

**LAKE OF THE PINES ASSOCIATION  
RULES & REGULATIONS**



**Golf Cart Rules**

Golf Carts may be operated on Lake of the Pines (LOP) roads only if in compliance with the following Definitions and Rules of Operation. With the exceptions noted below, LOP adopts California Codes CVC §§ 345, 385.5, 21115, 21115.1, and 21716.

The above-cited California Codes define a Low Speed Vehicle (LSV) also known as a Neighborhood Electric Vehicle (NEV). An LSV and/or NEV shall be considered a “Golf Cart” that can be used on LOP roadways.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Low Speed Vehicle (LSV)/Neighborhood Electric Vehicle (NEV):**

Per **CVC § 385.5**.

(a) A “low-speed vehicle” is a motor vehicle that meets all of the following requirements:

- (1) Has four wheels.
- (2) Can attain a speed, in one mile, of more than 20 miles per hour and not more than 25 miles per hour, on a paved level surface.
- (3) Has a gross vehicle weight rating of less than 3,000 pounds.

(b)

- (1) For the purposes of this section, a “low-speed vehicle” is not a golf cart, except when operated pursuant to Section 21115 or 21115.1.
- (2) A “low-speed vehicle” is also known as a “neighborhood electric vehicle.”

**Golf Cart:**

Per **CVC §345**, a Golf Cart is a motor vehicle designed to:

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

**LOP ALLOWABLE EXCEPTIONS to the above:**

1. An LSV and/or NEV shall be considered a “Golf Cart” that can be used on LOP roadways.
2. LOP will allow **Golf Carts** that have designed/dedicated seating for up to 6 persons
3. LOP will allow **Golf Carts** that have a maximum speed of 25 mph.

**Vehicles not in compliance with the definitions above will not be allowed to be used on LOP roads.**

**EXAMPLES OF VEHICLES NOT AUTHORIZED FOR LOP ROAD USE:**

1. ATVs, UTVs, Side-by-sides, and all other types of similar vehicles not specifically designed for use on paved surfaces. The National Highway Safety Counsel has deemed such vehicles to be unsafe for street use.
2. Any and all other types of “homemade” cart like vehicles, including Go-carts.
3. Any and all other types of vehicles not manufactured for street use and not recognized by the California Vehicle Code as a street eligible vehicle.

**RULES OF OPERATION:**

1. Drivers must hold and have in possession a valid driver’s license.
2. Only the driver and one passenger are allowed in golf carts other than for those golf carts specifically designed to carry additional passengers in a designed/dedicated forward facing or rear facing seat.
3. Golf carts must obey all speed rules and no Golf Cart may be operated on LOP roads at a speed greater than 25 mph.
4. Golf Carts must obey all rules of the road, signaling all stops and turns (by hand when signal/brake lights are not installed), and must obey all traffic signs including, but not limited to STOP, YIELD, DO NOT ENTER, NO LEFT TURN, AND ONE-WAY SIGNS, among others.
5. Golf carts operating between the hours of sunset and sunrise must have fully and appropriately functioning headlights and taillights.
6. Golf carts must yield to pedestrians and give bicyclists the required clearance.
7. Valid LOP decals for street operation and/or golf course use must be placed on the driver’s and passenger’s sides in the area indicated below. The decal must be visible when using a cart enclosure. Failure to do so could result in the owner receiving an unregistered cart citation, which carries a fine as outlined in the LOP Schedule of Fines. Decals for previous years must be removed or covered over. Only the current decal may be displayed.



State registered and licensed LSVs/NEVs with valid license plates do not require LOP registration unless used on the golf course.

8. Golf carts used on the golf course, off the cart path, must have approved turf tires such as EZ-GO Links or the equivalent and all golf course rules must be obeyed (See GOLF COURSE RULES for specific requirements).
9. Carts must drive on the right side of the road; the same as cars.
10. No minor person, or any person who is unable to give informed consent, may occupy a rearward-facing seat of a Golf Cart when operated on LOP roads unless accompanied by an adult or restrained by a seatbelt.
11. Golf Carts without windshield wipers may not operate on LOP roads when it is raining unless the windshield can be removed and/or folded down.

Although the following are highly recommended, they are not required in Lake of the Pines:

1. Seat belts
2. Turn signals
3. Rear view mirrors
4. Brake lights

Approved: March 18, 2022 – R-22-050 (Effective June 15, 2022)