

Golf Carts

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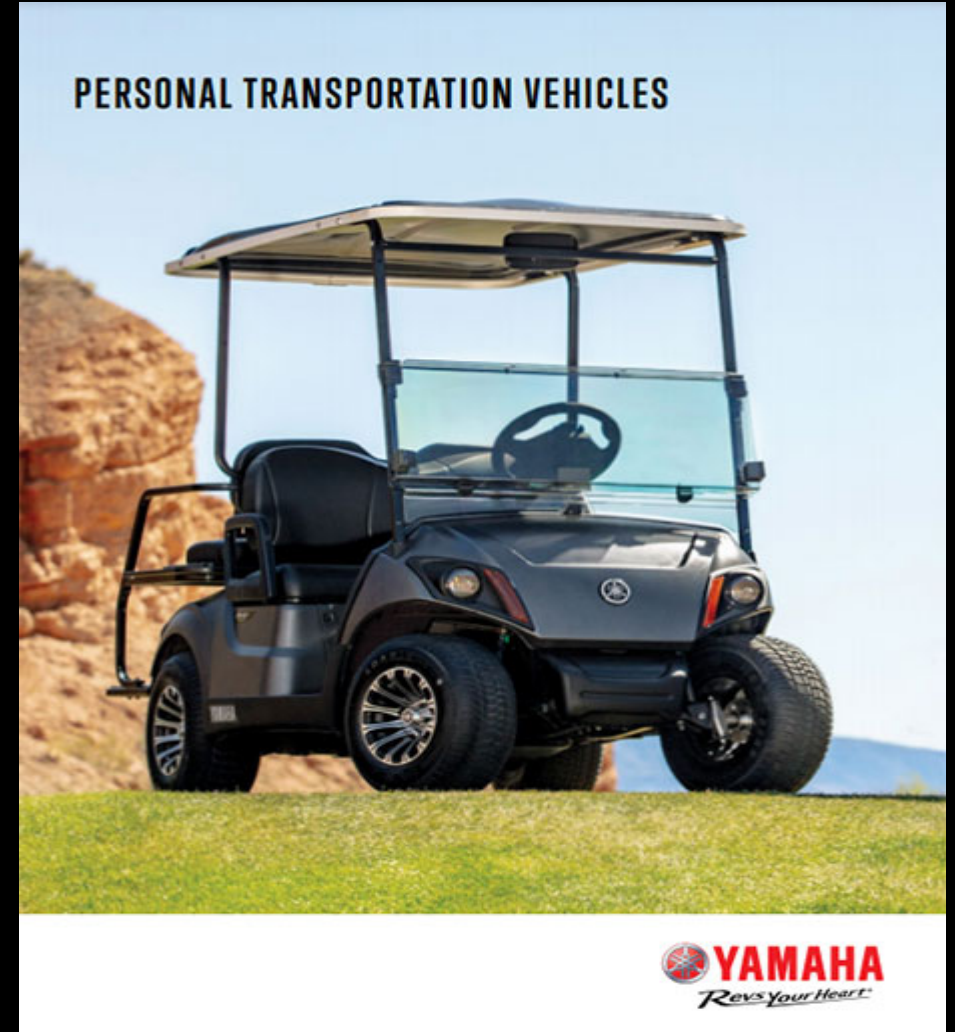


Golf Carts

Golf Cart (Also known as PTV) means any motor vehicle:

- With a minimum of four wheels;
- Capable of a maximum level ground speed of less than 20 miles per hour;
- With a maximum gross vehicle weight, un-laded or empty weight, of 1,375 pounds; and
- Capable of transporting not more than eight persons.

The term does not include any mobility aids, including power wheelchairs and scooters, which can be used indoors and outdoors for the express purpose of enabling mobility for a person with a disability. The term also does not include any all-terrain vehicle, which means any motorized vehicles designed for off-road use which is equipped with three or more low pressure tires and with a seat to be straddled by the operator with handle-bars for steering control



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O.C.G.A 40-6-331. Designated areas of operation; PTV licensing requirements and operating standards; signage; use by a commercial delivery company.

(a) A local authority may, by ordinance, designate certain public streets or portions thereof or PTV paths that are under its regulation and control for the combined use of PTVs and regular vehicular traffic or the use of PTVs and no other types of motor vehicles and establish the conditions under which PTVs may be operated upon such streets or portions thereof or PTV paths, including without limitation the conditions under which a person may operate PTVs on such designated streets or portions thereof or PTV paths. All operators of PTVs shall be required to possess a valid driver's license except when operating a PTV within a locality whose local authority has enacted an ordinance permitting the use of PTVs or motorized carts on streets without possession of a driver's license prior to January 1, 2012.

(b) Local authority ordinances may establish operating standards but shall not require PTVs to meet any requirements of general law as to registration, inspection, certificate of title, or licensing; provided, however, that a local authority may, by ordinance, require the local registration and licensing of PTVs operated within its boundaries at least once every five years for a fee not to exceed \$15.00. No local authority shall be liable for losses that result from exercising or not exercising inspection powers or functions, including failure to make an inspection or making an inadequate or negligent inspection of a PTV. The provisions of this subsection and the authority granted by this subsection shall not apply to PTVs owned by golf courses, country clubs, or other such organized entities which own such PTVs and make them available to or for use by members or the public on a rental or licensed basis, provided that such PTVs are used only on the premises of such golf courses, country clubs, or other such organized entities.

