



WHITSTABLE GOLF CLUB
BUGGY USE RISK ASSESSMENT

The following Risk Assessment applies to Club members, visitors and staff using ride-on buggies on the Whitstable Golf Course and within the Whitstable Golf Club Car Park.

Risks have been summarised as follows:-

- A) Risk of injury or death to drivers passengers if applicable, as a result of:-
 - 1) Buggies tipping over on sloped ground
 - 2) Buggies being driven into ditches

- B) Risk of injury or death to golfers and members of the public as a result of being struck by a buggy being driven:-
 - 1) On the golf course
 - 2) In the car park
 - 3) Over the causeway (public right of way) adjacent to the fourth hole.
 - 4) On pedestrian paths and patio area around clubhouse

- C) Risk of injury or death as a result of members losing control of privately owned buggy being loaded or unloaded from private vehicles within the car park

Course Risk Assessment

<i>Hole 1 & 10 Risks / Hazards</i>	<i>Likeli- hood</i>	<i>Conse- quences</i>	<i>Overall Risk Rating</i>	<i>Control Measures</i>	<i>Actions needed?</i>
A1- Sloped banks in front of and behind cross ditches Banked area on right hand side of 1 st Green.	Low	High	Med	Banks are clearly visible to all golfers so no need for warning notices. Drivers are given buggy safety notices advising that buggies must not be driven onto banked areas.	All buggy drivers to be provided with copy of updated risk assessment
A2 – Lateral ditch running down left side of fairway, ditch behind 1 st green & cross ditches on either side of fairway.	Low	High	Med	Buggy safety notices on buggies warn drivers to steer clear of ditches. Ditches are clearly visible and some are marked with signs warning of deep water	Review need for additional warning notices, advising buggy drivers to stay clear of ditches.
B1 – There is no dedicated path for buggy users; pedestrian golfers must be particularly vigilant if any of their playing partners are using a buggy.	Low	High	Med	All buggy drivers and pedestrians are required to maintain a minimum safe distance from one another. Pedestrians required to remain alert and not cross the path of a moving buggy Buggy drivers to steer clear of pedestrians and drive at very slow speed when close to pedestrians Pedestrians always have right of way.	This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members Buggy Safety Rules to be updated to emphasise the importance of this



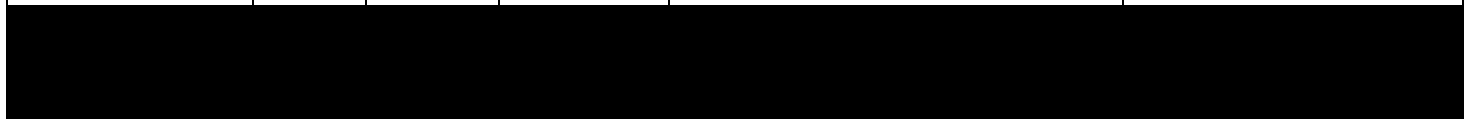
B4 – There is a risk of pedestrians being injured by buggies driven to in front of and to the side of clubhouse to access the first tee.	Low	High	Med	Buggy drivers not to drive buggies on any clubhouse paths or patio areas. These paths and the patio are for pedestrians only Access to course and first tee must always be direct from car park.	Suitable notices and communication required.
Hole 2 & 11 <i>Risks / Hazards</i>	<i>Likelihood</i>	<i>Consequences</i>	<i>Overall Risk Rating</i>	<i>Control Measures</i>	<i>Actions needed?</i>
A1 - Sloped banks in front cross ditches.	Low	High	Med	Banks are clearly visible to all golfers so no need for warning notices. Drivers are given buggy safety notices advising that buggies must not be driven onto banked areas.	All buggy drivers to be provided with copy of updated risk assessment
A2 – Lateral ditch running down left side of fairway, & cross ditches on either side of fairway.	Low	High	Med	Buggy safety notices on buggies warn drivers to steer clear of ditches. Ditches are clearly visible and some are marked with signs warning of deep water	Review need for additional warning notices, advising buggy drivers to stay clear of ditches.
B1 – There is no dedicated path for buggy users; pedestrian golfers must be particularly vigilant if any of their playing partners are using a buggy.	Low	High	Med	All buggy drivers and pedestrians are required to maintain a minimum safe distance from one another. Pedestrians required to remain alert and not cross the path of a moving buggy Buggy drivers to steer clear of pedestrians and drive at very slow speed when close to pedestrians Pedestrians always have right of way	This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members Buggy Safety Rules to be updated to emphasise the importance of this
Hole 3 & 12 <i>Risks / Hazards</i>	<i>Likelihood</i>	<i>Consequences</i>	<i>Overall Risk Rating</i>	<i>Control Measures</i>	<i>Actions needed?</i>
A2 – Lateral ditch running down left side of fairway, ditch behind green & cross ditches on either side of fairway.	Low	High	Med	Buggy safety notices on buggies warn drivers to steer clear of ditches. Ditches are clearly visible and some are marked with signs warning of deep water	Review need for additional warning notices, advising buggy drivers to stay clear of ditches.



