



## Western Province Golf

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NPO Registration Number 296-572

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### WP Golf Transportation Policy

#### 1. Purpose and Scope

This Transportation Policy is referenced in the Western Province Golf (WPG) Tournament Terms of Entry and General Terms of Competition and sets out the circumstances under which motorised transport may be used.

WP Golf is committed to encouraging participation in golf by all individuals, including players with disabilities, while ensuring fair, equitable, and consistent competition across all WP Golf Championships, tournaments, and leagues.

#### 2. General Rule

During WP Golf Championships, Tournaments, or Leagues, **unless otherwise stated in the applicable Terms of Entry or Terms of Competition, players and caddies are prohibited from using motorised transport** and must walk at all times unless they fulfil the exemption requirements or have been granted written approval from the WP Golf Tournaments and Leagues Ruling Committee, as detailed in this policy.

#### 3. Exemptions (No Prior Approval Required)

##### i) Age-based

- a) Players aged **60 years or older (men and women)** may use motorised transport during ANY WP Golf event.
- b) Players **aged 50 years of older (men and women)** may ONLY use motorised transport during WP Golf event where they play multiple rounds i.e. 36 holes on one (1day).
- c) Players **aged 30 years of older (women)** may ONLY use motorised transport during WP Golf event where they play multiple rounds i.e. 36 holes on one (1day).

All players making use of motorised transport during any WP Golf events is subject to:

- Host club cart availability
- Compliance with host club cart rules
- No adverse impact on safety or pace of play

##### IMPORTANT TO NOTE

Players using a cart under 3b) and 3c) are not eligible for WPG Premier Order of Merit (Men and Women) ranking points. They are eligible for applicable WPG age-based ranking points.

##### ii) Recognised disability certification

Players holding valid **WR4GD** or **EDGA Access or Conditional Pass** certification are exempt from this Policy's medical application process. These certifications confirm a recognised impairment that substantially affects golf participation.

Players who believe they may qualify for such certification should contact the **South African Disabled Golf Association (SADGA)** via Lily Reich at [lily@sadga.co.za](mailto:lily@sadga.co.za) for assessment.

##### iii) Stroke-and-distance situations

Players who are playing, or have played, under penalty of stroke and distance may use motorised transport to facilitate the player reaching the location of their previous stroke.

#### iv) **Officials on duty**

Rules Officials and WPG Tournament committee members or staff on duty may use motorised transport to manage the event or to assist a player or caddie to maintain pace of play, without penalty.

### **4. Medical Grounds Exemptions**

Temporary or extended approval for the use of motorised transport may be granted on medical grounds for players or caddies, subject to the application process outlined below.

#### **1. Application Process**

##### **a) Application Form Requirements**

An application form (Appendix B WPG Transportation Policy) requesting permission to use motorised transport on medical grounds must be completed and submitted to WP Golf **timeously prior to the event** with:

- Full name and contact details of the player or caddie
- Date of birth
- Name and date(s) of the tournament(s) or league(s) concerned

A valid medical certificate **MUST** accompany the application

##### **b) Medical Certificate Requirements**

A medical certificate:

- Must be issued by a **registered medical practitioner** \*\*
- Must clearly state the medical condition or functional limitation affecting the ability to walk the course
- Must specify the **duration** for which motorised transport is required
- Is regarded as *current* if issued within **14 days** prior to submission, unless it expressly states a longer-term or permanent condition
- Must not be retrospective (i.e. backdated without examination)
- Will be deemed valid for a maximum of **four (4) weeks** from the date of issue if no validity period is stated

\*\* For the purposes of this Policy, a *registered medical practitioner* is one who is registered with the **Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)** and authorised to diagnose medical conditions and issue medical certificates.

Permanent or degenerative medical conditions as described in Appendix A WPG Transportation Policy **MAY**, at the Committee's discretion, qualify for **longer-term approval of up to one (1) year**, subject to periodic review

#### **2. Confidentiality and Data Protection**

All medical information submitted under this Policy shall be:

- Treated as **strictly confidential**
- Used **solely for the purpose of assessing eligibility** for motorised transport
- Accessed only by authorised WP Golf officials involved in decision-making
- Stored securely in accordance with the **Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA)**

Medical details will **not be disclosed** to host clubs, officials, or third parties beyond confirmation that approval has been granted, unless legally required.