(c) Each local authority permitting the use of PTVs upon the public streets within its jurisdiction shall erect signs on every highway which comprises a part of the state highway system at that point on the highway which intersects the corporate limits of the municipality or boundaries of the county. Such signs shall be at least 24 by 30 inches in area and shall warn approaching motorists that PTVs are authorized for use on public streets. All costs associated with such signs shall be funded entirely by the local authority. Ordinances establishing operating standards for PTVs shall not be effective unless appropriate signs giving notice are posted as required by this subsection.

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d)

(1) In jurisdictions where PTVs are permitted or otherwise allowed by state law, PTVs may cross streets and highways that are part of the state highway system only at crossings or intersections designated for that purpose and which are constructed as an active grade crossing in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. PTV crossings shall be indicated by warning sign W11-11 of the Standard Highway Signs and be clearly visible in both directions by vehicles traversing the highway which is being crossed or intersected by PTVs.

(2) PTVs may cross streets and highways that are part of a municipal street system or county road system and used by other types of motor vehicles only at crossings or intersections designated for that purpose by the local authority having jurisdiction over such system.

(e)

(1) Regardless of whether a local ordinance has been approved regarding the use of PTVs, delivery personnel for a commercial delivery company which has at least 10,000 persons employed in this state may operate PTVs within a residential subdivision with speed limits of 25 miles per hour or less, provided that any PTV utilized by a commercial delivery company shall:

(A) Include the equipment required in subsection (a) of Code Section 40-6-330.1;

(B) Be marked in a conspicuous manner with the name of the commercial delivery company;

(C) Be operated by a person with a valid driver's license; and

(D) Be utilized only for the delivery of envelopes and packages with a maximum size of 130 inches for the combined length and girth and with a weight no greater than 150 pounds per package.

(2) Any commercial delivery company utilizing PTVs under this subsection shall remit a \$50.00 fee every five years to each local authority where a PTV is operated along with a signed statement that such commercial delivery company operates PTVs within the jurisdiction of such local authority.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any person operating a PTV under this subsection shall be granted all the rights and shall be subject to all the duties applicable to a driver of any other vehicle under this chapter; provided, however that subsection (b) of Code Section 40-6-315 shall not be applicable to the operator of a PTV under this subsection.

(4) Any PTV authorized to operate pursuant to this subsection shall not pull multiple trailers. Such PTVs shall be limited to pulling one trailer or cargo platform and be limited to hauling weight no greater than the carrying capacity of the PTV as determined by the manufacturer.

Golf Carts

The Differences Between Golf Carts and LSVs Under Georgia Law

Georgia law, O.C.G.A 40-6-331

Municipalities have the option to pass an ordinance in order to allow golf carts to ride on the roads. In addition, golf carts must include the following...

Golf Carts Must:

- Have a system for braking to handle the total weight of passengers riding
- Include a device for “reverse warning”
- Have tail lamps
- Include a horn and restraints for hips
- Must have a gross weight under 1,300 pounds
- Must not be able to reach speeds over 20 mph
- Feature a windshield, turn indicators, braking lights and headlights if operated between sunset and sunrise
- Yield right of way to all non-golf-cart-using parties (pedestrians and bicycles)

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Low Speed Vehicles Must:

- Be capable of reaching speeds between 20 and 25 mph
- Include rear and front turn indicators
- Have headlamps
- Have a VIN (vehicle ID number)
- Include a driver-side exterior mirror
- Include an outside or inside mirror on the passenger side
- Have at least three reflex reflectors (one on rear and one on each side)
- Have stopping lamps as well as tail lamps
- Include a windshield and a parking brake
- Have seat belts for every seat
- Never be used on any road with a posted speed limit over 35 mph

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Low Speed Vehicle Laws in Georgia

- Georgia LSV drivers must be 16 or older and hold a valid state-issued driver's license. LSV drivers must carry a license with them while operating the vehicle. Finally, the vehicle must be registered in the state and insurance must include liability coverage for property damage and personal injury.
- LSVs are prohibited from operation on roads after sunset. All drivers must carry their license and proof of insurance while driving the LSV, not have any alcoholic beverages in the vehicle, not drive under the influence of alcohol, and must obey all the laws that standard-size motor vehicles are subject to. When any passenger or the driver is involved in an at-fault accident, the driver is the liable party for any injuries that result.

Golf Cart Laws in Georgia

- To drive a golf cart alone, a person must have a driver's license or a valid permit.
- Golf carts are not to be operated after dark unless they are equipped with the required nighttime equipment (windshield, turn indicators, brake lights and headlights). No alcohol can be carried in the golf cart if it is on a public roadway. The licensed driver/operator or the licensed driver/operator accompanying a youth must have the license available for inspection if stopped by law enforcement personnel.
- When a non-licensed driver operates a golf cart and is accompanied by a licensed driver, the licensed driver is the responsible, liable party in the event of an accident.