



## **Considerations for the Safe Use of Golf Carts at Camp**

Camps often utilize golf carts to move people, supplies, and equipment. Golf carts are involved in a number of accidents each year throughout the US, resulting in a variety of injuries and damages. All staff that operates golf carts should be trained before using the vehicles in order to help prevent accidents. Training should include the following information.

### **Controlling Use:**

- Carts should only be used by authorized personnel
- Drivers must receive safety training prior to use of carts
- Drivers must hold a current driver's license for the state where Camp is located

### **Controls and Operation:**

- Review starting and turning off carts
- Review steering, brake and accelerator controls
- Review use of parking brake
- Review proper tire inflation
- Review use of seat belts and any passenger restraints

### **Maintenance:**

- Inspect each golf cart daily before use; if the golf cart is in need of repairs or maintenance, the vehicle should be taken out of service
- Report any damage or maintenance needs to a supervisor immediately

### **Operating Guidelines:**

- Drivers and passengers must remain seated while the vehicle is moving
- Seat belts should be worn at all times
- Never exceed the number of available seats for the number of passengers
- Reduce speed when approaching pedestrians, who always have the right of way
- Reduce speed when turning or passing through narrow spaces such as bridges
- Do not park carts where they will block emergency access or exits
- The maximum speed of a golf cart depends upon the terrain, weather conditions, and the total weight of the golf cart, passengers and any equipment being carried
- A golf cart should be operated at a well-paced walk speed and no faster than 10 mph
- Carts should only be used on Camp property and on appropriate paths or roadways
- All passengers should keep hands, arms, legs and feet within the confines of the golf cart at all times when the cart is in motion
- Secure carts when not in use and remove keys when unattended
- Never back up without looking to see what is behind the cart
- Maintain adequate distance between vehicles and pedestrians when operating carts
- Golf carts do not provide protection from lightning. Seek appropriate shelter if lightning is present.