

4.08 GOLF CARTS

(1) **INTENT.**

The Village Board, following due consideration of the value to the public to provide recreational opportunities, and considering the benefits offset by the potential liabilities including terrain involved, traffic density and the history of automobile traffic, hereby intends to create routes for the operation of golf carts and regulate the operation of golf carts as provided herein.

(2) **AUTHORITY.**

This chapter and the routes created herein are adopted pursuant to the police powers of the Village, together with the authority under Section 349.18 Wisconsin Statutes.

(3) **DEFINITIONS.**

As used in this chapter, the following terms will have the following meanings:

(a) **Golf Cart.** A small motor vehicle designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding speeds of twenty-five (25) miles per hour. Golf cart does not include all-terrain vehicle (ATV).

(b) **Village.** The Village of Hilbert, Wisconsin.

(c) **Village Board.** The board of trustees of the Village of Hilbert, Wisconsin.

(4) **RULES OF OPERATION, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS.**

The following rules of operations, conditions, and restrictions apply to the operation of golf carts in the Village of Hilbert.

(a) **Speed.** No person shall operate a golf cart within the Village on any trail or street or route designated herein at a speed in excess of the posted limit.

(b) **Right Side Operation.** A golf cart shall be operated on the extreme right side of the roadway and travel with the flow of traffic and shall be operated in single file.

(c) **Yield.** Golf cart operators shall yield the right of way to all other vehicular traffic and pedestrians.

(d) **Equipment.** No golf cart shall be operated on any street or route within the Village unless it conforms to all noise, registration and other equipment requirements as required by Wisconsin Statutes, Administrative Code or this Code.

(e) **Lights.** A golf cart operating within the Village shall display a lighted headlight and taillight at all times. Said lights shall conform to the requirements of Wisconsin Statutes and this Code, including the following:

(1) Headlights shall be of a white or clear light and must be capable of illuminating the road ahead during hours of darkness and be observed at a distance of five hundred feet

(500'). Headlights must be properly adjusted, as not to interfere with the operation of other vehicles on the roadway.

(2) Taillights shall be red in color and be observable to a distance of five hundred feet (500') at night.

(f) Slow Moving Vehicle. Any golf cart unable to reach a speed of twenty-five (25) miles per hour shall display a slow-moving vehicle triangle visible on the rear of such vehicle according to Wisconsin Statutes and Administrative Code governing SMV emblems at all times while in operation on any roadway.

(g) Operation On Sidewalks Prohibited. No person shall operate a golf cart on any sidewalk, pedestrian way, or upon the area between the sidewalk and the curb line of any street in the Village, except as specifically authorized for the purpose of legally crossing the street, from an area of private property with permission, to obtain immediate access to an authorized area of operation.

(h) Commercial Access. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, any person may operate a golf cart from an established golf cart route to a place of lodging, shopping at local businesses or obtaining personal needs within the corporate limits of the Village of Hilbert.

(i) Unattended Vehicles. No person shall leave or allow any golf cart owned or operated or under his/her control to remain unattended on any public highway or public property within the Village while the motor is running or with the starting key left in the ignition.

(5) **BI-ANNUAL USE PERMIT.**

(a) Bi-Annual Use Permit Required. In addition to any other registration requirements of the State of Wisconsin, no person shall operate any golf cart upon Village streets, other Village property, or designated areas within the Village limits without first obtaining a municipal use permit.

(b) Bi-Annual Use Permit Requirements. The requirements for the bi-annual use permit include the following:

(1) Each individual golf cart shall be required to have a bi-annual use permit. The owner of the golf cart shall provide proof of ownership and insurance covering the unit to be registered.

(2) The owner of the golf cart shall complete and sign an application form as provided by the Village for the bi-annual use permit.

(3) The application form shall be accompanied by the required fee. This application fee is nonrefundable. The application form shall also be accompanied by proof that the golf cart has been inspected and meets all regulations of the State of Wisconsin and this Code.

(c) Bi-Annual Use Permit Issuance. A bi-Annual use permit is nontransferable. Such permit shall allow the golf cart to be operated upon Village streets and designated routes. Each permit shall be plainly visible on the front cowling of the golf cart. The bi-annual use permit shall expire on April 30th of each even number year. The bi-annual use permit fee is forty dollars (\$40.00).

(d) Exemption from Bi-Annual Use Permit. Golf carts that are brought into the village and operated only during the duration of a special event within the village shall be exempt from the Bi-Annual Use Permit requirement.

(6) **OPERATOR RESTRICTIONS.**

The following restrictions shall apply to all operators or passengers of golf carts within the Village:

(a) No person whose operating license is under suspension, revocation, or cancellation for any reason may operate a golf cart.

(b) No person under twelve (12) years of age may operate a golf cart.

(c) No person at least twelve (12) years of age but under sixteen (16) years of age may operate a golf cart unless:

(1) The golf cart is registered as an implement of husbandry and (b) the operator is under the supervision of a person over eighteen (18) years of age.

(2) The golf cart is registered for public use and the operator possesses a valid golf cart safety course completion certification.

(d) A person sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) years of age who possesses a valid golf cart safety certificate may operate a golf cart.

(7) **DESIGNATED GOLF CART ROUTES.**

(a) Routes and Trails. The following are designated routes and trails for golf cart use within the Village:

(1) All non-state highway public streets within the corporate limits of the Village of Hilbert except:

(a) Any street where operation is prohibited by posted sign.

(b) 12th Street.

(c) Birch Street.

(2) State Highway 57/32 from the south line of the south driveway of the property located at 463 S. 8th St. to 71' south of the south edge of Birch Street.

(3) State Highway 114 from State Highway 57/32 to 65' east of the east edge of 12th Street.

(4) East Main Street to the village corporate limits.

(b) Other Areas Prohibited. Except as provided in Wisconsin Statutes or in this Chapter, no person may operate a golf cart in the following areas, unless authorization is first obtained from the Village Board (Village property need not be posted, golf cart operators must know whose property they are operating upon before entering any property):

- (1) Any Village parks.
- (2) Any Village cemeteries.
- (3) Any property owned or leased by the Village.

(c) Exception for Crossing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a golf cart may be operated to cross from one side of a prohibited street to the other from a legal area to reach a street which is legal upon which to operate.

(d) Golf Cart Routes, Signs and Markers.

(1) Markers. The Village Board or its designee are authorized and directed to procure, erect and maintain appropriate golf cart routes, trails and speed limit signs and markers as approved by the State of Wisconsin to comply with the terms of this Chapter.

(2) Status. The Village Board or the Calumet County Sheriff's Department have the authority to declare the stated golf cart routes and trails either opened or closed.

(3) Signs and Markers. No person shall fail to obey any route or trail sign, marker or speed limit or other control device erected in accordance with this Chapter or under the authority of Wisconsin Statutes.

(8) **ENFORCEMENT.**

(a) Enforcement. This Chapter shall be enforced by any law enforcement officer of the Village of Hilbert or such other local, county or state law enforcement officers.

(b) Citation. The uniform traffic citation under Wisconsin Statutes shall be used for violations of this chapter.

(c) Penalty. All provisions of section 23.33 of Wisconsin statutes describing and defining regulations with respect to golf carts of which the penalty is a forfeiture only are incorporated herein by reference. The penalty for violation of any provision of this Chapter shall be a forfeiture as provided in section 23.33 (13) of Wisconsin statutes together with the costs of prosecution. Subject to the specific provisions of section 23.33 (13), Wisconsin statutes, of paragraphs (am)2(e) any person who violates this Chapter shall forfeit not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).