Standard Conditions for a Private Hire Car Driver Licence

1. The driver of a private hire car shall at all times, while he is in charge of a private hire car as such, have with him the private hire car driver's licence or such other means of identification issued by South Ayrshire Council and he shall exhibit such licence or identification on demand, to any passenger, constable or authorised officer of South Ayrshire Council. The identification issued by South Ayrshire Council shall include the driver's name, a recent photograph showing his true likeness and the date on which the licence expires.

2. The driver of a private hire car shall undertake and pass an approved training course within a period of six months from the date of issue of this licence. For this purpose the training course is being delivered by Ayr College who are contactable on 0800 199798. Any application for exemption from this condition should be submitted in writing and will be considered by an Independent Committee or Sub-Committee of the Council.

3. The driver of a private hire car which has been hired may not, under any circumstances, pick up or convey another passenger without the consent of the original hirer or passenger(s).

4. The driver of a private hire car shall not at any time convey in the private hire car more than the number of passengers the private hire car is licensed to carry.

5. The driver of a private hire car which has been hired on exclusive hire shall drive to the destination by the shortest practicable route unless otherwise instructed by the hirer. The driver of a private hire car which has been hired on shared hire shall take the shortest practical route which will serve the destinations of all the passengers whom he is carrying at any one time.

6. The driver of a private hire car, shall, unless the cost of the journey is regulated by the South Ayrshire Council fare structure, inform the hirer or passenger before the journey commences (a) that the fare is not so regulated; and (b) the cost, or the method of calculating the cost, of the proposed journey, and further that at the completion of the journey exact or demand no more than the fare so agreed upon.

7. The driver of a private hire car shall ensure that a taximeter fitted in the private hire car in his charge shall be operated at all times, within the licensed area, in accordance with the detailed requirements imposed by South Ayrshire Council.

8. The driver of a private hire car shall from time to time, and at least once in each day in which he uses the vehicle, inspect the seals on any taximeter fitted in the vehicle to ensure that they are intact. On discovering that the seals on any taximeter fitted to the vehicle have become broken or damaged, or that the taximeter has ceased to function correctly, the driver of a private hire car shall immediately withdraw the vehicle from service.
9. The driver of a private hire car need not convey any hirer or passenger who is drunk or otherwise not in a fit and proper state to be carried, or whose condition or clothing is offensive or likely to cause damage to the interior of the private hire car, or is accompanied by any animal which is likely to damage or soil the interior of the private hire car, or for any other reasonable excuse.

10. The driver of a private hire car, while he is in charge of his private hire car, shall not canvass or importune in any public place or street for employment.

11. The driver of a private hire car shall not refuse to carry luggage in his private hire car providing that the said luggage can be accommodated safely within the luggage compartment of the private hire car.

12. The driver of a private hire car shall give such assistance as he is able to give with loading and unloading luggage when required to do so but he shall not be required to leave the immediate proximity of the private hire car in doing so.

13. The driver of a private hire car, at the end of his shift, shall search the private hire car of which he is in charge for any property which may have been left therein. Any property found by the driver shall, within 24 hours, be returned to the owner of the property if known or such property shall be handed in by the driver to any Police Station.

14. The driver of a private hire car, while carrying a passenger, shall be clean and tidy in his person and clothing, shall conduct himself in a proper and civil manner.

15. The driver of a private hire car shall not knowingly allow the private hire car in his charge to be used for illegal or immoral purposes, permit to be carried in the private hire car in his charge any article of a dirty, filthy or noxious nature or an explosive or dangerous nature, or permit to be carried in the private hire car in his charge any person who has vermin on his person.

16. The driver of a private hire car shall ensure that the private hire car, including all bodywork, upholstery and fittings, is in a safe and serviceable condition and, subject to prevailing road conditions, is in a clean condition.

17. Where there is a material change of circumstances affecting the licence holder, or the activity to which the licence relates, the licence holder must notify South Ayrshire Council of the change as soon as reasonably practicable after it has taken place.

18. The licence holder shall deliver this licence document to South Ayrshire Council where the licence relates to an activity which he/she has given up or has had suspended/revoked and that within seven days of the said surrender/suspension/revocation.

19. In the conditions:

"exclusive", as applied to the hire of a private hire car, means that a single fare is payable by any one passenger, whether or not more than one passenger is carried; and "exclusive hire" shall be construed accordingly; and
"shared", as applied to the hire of a private hire car, means that each passenger is carried at a separate fare, payable to the driver; and "shared hire" shall be construed accordingly.

20. Where the private hire car vehicle has been hired (a) by or for a disabled person who is accompanied by a guide dog, hearing dog or an assistance dog of that person; or (b) by a person who wishes such a disabled person to accompany that person in the private hire car vehicle, the driver of the private hire car vehicle shall carry the disabled person's dog and allow it to remain with the disabled person and shall not make any additional charge for doing so.

21. The driver of a private hire car shall be bound to fulfil, or cause to be fulfilled at the time and location specified, an engagement to hire his private hire car which he has accepted, unless prevented by sufficient cause.