

Plum Area Youth Soccer Utility Vehicle Policy

The purpose of the policy outlined in this document is to provide guidelines for the acceptable use of electric or gas-powered golf carts and utility type vehicles (referred to as utility vehicles herein) at any site where Plum Area Youth Soccer (PAYS) activities are being conducted. The intent of this policy is to establish proper safety procedures and practices, and promote and provide for a safer environment for utility vehicle operators, pedestrians, players, spectators, referees, volunteers, and board members. At all times, due regard must be displayed by utility vehicle operators. Compliance with this policy and the standards set forth will ensure the safe operation of these vehicles for the PAYS organization and its members including but not limited to utility vehicle operators, pedestrians, players, spectators, referees, volunteers, and board members.

Questions concerning this policy may be addressed to the PAYS Fields and Equipment Coordinator or Executive Board.

PAYS provides utility vehicles to volunteers to support the needs of the organization in a more economical and efficient manner. Utility vehicles are used to transport equipment and people, perform field/site maintenance activities, deliver and move materials and concession products, and patrol the soccer complex.

Utility Vehicles owned or leased by PAYS may only be used to support PAYS activities and offerings by PAYS board members, coaches, and club approved volunteers. Utility vehicles should not be used for personal business or recreation.

Knowledge of and compliance with applicable state laws, rules, regulations and policies are the responsibility of the operator and noncompliance may result in suspension of user privileges.

Vehicle Operating Standards:

- Operators must be 18 years of age or older and possess a valid driver's license
- Operators must know and adhere to all state and local traffic laws while operating utility vehicles
- Utility vehicles are to be operated at speeds no greater than 15MPH or as safety concerns demand. Operators should always consider the terrain, weather conditions, and existing pedestrian and vehicular traffic which may affect the ability to operate the utility vehicle safely.
- Utility vehicles will only be operated within the confines where PAYS activities are being conducted unless authorized by PAYS Executive Board.
- Operators are responsible for the security of the ignition key during the time that a utility vehicle is assigned to them. Anytime a utility vehicle is unattended (not in immediate sight of the operator), the ignition will be turned off and the key will be removed from the ignition and kept in the possession of the authorized driver.
- Utility vehicles will be operated in such a manner that they do not impede or interfere with normal pedestrian or vehicular traffic flow on sidewalks, ramps or roadways. Utility vehicles should be operated on service drives and roadways if and when possible, rather than in areas designed primarily for player and pedestrian use. Utility vehicles may be driven on any grass area in support of PAYS operations. Operators are responsible for driving in areas to avoid any damage to fields or practice areas.
- Pedestrians will be given the right-of-way at all times. Utility vehicles will be operated with the utmost courtesy, care, and consideration for the safety of pedestrians.

- Operators are to be diligent and pay particular attention to the needs of disabled persons, as limitations in vision, hearing or mobility may impair their ability to see, hear, or move out of the way of vehicles
- Utility vehicles will not be driven on public roadways outside of the confines where PAYS activities are being conducted
- Utility vehicles will only cross roadway in areas that are clearly visible from all directions. During low light conditions, they should cross only in well lighted areas
- Utility vehicles will not be parked in fire lanes, in handicapped or otherwise reserved parking, or on any walkway that constitutes a pedestrian travel route
- Operators are not permitted to drive while wearing devices that impede hearing, e.g. stereo headsets, earplugs, etc. In addition, operators shall not talk on the phone or text while driving.
- All passengers must be in seats designed for such use. No passengers are allowed to be transported on the bed, back or sides of utility vehicles except for medical emergency transportation.
- Operators are responsible for ensuring that utility vehicle is properly cleaned, stored and locked up after each use
- Utility vehicles operating after dark are required to have functioning headlights
- Utility vehicles will not be modified in any manner that affects the recommended mode of operation, speed or safety of the vehicle

Organization Responsibilities:

- PAYS Executive Board or Fields and Equipment Coordinator will assure that each club member who operates a utility vehicle is properly advised of this policy

Maintenance Responsibilities:

- Utility vehicle operators are responsible for providing timely notification of any safety and/or maintenance concerns to the PAYS Fields and Equipment Coordinator or an Executive Board member
- PAYS Executive Board will be responsible for insuring timely repair of utility vehicles when problems are reported. If timely repairs cannot be made, the utility vehicle will be taken out of service until the repairs are completed.
- Individuals using a utility vehicle are responsible for cleaning and non-mechanical maintenance of that utility vehicle
- PAYS is responsible for maintenance of utility vehicles and associated costs of maintenance

Accident Reporting:

- All accidents involving a utility vehicle will be reported immediately to a PAYS Executive Board member or the Fields and Equipment Coordinator, regardless of fault, or whether or not there is damage or personnel injury

Plum Area Soccer reserves the right to amend or enhance this policy.