are playing during the winter months.

That said, the Club will endeavour not to impose course closures or trolley restrictions unless they are absolutely necessary.

To assist in this, and at the same time making continued trolley use available to as many members that need them or wish to use them, there will be a 'Winter Wheels Rule'.

- *Motorised Trolleys:*
Use permitted only if they are fitted with 'Winter' wheels on the rear drive wheels i.e. Hedgehog, Hillbilly, Fairway Hoppa, Motorcaddy or Powakaddy winter wheels or similar non smooth surfaced wheels including Pneumatic wheels with tread patterns.
- *Push/Pull Trolleys:*
If an electric trolley does not meet the above requirements then a player may use a push/pull trolley but these must be fitted with wide wheels. The wheels do not have to be winter wheels as they are not prone to spinning. Trolleys with narrow wheels are not permitted.
- *Motorised Buggy:*
This will be monitored daily by the Head Greenkeeper or one of the Green Staff as to whether permitted or not.
- Exception will be single seat ride on buggy where members and visitors with a 'blue badge' or medical exemption certificate/letter, where in the opinion of their doctor they are unable to play or have undue difficulty in playing golf without the use of a trolley or buggy because:
 - They are suffering from a disability within the meaning of Section 6 of the Equality Act 2010 or any statutory modification thereof, OR
 - Their medical or physical condition precludes the physical carrying of golf clubs for a full 18 hole round either permanently or long term, OR
 - Their medical or physical condition precludes the physical carrying of golf clubs for a full 18 hole round for a period specified by their Doctor.

Single seat buggy owners who meet the above criteria should keep to the edge of the fairways and dismount and enter at ninety degrees to play their golf shot.

During the period that the 'Winter Wheel Rule' applies all Players – Members and Visitors alike and without exception – who wish to use a trolley on Nuneaton golf course will have to comply with the points above.

STAGE 2: Trolley /Buggy Restrictions

There are occasions when it will be necessary for the safety of the staff and the users of the course to restrict the use of trolleys and buggies due to the course and weather conditions.

This will be decided by the designated green keeping staff member in consultation with the Professional and the MC in circumstances where conditions:

- Present Health and Safety issues, or
- Will lead to excess damage to the course

In these circumstances no members or visitors will be permitted to use trolleys, motorised or otherwise.

Where there are such restrictions in place, only the following exceptions will apply and anyone who complies with these requirements will be able to use trolleys:

- Members and visitors with a 'blue badge' or medical exemption certificate, where in the opinion of their doctor they are unable to play or have undue difficulty in playing golf without the use of a trolley or buggy because:
 - They are suffering from a disability within the meaning of Section 6 of the Equality Act 2010 or any statutory modification thereof, OR
 - Their medical or physical condition precludes the physical carrying of golf clubs for a full 18 hole round either permanently or long term, OR
 - Their medical or physical condition precludes the physical carrying of golf clubs for a full 18 hole round for a period specified by their Doctor.

Buggy Restrictions

For clarity, and in the interests of Health and Safety when a 'Total Trolley Ban' is in force it will also apply to the use of a 'Buggy' (both personal and those available from the Club) irrespective of the individual member or visitor having satisfied any other pre-requisites of the Club in relation to the use of such a buggy.

Once again, an exception to this rule will apply where a members or visitor can produce evidence to prove that, due to medical reasons, without a use of a buggy they will not be able to play golf.

In these instances buggies will be allowed to be used to play a specific set of 4 holes only on the course – 10th, 16th, 17th and 18th during which buggies must remain on the edge of the fairways and members must dismount and enter at ninety degrees to play their golf shot.

Anyone who is unable to play golf, for medical reasons, without the use of a buggy must provide a signed doctor's statement detailing this or alternatively present a copy of their 'blue badge', copies of which will be stored securely in the Office and will need to be reproduced on an annual basis.

For any member or visitor playing the 4 holes available they must do so by filtering in amongst the players already on course, they will not receive any priority.

STAGE 3: Course Closed

Circumstances and conditions whereby the greens staff deem the course to be unplayable and it necessary to close due to H&S concerns or to protect the course.

The green staff will conduct a review of the course conditions each morning.

Anyone found in breach of this policy will be referred to the Membership Committee who will undertake disciplinary proceedings in line with the Club Rules.

This policy is in place to help protect the course whilst ensuring members have equal opportunity to enjoy their golf. The course will continue to remain open unless it is dangerous or conditions are so poor that there is no alternative but to close.