

74.06 HOURS OF OPERATION

Golf carts may be operated on public streets within the City of Independence only between sunrise and sunset, regardless of whether a golf cart has functioning headlamps and/or taillamps. A violation of this section is a simple misdemeanor punishable as a scheduled violation under Iowa Code Section 805.8A(3).

74.09 SPEED

No golf carts shall be capable of exceeding twenty (20) miles per hour on a paved level surface.

74.10 PARKING

Golf carts may be parked in City parking lots or on any city street where vehicle parking is permitted, except no golf cart may be parked on any primary road extension.

74.99 PENALTY; SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF PERMIT

1. *Penalty.* Unless another penalty is stated, a violation of this chapter shall constitute a municipal infraction with violators subject to a civil penalty under Section 4.03 of this Code of Ordinances.

2. *Suspension or Revocation of Permit Following Conviction.* In addition to the penalties provided for in Section 4.03 of this Code of Ordinances or in Iowa Code 805.8A(3), owners of golf carts shall also be subject to suspension or revocation of their golf cart permit for a period of time deemed appropriate by the Chief of Police or his/her authorized designee under the circumstances.

74.08 UNLAWFUL OPERATION

1. No individual shall operate a golf cart unless that person is at least (18) years of age and possesses a valid driver's license.
2. No owner shall permit a person to operate a golf cart unless that person is at least eighteen (18) years of age and possesses a valid driver's license.
3. No golf carts shall be operated or parked upon public sidewalks, trails, parks, or other areas where operation of an automobile is prohibited.
4. No golf cart shall be operated on private property without the express consent of the property owner or lawful tenant.
5. No golf cart shall be operated while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, narcotics, or habit-forming drugs.
6. No person shall operate a golf cart in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner endangering the person or property of another or causing injury or damage to the same.
7. No golf cart shall be operated in violation of the traffic laws of the City of Independence or the State of Iowa.
8. No golf cart shall carry more passengers than the golf cart is designed to carry.
9. No person shall ride in a golf cart unless seated in a seat designed to carry a passenger.
10. No seat shall be used by more than one person at a time.
11. No cargo, materials, supplies, or other items may be transported in the golf cart without being properly restrained.
12. No person shall leave a golf cart unattended on public property while the motor is running, or the keys are in the ignition.
13. Golf carts shall be parked only on city streets where parking is permitted, parking lots, or driveways in the same manner as an automobile.

Golf Cart Rules and Regulation



How do I get my golf cart registered?

1. At the police department golf cart owners must first fill out an application for registration, pay the registration fee, and provide proof of active liability insurance covering operation of the golf cart on city streets in the minimum amount required for operation of motor vehicles
2. Once the application has been processed you will be contacted for an inspection.
3. Once you have passed the inspection you will be issued a permit sticker that must be displayed visibly and prominently on the left rear fender of the golf cart. Permit shall be effective from January 1 through December 31 of each calendar year; and must be renewed each year between December 1 and December 31. Permits not renewed by January 14 of each year shall be deemed expired
4. If a lawfully registered golf cart is sold, the registered owner shall notify the Police Department within ten (10) business days of such sale to request cancellation of the golf cart registration and permit. Any existing registration for a golf cart shall be deemed cancelled upon its sale. If the new owner intends to operate the golf cart on streets within the City of Independence, the new owner shall register the golf cart in accordance with the requirements.
5. The cost of the registration is \$25.



What equipment is required on my golf cart? (74.07)

1. Adequate brakes.
2. A slow-moving vehicle sign visible from the rear of the golf cart.
3. Functioning headlights and taillights where such equipment is present on the golf cart as manufactured.
4. A bicycle safety flag.
5. A reflective strip measuring at least 2 inches wide by at least 6 inches long on both the front and rear ends of the golf cart.

What streets are prohibited? (74.05)

- 1st Street East/West
- 2nd Avenue NE
- 20th Avenue SW
- 6th Avenue SW from 1st Street West to Bland Boulevard
- All portions of Highway 150 (crossing of Highway 150 will only be allowed at 11th Street NE, 2nd Street SE, and Enterprise Drive)
- Any city street within the City of Independence with a posted speed limit greater than thirty (30) miles per hour.

CHAPTER 74 GOLF CARTS

74.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to permit the operation of golf carts on certain city streets within the City of Independence, as authorized by Section 321.247 of the Code of Iowa, as amended. This chapter applies whenever a golf cart is operated on any street or alley of the City.

74.02 DEFINITIONS. “*Golf Cart*” is defined as a four-wheeled recreational vehicle generally used for transportation of person(s) in the sport of golf that is either electric or gas powered with an engine displacement of less than 351 cubic centimeters, and a total dry weight of less than 800 pounds.

74.04 GOLF CARTS REGISTERED. No person shall operate a golf cart on any city street or alley within the City of Independence, for any purpose, unless there is affixed to the golf cart a valid unexpired permit sticker issued by the City Police Department.

This pamphlet is for reference only, the full Ordinance can be found online at www.Independenceia.org.