



LOSS CONTROL BULLETIN



Another loss prevention service from Bollinger, Inc. www.BollingerInsurance.com

Golf Cart Storage #104

Golf carts are an important source of revenue as well as being critical to efficient club operations. Imagine your club without the carts – inconvenienced member/patrons, cancelled outings, lost revenue, etc. Every year some clubs lose all or part of their golf cart fleet because of fire or theft. Could this happen to your club, or is your club properly protecting one of its most important resources?

Precautions for golf cart storage and protection are simple:

- Protect them from theft and vandalism
- Protect them from fire and explosions

Theft and Vandalism Protection

- Store golf carts in a secure building
- If a storage building is not available use heavy gauge chains and padlocks to link carts together.
- Install security lighting
- Use security cameras with recording devices to monitor storage areas
- Equip inside or outside storage areas with burglar alarms systems
- Do not leave keys in carts when they are in storage.
- Lock keys overnight in a separate building or at least in a secure cabinet, preferably out of sight, in the cart storage facility.

Fire & Explosion Protection

Gasoline and electrically powered golf carts both present significant explosion and fire hazards. Gasoline vapors are heavier than air and will creep along the floor or ground in enclosed areas, sometimes for great distances. If they encounter an ignition source such as an electric arc from a refrigerator, water cooler, pilot light or a dropped cigarette, an explosion or fire could result. Similarly, battery operated carts produce hydrogen gas during recharging operations. Hydrogen is lighter than air and is highly volatile.

The following precautions should be observed:

- For inside storage areas mechanical ventilation should be provided. Ventilation systems should be designed to provide a minimum of four complete air exchanges each hour.
- All electrical wiring and motors in the storage areas should be installed in accordance with the National Electric Code, NFPA 70, and following specifications for Flammable and Explosive Vapors sections.
- All battery chargers should be properly grounded.
- All wiring should be inspected frequently for broken or worn insulation, loose connections, overheated breakers or damaged receptacle boxes or covers.
- Good housekeeping is a must. The cart storage facility should be kept clean. No other storage of any flammable or combustible materials should be allowed in the cart storage areas.
- “No Smoking” signs should be posted in the cart storage areas. This rule should be rigidly enforced.
- Consider the installation of an automatic sprinkler system, smoke and/or a heat detection system with central station supervision.
- Use only UL Listed , Type II (has attached flexible dispensing nozzle) flammable liquid containers for refueling gasoline powered carts or other gasoline powered equipment.

Photos – Retain the two photos in existing bulletin but change the wording under the second photo to this:

A fire loss in the cart storage and maintenance building. There was no separation of hazards. Operations included flammable and combustible liquids storage in unapproved containers, welding, general maintenance operations and cart storage in the same building.