



Golf can be accessible to everyone!

“The promise of the ADA... has enabled people with disabilities to enjoy much greater access to a wide range of affordable travel, recreational opportunities, and life-enriching services.”

*President George W. Bush
Statement by the President,
July 26, 2001*

The 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (Sections 238 and 1006) touch on accessible golf courses. For more about ADA technical requirements for golf courses, visit the US Access Board guide at www.access-board.gov/ada/guides/chapter-10-golf-courses/

Golf Courses

Nobody knows where a golf ball will land! Also, typical golf course terrain features may exceed accessibility requirements based on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). ADA golf course requirements consider these challenges and allow a *golf car passage* to replace a traditional accessible route within a golf course boundary.

A *golf car passage* is a continuous path that allows play from a motorized golf car. So players can reach their balls, it can include the golf car path and other course areas and need not be a defined path with an improved surface. It should allow access to areas such as fairways, teeing surfaces, and greens. It can also connect areas such as bag drops, practice tees, toilet rooms, and weather shelters.

Accessible golf course routes must be at least 48 inches wide (more than the traditional 36-inch minimum width for an accessible route). If barriers, such as curbs, block golf cars from fairways, then openings at least 60 inches wide must be placed no more than every 75 yards so golfers with disabilities can play.

Golf Car Entry & Exit?

- **Teeing grounds:** For a hole with a teeing ground, a golf car must be able to enter and exit it. With two teeing grounds, the forward ground must support golf car maneuvering, and with three or more teeing grounds, at least two (including a forward ground) must permit a golf car to enter and exit.
- **Putting greens and weather shelters:** Golf cars must be able to enter and exit.
- **Practice putting greens, practice teeing grounds, and driving range teeing stations:** At least 5%, but not less than one, of each of these must be designed and constructed so a golf car can enter and exit.

More to Know

- Golf course operators must reasonably modify policies and procedures to provide equal access to players with disabilities. For example, even if golf cars are usually prohibited in parking areas, transfers from a vehicle to a golf car in a parking area could be allowed for golfers with disabilities.
- The 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design do not require adaptive golf cars, but these cars are a great benefit to many golfers with mobility disabilities.