

Changes to the Seasonal Cart Rental Policy – An explanation of why we changed it

As you are aware our course is a unique one in that we allow individuals to bring their own motorized carts from home. For liability reasons larger courses do not allow this practice and were you to golf you would be required to rent a cart or walk. Further to this, members of the larger clubs (with substantially higher membership fees) are allowed the use of the course owned rental carts as part of their membership fees, however, were one to go golfing with a member you would be required to pay the cost of renting half of a golf cart.

Of course, to facilitate this would take a large fleet of course owned golf carts, something which small town golf courses are not able to finance. Hence the use of private carts is a real small town solution, and it works great!

Realizing that not our entire membership owns carts one of the things is offered is an optional seasonal cart for an additional fee. Since 2012 the cost of the seasonal cart rental has remained steady at \$600.00. Unfortunately, the exact definition of what this encompasses has been one our executives have been working on clearly defining. As there was no clearly defined policy it was quite easy to take advantage of the seasonal cart rental. Questions which arose included those such as; how many people does that cover? Can both my partner and I use the cart? If I am single and I get a cart does the person riding with me have to pay for a cart or does my seasonal membership cover both of us? Is the seasonal cart membership valid for tournaments? What if I have a cart and I am out on the course and my partner decides to come golfing and wants to get a cart as well, can they have one too?

Over the past couple of years we have been working on ideas to clarify these issues so as to make the system of seasonal cart rental equitable and fair for all of our members. As a result of abuse of the seasonal cart rental policy, which may or may not have resulted from their being a clear definition of the policy of seasonal cart rentals, we discussed several options during the offseason. Three main options were proposed:

1. Decrease the cost of the rental to \$450 as a per member charge. As such, were a couple to want a seasonal membership it would cost \$900.
2. Increase the cost as previous to \$900 and allow it to be for either a couple or an individual who would be allowed to use it with whomever they chose with no extra charges.
3. Split the seasonal cart membership into either a "Single Seat" or "Two Seat" membership. Offer singles a reduced rate of \$450 and keep the "Two Seat" membership at \$600 as previous. Anyone riding along with one of the singles is required to pay the price of half of a rental cart (a standard policy in the golf industry).

We believe that after much discussion we have struck a balance with our new policy, as described below.

Maple Creek Golf Club
Seasonal Power Cart Rental Policy

Due to previous abuses of the Seasonal Power Cart Rental system a new policy will be enforced for the 2014 season

Seasonal Power Cart – Single Seat

Users who have purchased a “Single Seat” seasonal power cart rental may only have a second person ride with them if that person pays the half cart rental fee. The individual golfing with the cart renter is not required to pay the fee, but must not ride in the cart with the renter. If it is found that this is the case the individual may lose their seasonal cart renting privileges.

Seasonal Power Cart – Two Seats

Users who have purchased a “Two Seat” seasonal power cart rental have the use of both seats of the cart without their guest needing to pay the half cart rental fee. Further to this, the “Two Seat” rental covers the use of both members of a couple (referred to herein as partners) and both may use the cart with a guest. PLEASE NOTE, the partners are only entitled to have one rental cart on the course at any given time. Should one of the partners be using the cart on course with a guest the second partner MAY NOT take a second cart onto the course for use with a guest. Should they want to use a cart they must rent a cart as would any normal patron.

Those who have purchased the “Two Seat” Option and wish to use it with a partner sharing the policy are required to inform the Pro-Shop who exactly their partner is. Further to this, an individual may purchase the “Two Seat” option and they are free to use the cart with whomever they choose without actually defining whom their partner is, however, the member must be present to use the cart and cannot send a friend to the course to use their seasonal power cart membership.

We realize that this policy may not seem clear to some members. As always, your input and suggestions are welcome. As well, we are always looking for volunteers to sit on our executive and help us come up with solutions to issues such as this. It is our hope that this policy clarifies the seasonal cart rental policy. We will be reviewing this at the end of the 2014 season and should be feel it was not effective we will look to improve on this. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the implementation of this policy please address them to either myself or any of the other volunteer executive directors.

Yours in Golf



Jason Williams
President