B1 – There is no dedicated path for buggy users; pedestrian golfers must be particularly vigilant if any of their playing partners are using a buggy.	Low	High	Med	All buggy drivers and pedestrians are required to maintain a minimum safe distance from one another. Pedestrians required to remain alert and not cross the path of a moving buggy Buggy drivers to steer clear of pedestrians and drive at very slow speed when close to pedestrians Pedestrians always have right of way	This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst members Buggy Safety Rules to be updated to emphasise the importance of this.
B3 - There is a risk of collision with members of the public (pedestrians & cyclists) using the causeway)	Med	High	High	When driving a buggy across the causeway, drivers speed must be dead slow. Drivers must stop before crossing and give way to any pedestrians or cyclists.	Need for warning / stop notices to be considered Shrubbery at each side of causeway crossing to be cut back regularly to ensure good visibility.
Hole 4 & 13					
Hole 4 & 13 <i>Risks / Hazards</i>	<i>Likelihood</i>	<i>Consequences</i>	<i>Overall Risk Rating</i>	<i>Control Measures</i>	<i>Actions needed?</i>
A1 - Sloped banks to the left hand side of green and rear of green. 13 th Tee is an elevated tee	Low	High	Low	Buggy users are prohibited from driving buggies on sloped paths adjacent to the 4 th /13 th Green leading to teeing areas for holes 5 and 14, and are similarly prohibited from driving on the path at the rear of 4 th . These paths are designated for pedestrian golfers only.	The use of buggies on this area to be kept under review. A notice / barrier to be installed to prevent unauthorised access to these paths.
A2 – Lateral ditch running down left side of fairway and narrow ditch in front of 4 th teeing area.	Low	High	Med	Buggy safety notices on buggies warn drivers to steer clear of ditches and long grass that may conceal presence of some small ditches Most ditches are clearly visible and some are marked with signs warning of deep water	This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members
B1 – There is no dedicated path for buggy users; pedestrian golfers must be particularly vigilant if any of their playing partners are using a buggy.	Low	High	Med	All buggy drivers and pedestrians are required to maintain a minimum safe distance from one another. Buggy Safety Notices set out the need for a safe distance to be maintained between buggies and pedestrians, and not cross the path of a moving buggy.	This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members



