

# Blackhawk Police Services

Blackhawk Police Board



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GOLF CARTS

I'm going to do my best to explain the laws pertaining to golf cart usage on the roadways. Please understand that these **are not** laws or rules that we are creating. The Blackhawk Homeowner's Association and the Blackhawk Police District are simply ensuring that citizens in this community are aware of currently existing laws pertaining to golf cart usage. Please take the time to read this **entire** publication, as it may answer some of your questions.

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**You must be in possession of a valid Driver's License to operate a golf cart on the roadway (CVC 12500a).**

**Golf Cart (CVC §345) Definition ~ A golf cart is a motor vehicle designed to:**

- Carry golf equipment.
- Have no less than three wheels in contact with the ground.
- Operate at a maximum speed of 15 mph.
- Weigh no more that 1,300 pounds unladen (empty).
- Carry no more than **two** persons, including the driver.

**Operation of Golf Carts (CVC §345, §21115, §21115.1 and §21716)**

Registration is **not** required if you operate your golf cart on a highway designated for such use by ordinance or resolution within one mile of a golf course.

You may **not** operate on a road with a speed limit above 25 mph except by ordinance or resolution by a local authority.

### **Modified Golf Carts**

A golf cart **cannot** be converted for registration purpose as an NEV/LSV. **If you modify your golf cart to go faster than 15 mph or seat more than two persons, the vehicle is considered a regular motor vehicle and must comply with FMVSS for passenger vehicles.**

*FMVSS include additional vehicle equipment, appropriate FMVSS labels, applicable emission standards, and a 17-digit conforming VIN. Failure to comply with all necessary regulations may result in a citation.*

Golf carts do not need to be registered, if they are being driven on combined usage roadways. Blackhawk by board order from the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors is designated as a combined usage roadway (to include the 30 MPH roadways in the community). If you are going to

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attempt to have your golf cart registered, you would need the below safety equipment added to your golf cart. Again, this is not needed in the Blackhawk Country Club community if you are going to be driving during day light hours.

Golf carts must comply with [CVC §24001.5](#) regarding equipment if driven at night. [CVC §24001.5](#) states that golf carts are subject to the same requirements as motorcycles for the purpose of this division. This means that golf carts must comply with the requirements of a motorcycle for the purpose of equipment for driving at night.

## **Golf carts driven at night are required to have the following equipment:**

- At least one headlamp, tail lamp, and stop lamp.
- A rear reflector.
- Front/rear turn signals.
- Front/side reflectors.
- A mirror (located in a position to allow the driver a rear view of at least 200 feet).
- A horn.
- Fenders.
- A safety-glazed windshield.
- Windshield wipers.

The Blackhawk Police District is committed to keeping this community safe. Golf carts share the roadway with many potential hazards and as you have read above, they are regulated by the California Vehicle Code. It is not the intention of our agency to specifically target the golf carts in the community, but rather educate those who are driving them.