#### **7. Approval and Compliance**

Upon approval, the applicant will receive written confirmation via email specifying:

- The authorisation granted; and
- The expiry date (if applicable)

This confirmation should be able to be produced on request during participation.

Approved players or caddies are responsible for:

- Booking and paying for motorised transport directly with the host club or Pro Shop; and
- Complying at all times with the host club's motorised transport rules.

### **8. Medical Grounds Transport Restriction Conditions**

Where approval has been granted for a player or caddie to use motorised transport:

- The player's equipment may be transported
- No unauthorised player or caddie may ride on the same cart
- No additional persons are permitted to ride on the cart

### **9. Penalties and Enforcement**

Any breach of this Policy will be penalised in accordance with **Appendix I of the Rules of Golf (R&A)**:

- **Stroke Play:** Two penalty strokes for each hole where a breach occurred, maximum of four strokes per round
- **Match Play:** Loss of hole for each hole where a breach occurred, maximum of two holes per round

Unauthorised use of motorised transport must cease immediately when identified. Failure to comply will result in **disqualification**.

## Western Province Golf

### Appendix A WPG Transportation Policy

This Appendix forms part of the WP Golf Transportation Policy and must be read in conjunction with the Policy and the Tournament Terms of Competition.

#### 1. Purpose

This Appendix forms part of the WP Golf Transportation Policy and provides guidance on permanent or degenerative medical conditions that may qualify a player or caddie for long-term approval (up to 12 months) to use motorised transport during WP Golf Championships, tournaments, and leagues.

*The list below is provided as guidance only, a practical, non-exhaustive reference list of permanent or degenerative conditions that would typically justify long-term or recurring approval for motorised transport on medical grounds. Approval for long-term or recurring use of motorised transport remains subject to appropriate medical certification and the discretion of the WP Golf Tournaments and Leagues Ruling Committee.”*

#### 2. Qualifying Degenerative Conditions

The following conditions MAY qualify for longer-term exemption where they **materially impair the individual’s ability to walk an 18-hole golf course safely or maintain the required Pace of Play:**

##### A. Musculoskeletal and Orthopaedic Conditions

- Advanced osteoarthritis (hip, knee, ankle, spine)
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Chronic degenerative disc disease
- Joint replacement (hip, knee, ankle) with ongoing mobility limitation
- Severe spinal stenosis
- Chronic lower-limb tendon or ligament degeneration
- Limb amputation or limb-length discrepancy affecting gait

##### B. Neurological Conditions

- Parkinson’s disease
- Multiple sclerosis (MS)
- Motor neurone disease (MND / ALS)
- Cerebral palsy
- Stroke with residual mobility impairment
- Peripheral neuropathy with functional limitation
- Spinal cord injury (partial or complete)

##### C. Cardiovascular and Respiratory Conditions

- Chronic heart failure
- Ischaemic heart disease with exertional limitation
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Severe asthma with exercise intolerance
- Pulmonary hypertension

##### D. Metabolic and Systemic Conditions

- Advanced diabetes with mobility-affecting complications
- Chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS)
- Severe osteoporosis with fracture risk

#### 3. Review and Duration

- Long-term approval may be granted for **up to one (1) year**.
- The Committee reserves the right to:
  - Request updated medical confirmation;
  - Review approvals annually; or
  - Refer the applicant to SADGA for formal disability classification where appropriate.

#### **4. Confidentiality and Data Protection**

All medical information submitted under this Policy and Appendix shall be:

- Treated as **strictly confidential**
- Used **solely for the purpose of assessing eligibility** for motorised transport
- Accessed only by authorised WP Golf officials involved in decision-making
- Stored securely in accordance with the **Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA)**

Medical details will **not be disclosed** to host clubs, officials, or third parties beyond confirmation that approval has been granted, unless legally required.

