



2500 Lake Avenue, Village of Lakewood, IL 60014  
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## **15.16 OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS ON VILLAGE STREETS**

**1. Policy Statement.** This ordinance is adopted in the interest of public safety. This ordinance is not to be relied upon as a determination that the operation of golf carts on streets is safe or advisable, even if done in accordance with this ordinance. All persons operating golf carts must be observant of and attentive to the safety of themselves and others, including their passengers, other motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians. All persons who operate or ride golf carts on streets within the Village of Lakewood do so at their own risk and peril. The Village of Lakewood has no liability under any theory of law for permitting golf carts to be operated on Village streets. In accordance with 625 ILCS 5/11-1426.1(i), golf carts operated on Village streets or roadways do not constitute intended or permitted use of property with respect to Section 3-102 of the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act.

### **2. Golf Cart Regulations.**

**A. Definition of Golf Cart.** A “golf cart” shall be as defined in the Illinois Vehicle Code, 625 ILCS 5/1-123.9, and shall mean a vehicle specifically designed and intended for the purposes of transporting one or more persons and their golf clubs or maintenance equipment while engaged in the playing of golf, supervising the play of golf, or maintaining the condition of the grounds on a public or private golf course.

**B. Operation of Golf Carts.** Subject to the requirements of Section 11-1426.1 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, 625 ILCS 5/11-1426.1, which

is hereby adopted by the Village, and to the provisions of this Ordinance, drivers eighteen (18) years of age and older properly licensed to operate motor vehicles on the streets of the Village shall be authorized to operate golf carts which are registered as provided in this Ordinance on Village streets having a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less from sunrise to sunset at speeds of 20 miles per hour or less. The Village shall post the appropriate signage for the operation of golf carts. Golf carts may not be operated on sidewalks or other public property not accessible to or authorized for vehicular traffic, unless otherwise authorized by the Village Board for special events or at RedTail Golf Club as provided in Chapter 8, Section 8.02 of the Village Code. Golf cart operators must yield the right-of-way to overtaking vehicles at all times. Golf carts shall not be operated in inclement weather, nor when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog or other conditions at any other time when there is insufficient light to clearly see people or vehicles on the roadway at a distance of 500 feet. Each golf cart may transport only as many individuals as is the number of seatbelts available for each occupant. Each occupant of a golf cart must have their own seat and be seated at all times while the golf cart is in operation. No one shall stand on or hang off or from the golf cart while it is in operation. Children under the age of six (6) shall wear seatbelts when the golf cart is in operation.

**C. Restrictions on Crossing Certain Streets.** A golf cart shall only be permitted to cross Ackman Road at its intersection with Haligus Road at a 90 degree angle and shall only be permitted to cross Haligus Road at its intersection with Ackman Road at a 90 degree angle. Otherwise, golf carts shall not be permitted to cross Ackman Road or Haligus Road.

**D. Safety Requirements for Golf Carts.** Golf carts that operate within the Village must be registered as provided for in Subsection E below and said vehicles must contain the following: horn, brakes, a steering apparatus, tires, seat belts

for all passenger seats, a rearview mirror, red reflectorized warning devices in the front and rear, a slow moving emblem (as required of other vehicles in Section 12-709 of the Vehicle Code, 625 ILCS 5/12-709) on the rear of the golf cart, a headlight that emits a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front, a tail lamp that emits a red light visible from at least 100 feet from the rear, brake lights, and turn signals. When operated on a roadway, a golf cart shall have its headlight and tail lamps lighted at all times and shall also comply with the lighting requirements of Section 12-201 of the Vehicle Code, 625 ILCS 5/12-201, unless the requirements of this Ordinance are more restrictive. No unsafe modifications shall be made to the suspension of a golf cart.

