

Manual configuration

Rear steering wheelchairs, such as this one, can veer quickly to one side and may tip the occupant out if the pusher does not maintain steering control. This can happen at speed (above 5km/hr) on downhill slopes (such as ramps) or if the wheelchair is propelled at speed (above 5km/hr) unattended. In these situations, if the wheels hit a bump or the occupant lurches to one side, the wheelchair can spin around quickly and tip sideways.

You wouldn't ride a push bike over rough ground with your hands off the handle bars, so treat this wheelchair in a similar manner and maintain a hand on the pushing handle at all times.

Never let this wheelchair free-wheel

- Always maintain steering control of the wheelchair by keeping at least one hand on the pushing handles.
- Always be aware of the comfort of the occupant and adjust your speed and the path you are taking accordingly.
- Use seat belt if the occupant feels they need one (making them feel more secure and relaxed) or if the steepness and roughness of the terrain is likely to result in the occupant falling out without a seat belt.
- Use the genuine anti-tipping bars (front and or rear) to prevent the wheelchair tipping forward or backward on steep or rough terrain.
- Use a headrest to support the occupants head if required.
- When descending or ascending hills with uneven or slippery surfaces ensure the attendant has good footwear to ensure sufficient grip and use the attendant operated brake to control the rate of descent.
- Always maintain the wheelchair to ensure correct operations of all components (brakes, pushing handle locks etc).

Powered configuration

- Always be aware of the safety and stability of the wheelchair and adjust your speed and the path you are taking accordingly.
- Use a seat belt if the driver feels they need one (making them feel more secure and relaxed) or if the steepness and roughness of the terrain is likely to result in the driver falling out if the seat belt isn't used.
- Use the genuine anti-tipping bars (front and or rear) to prevent the wheelchair tipping forward or backward on steep or rough terrain.
- Use a headrest to support the occupants head if required.
- Take into account the terrain (sandy, muddy, hills and roughness) when assessing how far to travel. The distance travelled on a fully charged battery varies significantly depending on the terrain (less than 6km for very steep hills). Take a spare battery or someone who is capable of pushing the wheelchair and occupant over the expected terrain.
- Always maintain the wheelchair to ensure correct operation of all components (brakes, pushing handle locks etc).

All configurations

Take spare clothing to allow for changes in weather. Sitting relatively immobile in the wheelchair can be a chilling experience after half an hour in wind and rain. Sun hats, sun umbrellas and sunscreen are a must in sunny conditions.

Take water and food to keep hydrated and happy, particularly in hot conditions.

If the attendant is taking a person out they are not familiar with it may be useful to use the check sheet to assist in preparation (check sheet attached).