## Western Province Golf

### Appendix B WPG Transportation Policy

#### Motorised Transport – Medical Grounds Application Form

*To be submitted in advance*

#### 1. Applicant Details

Player     Caddie

Full name	
Date of Birth	
Home Club	
Contact number	
Email address	

#### 2. Event

Championship/Tournament/League	
Date(s)	

#### 3. Medical Grounds Details

- Nature of medical condition or functional limitation affecting walking golf distances:

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- Is the condition:  
 Temporary     Permanent / Degenerative

#### 4. Medical Certification (Mandatory)

Valid medical certificate to be submitted simultaneously must be :

- Issued by a **registered medical practitioner (HPCSA) within the required timeframe**
- Describe the functional limitation affecting walking
- Specify the required duration for motorised transport

Date of Certificate: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 5. Applicant Declaration

I confirm that the information provided is accurate and complete. I understand that:

- Approval is subject to WP Golf discretion;
- Permission may be time-limited and reviewed;
- Misuse of motorised transport may result in penalties or disqualification.

I

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **CONFIDENTIALITY & DATA-PROTECTION CLAUSE**

### **Confidentiality and Protection of Medical Information**

All medical information submitted under the WP Golf Transportation Policy shall be:

- Treated as **strictly confidential**
- Used **solely** for the purpose of determining eligibility for motorised transport
- Accessed only by:
  - The WP Golf Tournaments and Leagues Ruling Committee, and
  - Authorised WP Golf administrative staff

WP Golf undertakes to:

- Handle all medical data in accordance with the **Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA)**
  - Retain documentation only for as long as reasonably necessary for governance and compliance purposes
  - Not disclose medical information to third parties without the applicant's consent, except where required by law or sporting governance obligations
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### **WP Golf Use Only**

- Application Received: \_\_\_\_\_
- Decision:  Approved     Declined
- Approval Period (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_
- Committee Representative: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## WPG Tournaments and Leagues Ruling Committee reference document

### Long-Term Medical Exemptions for Motorised Transport

#### Qualifying Permanent or Degenerative Conditions

The following conditions **may qualify** for longer-term approval (up to one year), provided they materially impair the ability to walk a golf course safely and repeatedly:

##### 1 Musculoskeletal and Orthopaedic Conditions

- Severe osteoarthritis (hip, knee, ankle, spine)
- Rheumatoid arthritis with functional limitation
- Degenerative disc disease
- Chronic spinal conditions (e.g. spinal stenosis, spondylolisthesis)
- Permanent joint replacement (hip, knee, ankle) with mobility limitation
- Limb length discrepancy or deformity affecting gait
- Permanent lower-limb injury with reduced mobility

##### 2 Neurological Conditions

- Multiple sclerosis
- Parkinson's disease
- Cerebral palsy (mild to moderate functional impairment)
- Peripheral neuropathy affecting balance or gait
- Stroke with residual mobility impairment
- Motor neuron disease (early or moderate stages)

##### 3 Cardiovascular and Respiratory Conditions

- Chronic heart disease (e.g. heart failure, cardiomyopathy)
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Severe asthma with exercise limitation
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Post-cardiac surgery with long-term functional limitation

##### 4 Metabolic and Systemic Conditions

- Advanced diabetes with neuropathy or circulatory compromise
- Chronic fatigue syndrome / ME (clinically diagnosed)
- Auto-immune conditions causing significant fatigue or weakness

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#### 5. Conditions Generally NOT Qualifying for Long-Term Approval

Unless exceptional circumstances are demonstrated, the following do **not normally qualify** for long-term exemptions:

- Temporary injuries (sprains, strains, fractures in recovery)
- Short-term illness
- General fatigue
- Age alone (age exemptions are dealt with separately in the Policy)
- Convenience or preference

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#### 6 Review of Duration

- Long-term approval may be granted for **up to 12 months**
- The Committee may then:
  - Require updated medical confirmation
  - Refer the applicant for **SADGA assessment for WR4GD / EDGA** assessment
  - Revoke approval if circumstances materially change

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#### Important Notes

- **Diagnosis alone is not sufficient:**  
The medical certificate must clearly describe the **functional impact on walking golf distances**.
- **Longer-term approval (up to 12 months):**  
For degenerative medical conditions with periodic review may be preferable to repeated short-term certificate approvals.
- **Disability certification pathway:**  
Players whose conditions meet recognised disability thresholds should be encouraged to pursue **WR4GD or EDGA certification** via **SADGA**, which provides a more permanent and standardised exemption.
- **Committee discretion remains essential:**  
Each case should be assessed on:
  - Medical evidence
  - Functional limitation
  - Fairness to the field
  - Safety and pace of play