<p>Buggy users may reverse into pedestrian golfers if they drive onto the section of path shared with pedestrians next to 4th teeing area</p>				<p>Buggy drivers to steer clear of pedestrians and drive at very slow speed when close to pedestrians Pedestrians always have right of way</p> <p>Buggy users are prohibited from driving buggies onto the path between teeing area for 4th hole and ditch. This section of path is now designated for pedestrian golfers only.</p>	<p>A notice / barrier to be installed to prevent unauthorised access to this section of path.</p>
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Hole 5 & 14 <i>Risks / Hazards</i>	<i>Likelihood</i>	<i>Consequences</i>	<i>Overall Risk Rating</i>	<i>Control Measures</i>	<i>Actions needed?</i>
<p>A1- Sloped banks are located to the right side of fairway</p>	Low	High	Med	<p>Banks are clearly visible to all golfers so no need for warning notices.</p> <p>Drivers are given buggy safety notices advising that buggies must not be driven onto banked areas.</p>	<p>All buggy drivers to be provided with copy of updated risk assessment</p>
<p>A2 – Lateral ditch running down left side of fairway.</p>	Low	High	Med	<p>Buggy safety notices on buggies warn drivers to steer clear of ditches.</p> <p>Ditches are clearly visible and some are marked with signs warning of deep water</p>	<p>Review need for additional warning notices, advising buggy drivers to stay clear of ditches.</p>
<p>B1 – There is no dedicated path for buggy users; pedestrian golfers must be particularly vigilant if any of their playing partners are using a buggy.</p>	Low	High	Med	<p>All buggy drivers and pedestrians are required to maintain a minimum safe distance from one another.</p> <p>Pedestrians required to remain alert and not cross the path of a moving buggy</p> <p>Buggy drivers to steer clear of pedestrians and drive at very slow speed when close to pedestrians Pedestrians always have right of way.</p>	<p>This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members</p> <p>Buggy Safety Rules to be updated to emphasise the importance of this</p>





Hole 6 & 15 <i>Risks / Hazards</i>	<i>Likelihood</i>	<i>Consequences</i>	<i>Overall Risk Rating</i>	<i>Control Measures</i>	<i>Actions needed?</i>
<p>B1 – There is no dedicated path for buggy users; pedestrian golfers must be particularly vigilant if any of their playing partners are using a buggy.</p> <p>Buggy users may reverse into pedestrian golfers if they drive onto the section of path shared with pedestrians next to 6th / 15th teeing area.</p>	Low	High	Med	<p>All buggy drivers and pedestrians are required to maintain a minimum safe distance from one another.</p> <p>Pedestrians required to remain alert and not cross the path of a moving buggy</p> <p>Buggy drivers to steer clear of pedestrians and drive at very slow speed when close to pedestrians</p> <p>Pedestrians always have right of way.</p> <p>Buggy users are prohibited from driving buggies onto the path between teeing area for 6th / 15th holes and fence. This section of path is now designated for pedestrian golfers only.</p>	<p>This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members</p> <p>Buggy Safety Rules to be updated to emphasise the importance of this.</p> <p>A notice / barrier to be installed to prevent unauthorised access to this section of path.</p>
Hole 7 & 16 <i>Risks / Hazards</i>	<i>Likelihood</i>	<i>Consequences</i>	<i>Overall Risk Rating</i>	<i>Control Measures</i>	<i>Actions needed?</i>
<p>A1- Sloped banks are located to the right side of fairway</p>	Low	High	Med	<p>Banks are clearly visible to all golfers so no need for warning notices.</p> <p>Drivers are given buggy safety notices advising that buggies must not be driven onto banked areas.</p>	<p>All buggy drivers to be provided with copy of updated risk assessment</p>
<p>A2 – Lateral ditch running down left side of fairway.</p>	Low	High	Med	<p>Buggy safety notices on buggies warn drivers to steer clear of ditches.</p> <p>Ditches are clearly visible and some are marked with signs warning of deep water</p>	<p>Review need for additional warning notices, advising buggy drivers to stay clear of ditches.</p>
<p>B1 – There is no dedicated path for buggy users;</p>	Low	High	Med	<p>All buggy drivers and pedestrians are required to maintain a</p>	<p>This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members</p>



