**Template - Golf Facility Accessibility Statement**

*The following Accessibility Statement “template” is provided as an example policy that may be adapted and used to publish your specific facility policies and help foster a welcoming and inclusive environment for individuals with disabilities. Communication is Job #1! Although this example is written with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in mind, it is not to be considered legal advice as the ADA is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice. Should you have any questions of a general nature regarding the ADA and access to your facility you may contact us at* *info@accessgolf.org* *and we will be happy to assist or guide you towards the appropriate source.*

Areas in BLUE are to be completed by the facility and/or edited as appropriate.

Areas in RED are notes/advice from the National Alliance.

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**Accessibility Statement**

**<Club Name Here>**

Thank you for choosing to play or considering <Club Name Here> for your next golf experience! Founded in XXXX, we pride ourselves in providing an accessible and inclusive environment for all golfers and it is our policy to welcome individuals of all abilities to enjoy full access to everything our golf club has to offer for enjoyment by you, your family, and your friends.

Our belief in access to our facility for all individuals starts with our website wherein we aim to adhere as strictly as possible to the World Wide Web Consortium’s (W#C) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 (WCAG 2.1) at the AA level through the use of various technologies that are meant to make it accessible at all times for individuals with disabilities.

Additionally, <Club Name Here> makes it a priority to train our entire staff to be prepared to ensure that when you choose to visit us, your experiences are positive and provide many reasons for you to visit us again in the future. Therefore, the following information is provided for all of our customers to facilitate this environment.

<Club Name Here> consistently strives to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), both in our buildings and golf course accommodations. Should you have any questions or concerns during your visit, we ask that you please address these with us so that we may remedy any issues.

We provide “Access Flags” versus “Handicap/Handicapped Flags” as our goal is to focus on “play for all” versus “restrictions” or restrictive terminology wherever possible.

*\*\*If you club is interested in ordering Access Flags, please click* [*HERE*](https://www.pinflagsandmore.com/naag) *or contact us at Please* *info@accessgof.org**. Use of the term “handicap flags” is not considered as acceptable as it once was as individuals with disabilities prefer to not be thought of as “handicapped”.*

However, there are times when access to certain areas of the golf course could be limited to ALL golfers based on criteria outlined below, therefore, we encourage all of our guests to contact us in advance of play if you have any access questions related to conditions or adaptive vehicle inventory such that we can ensure your time with us is valued as much as we value you choosing our facility.

Choose and/or adapt any of the below that apply more directly to your property:

<Club Name Here> is a non-walking facility, therefore golf carts are required for all golfers at all times.

<Club Name Here> provides golf carts and permits carrying and/or the use of push carts. This can be adapted to your particular club’s practices.

Whenever conditions permit, <Club Name Here> will permit golf carts “off the path”, however unless you are a “seated golfer” with an adaptive vehicle or an individual with a disability requiring access “as close as possible” to tees and greens, golf carts shall <your policy here, such as … observe entry and exit stakes, stay in the rough or fairway, utilize 90 degrees, not get within 15, 20, 30 yds of greens/tee boxes, etc.>.

Our baseline for adaptive vehicles, which vary in design, for the purpose of these policies refers to the most commonly known vehicles such as SoloRider, ParaGolfer or similar vehicles and includes motorized wheelchairs designed to permit play without damage to the course.

For golfers with disabilities requiring access beyond the above policies such as on tees and greens with adaptive vehicles, or very near tees and greens with golf cars, “Access Flags” will be provided upon request when course conditions permit their use.

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Our staff works diligently to ensure the safety of our guests as well as to maintain our course in outstanding conditions, “Cart Path Only” (CPO) may be the policy for ALL vehicle types when:

1. Damage to the property from motorized vehicles could occur due to recent or current weather conditions, or maintenance. This includes our golf cart inventory and adaptive vehicles (whether provided by the course or approved personal adaptive equipment),
2. Safety is a concern and/or injury is a possibility for ALL golfers using motorized vehicles due to wet and/or soggy course conditions, or
3. Golf course maintenance is being conducted, or was recently conducted (to include, but not limited to aeration, verticutting, top dressing or other practices) and motorized vehicle traffic could create a safety hazard for both staff and players, or cause damage to areas of maintenance in progress.

*A bit of advice from the National Alliance…if “Cart Path Only” due to weather, but maintenance equipment is permitted on the course for the routine mowing of fairways, greens, or tees, or other daily maintenance we suggest you permit an Access Flag for the individual who requests one.*

*The ADA prohibits you asking individuals if they are disabled, or what their disability may be, or requiring advance reservations for adaptive vehicles. However, you may encourage reservations to help with their experience at your club.*

*Your best course of action is to communicate clear policies on your website, encourage proactive communication from your guests who may have additional access expectations, and ensure your staff is well trained on how to answer these questions on the phone and in person. Most of all, be consistent with your application of Cart Path Only, or any restrictions that would deny access to a golfer who is requesting it unless there is a legitimate risk of injury or damage to the course due to conditions.*

*A golf club certainly has the right to protect its “product”, the golf course, but the application of restrictions must be defendable.*

<Club Name Here> welcomes seated golfers and the use of adaptive vehicles specifically designed to be used on golf courses.

Pick one of the below options and please keep in mind it is highly recommended a golf course be able to either provide an adaptive vehicle if needed or have access to one via a shared relationship with other properties in the area, whether competitors or not.

Option 1: We do not maintain an adaptive vehicle on site for use by seated golfers, however through a relationship with neighboring properties, we are able to provide one for your use or will permit the use of your own adaptive vehicle if it is specifically modified for use on a golf course to cause no damage. As is the case with any golf carts or adaptive vehicles on our property, whether provided by the club or owned by you, the club assumes no liability for accidents due to improper use of the vehicles due to unsafe driving or attempting to access areas of the course not designed for vehicular traffic.

Option 2: We maintain an adaptive vehicle on site for use by seated golfers. As is the case with any golf carts, or adaptive vehicles on our property, whether provided by the club or owned by you personally, the club assumes no liability for accidents due to improper use of the vehicles due to unsafe driving or attempting to access areas of the course not designed for vehicular traffic.

We look forward to seeing you at <Club Name Here>. Should you have any questions, please contact us at <phone number> or <email>.