**E. Annual Registration of Golf Carts.** No golf cart shall be operated on any roadway of Village unless the owner(s) thereof shall have first registered the golf cart with the Village in accordance with the following:

(1) Registration of golf carts shall be administered by the Chief of Police or his designee and applications for registration shall be made on a form prescribed by the Village, and shall include a waiver and release of all claims against the Village, a statement under oath or penalties of perjury that the golf cart proposed to be registered meets the definition under this Ordinance and complies with the safety requirements provided for in Subsection D herein, and shall be accompanied by an initial non-refundable registration fee of \$50.00 and proof of liability insurance for said golf cart having at least the same limits as required from time to time for motor vehicles under the mandatory insurance law of the State of Illinois. A copy of the applicant's

proof of insurance shall be kept on file by the Village.

- (2) Registered golf carts shall be issued a registration sticker which shall be displayed on the back rear of the golf cart on the drivers side.
- (3) Registrations shall be effective for a period of one year, May 1 to April 30, and shall be renewed annually in the same manner as the original registration except that the renewal and reinspection fee shall be \$25.00. Registrations obtained after May 1 of a given year will still expire on April 30, requiring a new registration, even if the initial registration covered less than a full year.
- (4) Registrations shall not be transferable in the event of change of ownership.
- (5) Registrations shall be subject to revocation by the Village in the event of a violation of the requirements of Section 11-1426.1 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, 625 ILCS 5/11-1426.1, any of the provisions of this Ordinance or a determination by the Police Chief or his designee that a golf cart has been operated in an unsafe manner or that a golf cart has been operated in violation of the Village Code or the Illinois Vehicle Code. A revocation shall be made in writing by the Chief of Police or his designee and shall set forth the provision(s) of the statute or ordinance found to be violated. Revocations may be appealed in writing to the

Village Board within fourteen (14) days from the issuance of the revocation, and if appealed the Village Board shall hold a public hearing within sixty (60) days of receipt of the written appeal at which the affected owner may appear, present witnesses and evidence, and be represented by an attorney. The Village Board shall uphold the revocation if it determines by a preponderance of the evidence presented at the hearing that the violation which was the basis for the revocation occurred. During the appeal process, the revocation shall remain in full force and effect.

(6) In the event a registration is revoked due to a failure to maintain the required liability insurance or a failure to maintain the condition of the golf cart in compliance this Ordinance, including but not limited to, maintaining the required safety equipment, the Village, in its discretion, may reinstate the registration upon proof of reinstatement of the required insurance or of the repair or modification of the golf cart necessary to cure any deficiencies, as applicable, if the Village determines that the violation was not intentional and is not likely to recur.

(6) No golf cart shall be registered with a motor in excess of 1,000 cc.

**F. Inspection of Golf Carts.** Golf carts registered, or proposed to be registered, pursuant to this article shall be subject to inspection by the Chief of Police or his designee, at any time to

determine that said golf cart meets, and continues to meet, the definition thereof as set forth in this Ordinance, and meets the requirements of Subsection D of this Ordinance, and particularly that required safety systems and equipment are in operating condition.

**G. Handicapped Parking.** Only golf carts with a valid handicapped parking sticker or placard may be parked in a handicapped parking space.

**H. Other Laws, Regulations and Ordinances.** Golf carts shall be operated at all times in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Vehicle Code, the rules of the road contained therein, and any other laws, regulations or ordinances governing the operation of motor vehicles in the Village, as well as any laws, regulations or ordinances specifically pertaining golf carts and the operation thereof.

**I. Violations.** In addition to the revocation of the registration for a golf carts as provided in this ordinance, any person violating the provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to revocation of any registration and a fine of not less than \$75.00 and not more than \$150.00. The provisions hereof for prosecuting violations of this Ordinance are not intended to supersede the Illinois Vehicle Code, or to in any way impair prosecution of violations of the Illinois Vehicle Code involving the operation of golf carts. A second violation of this Ordinance in a one (1) year period, shall be grounds for revocation of the registration for up to one (1) year.