pedestrian golfers must be particularly vigilant if any of their playing partners are using a buggy.				<p>minimum safe distance from one another.</p> <p>Pedestrians required to remain alert and not cross the path of a moving buggy</p> <p>Buggy drivers to steer clear of pedestrians and drive at very slow speed when close to pedestrians</p> <p>Pedestrians always have right of way.</p>	Buggy Safety Rules to be updated to emphasise the importance of this
B3 - There is a risk of collision with members of the public (pedestrians & cyclists) using the causeway)	Med	High	High	When driving a buggy across the causeway. Buggy user must give way to any pedestrians or cyclists and only cross at dead slow speed when safe to do so.	<p>Need for warning / stop notices to be considered</p> <p>Shrubbery at each side of causeway crossing to be cut back regularly to ensure good visibility.</p>
Hole 8 & 17					
<i>Risks / Hazards</i>	<i>Likelihood</i>	<i>Consequences</i>	<i>Overall Risk Rating</i>	<i>Control Measures</i>	<i>Actions needed?</i>
A2 – Lateral ditch running down left side of fairway. Cross ditches on either side of fairway.	Low	High	Med	<p>Buggy safety notices on buggies warn drivers to steer clear of ditches.</p> <p>Ditches are clearly visible</p>	Review need for additional warning notices, advising buggy drivers to stay clear of ditches.
B1 – There is no dedicated path for buggy users; pedestrian golfers must be particularly vigilant if any of their playing partners are using a buggy.	Low	High	Med	<p>All buggy drivers and pedestrians are required to maintain a minimum safe distance from one another.</p> <p>Pedestrians required to remain alert and not cross the path of a moving buggy</p> <p>Buggy drivers to steer clear of pedestrians and drive at very slow speed when close to pedestrians</p> <p>Pedestrians always have right of way.</p>	<p>This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members</p> <p>Buggy Safety Rules to be updated to emphasise the importance of this</p>
Hole 9 & 18					
<i>Risks / Hazards</i>	<i>Likelihood</i>	<i>Consequences</i>	<i>Overall Risk Rating</i>	<i>Control Measures</i>	<i>Actions needed?</i>
A1 - Sloped banks in front of green .	Low	High	Med	Banks are clearly visible to all golfers so no need for warning notices.	All buggy drivers to be provided with copy of updated risk assessment



				Drivers are given buggy safety notices advising that buggies must not be driven onto banked areas.	
A2 – Lateral ditch running down left side of fairway, ditch	Low	High	Med	Buggy safety notices on buggies warn drivers to steer clear of ditches. Ditches are clearly visible and some are marked with signs warning of deep water	Review need for additional warning notices, advising buggy drivers to stay clear of ditches.
B1 – There is no dedicated path for buggy users; pedestrian golfers must be particularly vigilant if any of their playing partners are using a buggy.	Low	High	Med	All buggy drivers and pedestrians are required to maintain a minimum safe distance from one another. Pedestrians required to remain alert and not cross the path of a moving buggy Buggy drivers to steer clear of pedestrians and drive at very slow speed when close to pedestrians Pedestrians always have right of way.	This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members Buggy Safety Rules to be updated to emphasise the importance of this

Car Park Risk Assessment

<i>Risks / Hazards</i>	<i>Likelihood</i>	<i>Consequences</i>	<i>Overall Risk Rating</i>	<i>Control Measures</i>	<i>Actions needed?</i>
B2 – The car park is shared by pedestrians, motor vehicles and golf buggies. There is a risk of collisions and resulting injury or death	Low	High	Med	The main car park is small and it's not practical to provide designated walkways for pedestrians or buggy users Buggy drivers should not drive buggies in the main car park area. All buggy use should be limited to buggy storage area close to greenkeepers shed. Buggies to be driven slowly and with extreme caution at all times Warning notices at Club Entrance should highlight speed limits for motor vehicles and warn drivers of buggies operating nearby.	This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members Buggy Safety Rules to be updated to include requirement for buggy users to avoid main car park. Safety warning notices at car park entrance to be updated



<p>B3 – Some users of privately owned buggies, use their car to transport buggy to and from the golf club. There is a risk of injury to the buggy owner and pedestrians nearby, particularly when ramps are used for larger buggies.</p>	Low	Medium	Low	<p>Users of privately owned buggies should not load or unload buggy in the car park.</p> <p>All unloading and loading should be carried out in the space allocated for buggy loading / unloading, close to buggy storage area / green keepers shed.</p>	<p>This risk to be publicised to raise awareness amongst of members</p> <p>Buggy Safety Rules to be updated to include requirement for privately owned buggy users to unload and load buggies in designated area.</p> <p>Designated unloading area for buggies to be established</p> <p>Safety warning notices to be reviewed and updated</p>
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Sept 2025
Derek Bates