

Transitioning to the new Scotland Island Traffic Management Plan requiring all vehicles to have a Scotland Island Access Permit.

In typical fashion the initial information that came from council was poor, unclear, and confusing so my initial reaction was, we'll just get another old car! But that thought passed quickly remembering how much of a pain using a car on the Island was, nowhere to park it, limited places to turn around, always having to back up when met by another car coming the other way. We just don't need another vehicle that large nor can the Island cope with it.

So being a Golf Buggy owner and user as well as a SIRA committee member it was important that I understood what all this means to us because we want to be able to continue to use our Golf Buggy as our legitimate means of transport so here's my take on things after a few meetings and what it means for us regarding upgrading our Golf Buggy. My experience to date:

We own a 2005 Club Car Precedent Golf Buggy Gas (Petrol) that's a 15-year-old Golf Cart.

Note: it's important to know your vehicle i.e., brand model year gas or electric when looking for aftermarket parts and kits.

The things we needed to add to upgrade our 15-year-old Club Car to a Road legal Golf Buggy are:

- 1) **Unique ignition key**, (Uncommon key) to stop anyone starting and driving our buggy, ours has been stolen twice so this is a great upgrade.
Purchased on Amazon and shipped from the US, cost \$ 50.00 and took 5-10 minutes to fit.
- 2) **Side and rear vision Mirrors**,
Purchased on Amazon and shipped from the US, cost \$55.00 and took 15 minutes to fit.
- 3) **Golf Cart Lap Sash Seat belts**, makes passengers feel safer when sitting on the back going up a hill.
Purchased a 4-seater retractable seatbelt kit on Amazon and shipped from the US, cost \$159.00 less than 30 minutes to install.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFe7pvMV_tY&t=3s
- 4) **Street legal light kit including brake lights, indicators, and a horn.**
Already had the lights and just needed the brake switch and indicators but opted to update to a completely new LED light kit as it wasn't that much more.
Purchased on eBay and shipped from the US, cost \$361 expecting to take less than 1 hour to install.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ajbPOappVd8&t=5s>
- 5) **Now the big one, 4 Wheel Brakes with independent emergency brake (hand brake)**
It appears that the existing foot mechanical park brake will be accepted as there isn't an aftermarket Hand Brake option that I can find anywhere.

Regarding 4-wheel brakes, like most of us this means a front brake kit.

Will be purchasing online but currently out of stock for 2 months for our model Golf Cart, expected cost around \$1000 and 1-2 hours to self-install.

<https://cart-accessories.everythingcarts.com/carts/Club-Car-Front-Brakes>

Important to note:

Fitting these after-market front brakes requires a minimum of a 10" wheel with a straight bell on the inside of the wheel rim to accommodate the braking system.

Most standard Golf Carts including ours have an 8" wheel so upgrading wheel size for us was also required. (I have seen new 10" wheel and tyre packages for \$650 locally)

We are able to upgrade ours to 12" wheels with-out the need to raise / lift the golfcart.

Already had the rims so only needed new road going tyres which was required anyway.

This is a front disc brake YouTube install video for a Yamaha G16-G22 but similar for our Club Car.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJ75FNHzUNw>

- 6) **Regarding Roll Over Protection.** It appears that the standard roll over protection fitted on Golf Carts will be deemed OK providing it is structurally sound.
- 7) **Regarding Instrument cluster showing speed.** As Golf Buggies are speed limited and there isn't an aftermarket speedo available this may be overlooked for existing buggies.
- 8) **Windscreen, Automotive grade Perspex?** Still looking into what this means but yes it appears a better grade of windscreen will need to be fitted.

All up our cost will be around \$2,200 including the larger tyres and self-installed thanks to YouTube! (YouTube is your friend here) but still pending the Windscreen cost.

Your cost maybe less or more depending on what your Golf Cart already has fitted and what you can install your self or what you will need to have installed for you.

Considering the original cost of our second-hand Golf Buggy was \$3500 and now plus this \$2200 upgrade is it worth it? Well, I think Yes because we didn't have a road going street legal Golf Buggy that was safe to be used on our roads which are also shared with pedestrians, so we'll feel much better having registration and CTP Green slip coverage in the event of any accident.

To buy a new Road Legal Golf Cart prices seem to start at around \$12,000 for a cheaper brand and shoot up from there.

This is only my experience after doing the research, thanks to google and YouTube, you may be able to find most items locally also but may pay more for them.

Cheers Brian Rodgers.

