

Catholic Mutual. . . "CARES"

Golf Cart/Utility Vehicle Usage

Electric or gas-powered golf carts and/or similar utility type vehicles are often used on parish and school properties. These can be safe and convenient when traveling short distances between buildings, but can be dangerous if you don't follow proper driving and riding procedures. Golf carts and utility vehicles are involved in a number of accidents each year, resulting in personal injury, death, and property damage. Thus, it is important that the following guidelines are followed to promote and provide for a safe environment for students, guests, faculty and staff.

- In order to operate a Golf Cart/Utility Vehicle, the user must be trained or have experience in the use of the vehicle.
- Authorized personnel should be limited to EMPLOYEES ONLY.
- At no time should students or other children be permitted to operate the vehicle – No exceptions.
- Carts should be used for maintenance or school/parish sponsored events or activities only.
- Drivers must be 18 years of age or older and must have a valid driver's license with a satisfactory driving record.
- When not in use, the keys for the cart must be kept in a secured, locked location so that they are only accessible to authorized personnel.
- While in use, the key must be removed from the parked cart and remain with the operator at all times. It should not be left in an unattended cart.
- Inspect the golf cart/utility vehicle prior to use (at least daily) using the operator's checklist: tire inflation, cuts or punctures on tires, steering, forward and reverse gears, and breaks.
- If a golf cart/utility vehicle is in need of repair or maintenance, the unit should be taken out of service until repair or maintenance is completed.
- Golf carts/utility vehicles should only be operated during the hours of sunrise to sunset.
- Golf carts should be equipped with efficient brakes, reliable steering apparatus, safe tires, rearview mirror, and red reflectorized warning device in both the front and rear.
- Do not make sharp turns when driving a golf cart/utility vehicle as this increases the chances of being ejected from the vehicle.
- Do not allow anyone to ride standing in the golf cart/utility vehicle or on the back platform of the golf cart.
- Ensure that arms and legs are in the golf cart/utility vehicle at all times.
- Golf cart/utility vehicle should be parked in a secured location accessible to authorized personnel only.
- Terrain, weather conditions, and existing pedestrian and vehicular traffic should be considered as they may affect the ability to safely operate a golf cart/utility vehicle.
- The maximum occupancy of golf carts/utility vehicle should be one person per bucket seat or two people per bench seat.