

SANDESTIN OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
GOLF CART OPERATION POLICY AND RULES

SOA Board Approved 09/17/09 Rev. 8
Effective Date: 8/1/09

In accordance with the Sandestin Owners Association Covenants and Restrictions, the following Golf Cart Operation Rules are hereby adopted and set forth:

1. Definition

- A. "Golf Cart" or "any other low speed vehicle" shall be defined as a battery powered motorized 4-wheel vehicle, used for transporting persons, golfers and their equipment.
- B. "Property" is defined as any part of the Sandestin community, including but not limited to the resort, roads, sidewalks, private property, common property, limited common property or commercial property.

2. Registration

- A. All golf carts must be registered with SOA. The SOA will issue decals which must be placed on the front and rear bumper of the golf cart and must be clearly visible. If this decal becomes damaged or unreadable, the owner must obtain a new decal before continuing to use the golf cart on the Property. This excludes golf carts used on the golf courses and service vehicles owned by the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort. Does not exclude Baytowne Marina golf carts.
- B. The SOA Executive Director shall have the authority to approve or disapprove any designs inconsistent with standard design guidelines. The SOA Board of Directors shall have the authority to grant any variance with the Golf Cart Policy.
- C. Registration renewal is required biennially. (Every 2 years.)
- D. An owner is not eligible to register or operate a golf cart if the owner is not in good standing with the SOA.
- E. Each homeowner will be limited to 2 registered golf carts, regardless of the number of RDU's owned by that member. Baytowne Marina will be allowed a maximum of 12 registered golf carts.
- F. The owner shall produce evidence of liability insurance coverage at the time of registration.
- G. Registration of a leased golf cart will be permitted for owners with a minimal 6 month lease term. Copy of such lease must be provided at the time of registration with proof of insurance and cart must meet all other guidelines as set forth in this policy.
- H. Any operation without registration decal constitutes a violation of this rule and may be subject to the fines set forth in paragraph 4.
- I. If ownership of the golf cart is transferred between homeowners, the new owner shall contact the SOA to provide insurance information and obtain a new decal so ownership information may be updated in the database. Golf cart must be in compliance with this policy in order to re-register.
- J. **The registered owner of the golf cart will assume responsibility for any fines or damages incurred as a result of any operator violating any rule as set forth in this policy or any other SOA Traffic and Safety Policies.**
- K. At time of registration the SOA will provide each homeowner with copies of all related documents pertaining to this rule. The SOA will require the owner to sign an acknowledgement stating that he/she received a copy of the rules and will comply with same.
- L. Long Term Renters with a minimum lease of 6 months may register a golf cart. A copy of the lease must be provided in addition to proof of golf cart ownership and meeting all other requirements of this policy.
- M. Long Term Marina Slip Lessees with a minimum lease of 6 months may register a golf cart, for a fee of \$50.00 per calendar month payable in one-year increments. This fee shall entitle the lessee to receive the same services and amenities as an SOA owner in good standing. A copy of the lease must be provided in addition to proof of golf cart ownership and meeting all other requirements of this policy.

3. Limits of Operation

- A. **Effective September 15, 2009, rental golf carts on the resort will be prohibited, except for carts owned by Baytowne Marina for the use of boat slip occupants. After this date, only golf carts owned or long term leased by SOA homeowners or long term renters (as defined in 2L) may be operated on the Property.**
- B. As of the effective date of this policy newly acquired or purchased gas powered golf carts are prohibited.
- C. Golf carts must be in good working condition.
- D. Golf carts must not be manufactured, altered or decorated in a manner inconsistent with standard model and design guidelines.
- E. All golf carts acquired or purchased after the effective date of this rule must meet approved model and design guidelines, photographs of which are available at the SOA office or on the SOA website. For information regarding other types of vehicles, refer to the SOA Traffic Enforcement Rule.
- F. Golf carts may be driven only on the SOA common roadways and not operated on any sidewalk or path that is not specifically designated for such with the exception of the Highway 98 tunnel access.
- G. All golf cart operators shall abide by all traffic control devices.
- H. While operating on the Property, drivers must be at least 16 years of age and have in their possession a valid automobile operating license.
- I. Golf carts must be equipped with a windshield, efficient brakes, brake lights, reliable steering wheel, safe tires, and a rear view mirror. Golf cart floor surface height shall not exceed 15" from the ground. Golf carts operated from dusk until dawn will be equipped with headlights and tail lights. Golf carts acquired or purchased from the effective date of this policy and thereafter must meet these requirements in order to be registered and permissible on the Property.
- J. Number of passengers per cart must not exceed the passenger limit and load capacity designated by the vehicle's manufacturer. All persons are required to be seated in an installed seat specifically designed for such during the operation of the golf cart and are not permitted to stand up or be seated upon the body or frame work. Golf cart can not exceed 3 rows of seats.
- K. Operation of the golf cart while under the influence of intoxicants is prohibited and may be subject to prosecution pursuant to Chapter 316.193 of the Florida Statutes.
- L. Infants and small children must be held securely AT ALL TIMES by another golf cart passenger age 16 or older. The golf cart driver may not hold a child or infant while operating the golf cart.
- M. Golf carts should always be parked in designated parking spaces and golf cart approved spaces when available. In addition to this policy, individual neighborhood associations may have their own golf cart rules. Owners must check with their respective neighborhood association for information regarding golf cart rules such as facilities for parking and charging.

4. Penalties and Fine Schedule

- A. **Any accident resulting from the violation of the above rules will result in the review and possible revocation of the owner's golf cart privileges.**
- B. In the event that SECURITY encounters a violation of the Rules set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 4, Security may address the violation and at its discretion issue a traffic citation. Subsequent offenses will be subject to the revocation of golf cart privileges.

Fines are as follows and may be imposed up to \$100 for each separate rule violation:

- o Operating a golf cart on property without an owner decal, - \$50.00
- o Any equipment violation covered under section 3I. - \$50.00
- o Driving a golf cart on unapproved paths, sidewalks, landscape or restricted areas - \$50.00
- o Transporting baggage, coolers, or other objects on roof or other portion of the golf cart without a designated rack designed for that purpose; towing a utility cart or wagon without approved hitch - \$50.00
- o Exceeding the maximum capacity of the golf cart, standing or riding on the golf cart framework, or overloading golf cart while in operation – \$100.00
- o Underage children operating a golf cart - \$100.00
- o Transporting infants or small children improperly (i.e. the driver is holding the child or a minor is holding the child, or the child is unsecured in a seat). – \$100.00

- Violating traffic rules on Sandestin roads – Fines based on Traffic Rule fine schedules.
 - Towing or dragging a wagon, cart, bicycle or skateboard whether occupied or unoccupied is prohibited - \$100.00
 - Racing or other activities that could pose a hazard to the driver, occupants, others, or property - \$100.00
- C. This rule supersedes any previous golf cart rule including any previously established fines.

5. Right to appeal

- A. All owners have the right to appeal any provision of this policy to the SOA Traffic and Safety Committee. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the SOA office and include but not limited to the following:
- Owner's name and address
 - Basis of the appeal
 - Citation number or date of citation if applicable

6. Golf Cart Regulations – Updates and Amendments

- A. The SOA will review the GOLF CART OPERATION RULES annually to ensure that they meet the changing needs of the community.