



# GREENS REPORT

February 2019



**Prepared By:**

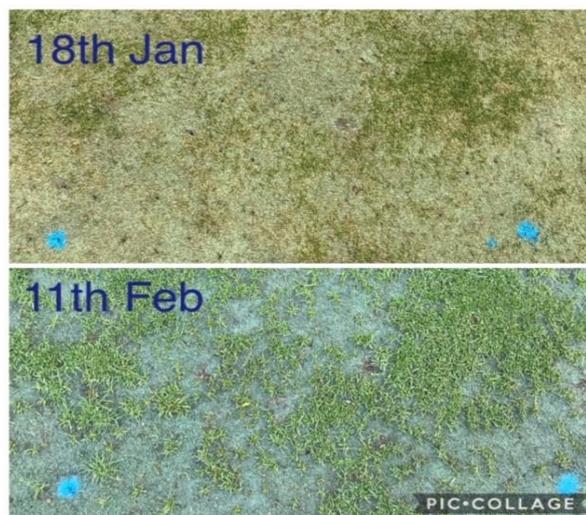
*Justin Bradbury*  
*Course Superintendent*

- As reported recently, the greens have battled the weather conditions over summer. The recent week of cool overnight temperatures has been a nice relief for the cool season surfaces of the greens.
- Height of cut on the greens remains at 4mm on majority of greens. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> are currently being walk mowed at 6mm to assist with stress and recovery. This will continue until mid-March
- Greens nutrition and wetting agent program has been adjusted to assist with promotion of the more desirable bent grass species. Less water is being put out on greens now the weather has been favourable.
- Greens are being mowed as needed. On days that greens are not mowed; the dew is removed, and debris blown off the surface.
- Additional preventative fungicide applications have been made to prevent any secondary decline in the greens
- Potassium and Magnesium soil amendments applied to all greens (23/1); Gypsum application to all greens (6/2)
- 2x Tupersan (herbicide) applications to 13A green for Kikuyu and undesirable grasses. This green will be heavily renovated and seeded (11/3)
- Tree root found in middle of 6<sup>th</sup> green. Root was removed and area plugged out. (see picture below)
- Greens needle tined (8mm solid) and rolled (18/2)

*Tree root in 6<sup>th</sup> green and needle tined surface...*



- Green was moved to a temporary Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January. It has now been 5 weeks since that time and significant improvement is being seen, particularly in the last 7-10 days with overnight temperatures being consistently below 20 degrees.
- Green is being walk mowed at 6mm two times a week.
- Green was needle tined, inter seeded and rolled (23/1) Successful germination of seed identified Friday February 1<sup>st</sup>
- A foliar fertiliser is being applied on a weekly basis to assist new seedling development and maturation along with recovery of surviving grass.
- Needle tined, seeded and rolled (18/2)
- A light dusting will be applied to the green by hand next week sometime (25/2-1/3). This will be then done every 2 weeks until reopening to assist the new plants to grow laterally.
- Ongoing growth will be monitored and grow in principles applied regarding the height of cut.
- The type of renovation that this green will receive in March is still to be determined and be decided according to the progress of the green at the time and maturation of young seedlings and bent grass plants.
- 7<sup>th</sup> temporary green is walk mowed at 6mm 3-4 times a week along with being rolled at least once.
- Picture below shows some minor progress in the early stages when conditions were at the most extreme, minimal days under 30 degrees and night time temps consistently above 20 degrees.



- It would be greatly appreciated if members could not walk on the green. It is important that traffic be kept to a minimum so that the green has the best chance of recovering in a timely manner. There have been some ball marks on the green which is slightly concerning.

- Work has been recently carried out on the 9<sup>th</sup> hole in order to finalise completion of the hole.
- Two additional irrigation heads have been installed alongside the cart path. This will now ensure that the left rough is adequately irrigated. Two trenches were dug and new pipe and wiring along with the irrigation heads were installed (29/1-31/1).
- An 80/20 mix soil underlay was spread along the left side of the hole to prepare the area for new turf. Soil was bunker biked and levelled in readiness for turfing.
- 500 square metres of couch turf was laid between the existing rough and cart path (4/2). Turf was then fertilised and irrigated heavily.
- Remaining thin areas have been aerovated, levelled and top-dressed. An organic fertiliser has also been applied. Ongoing watering of these areas is being carried out in order to have a successful grow in of the area
- The cart path edge and beginning of the fairway have been roped off. It is important that no carts drive over the new turf as it is considerably soft due to the volume of water required in the first couple of weeks of establishment.
- Once there is good root establishment and evident leaf growth the couch will be mowed. It is important to get a mower on the couch as soon as possible during the grow in phase.
- This area will be compulsory GUR until advised otherwise



## TEES

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- Growth on tees has slowed a little due to a week of cooler overnight temperatures
- Tees and surrounds being mowed twice a week.
- Tee plates repositioned on tee tops and edged as required

## FAIRWAYS

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- Insecticide and water penetrant application done to all fairways (6/2)
- Foliar fertiliser and growth regulator application to all fairways (11 & 12/2)
- All fairway sprinkler heads trimmed as part of monthly maintenance

## BUNKERS

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- Growth regulator and foliar fertiliser application completed on all bunker lips to assist in presentation of bunkers (13 & 15/2)
- Bunkers edged, blown out and bases levelled (18/2)

*Bunker maintenance and presentation...*



## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

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- Glyphosate application carried out by sub-contractor (Total Turf Management) across the golf course to tree bases, mulch areas, garden beds & hazards (30/1 & 6/2)
- Irrigation main line break (28/1) on right side of 1<sup>st</sup> Fairway. No irrigation for 36 hours. Contractor repaired in a timely manner, as previously reported.
- Minor irrigation leak on left side of 8<sup>th</sup> fairway. This is not impacting our ability to use the system, but a repair will be made once the demands on the system are less as we could be without water for 2-3 days to carry out the repair. This area is GUR.
- Tapping saddle on irrigation line was repaired (14/2) on right of 7<sup>th</sup> hole. This did not impact our use of the system as it was a repair that was undertaken over a couple of hours during the day.
- Blue cart lines implemented on approaches and green surrounds. This is to reduce the wear and tear up close to the green's surfaces.



- It is slightly concerning to see how some golfers are entering and exiting bunkers. Not only is it a safety issue but the green staff are putting a good amount of time and effort into bunker maintenance. (picture below)

## *Irrigation leaks and poor bunker etiquette...*



## **UPCOMING PLANS**

- Greens renovations beginning Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March: 1<sup>st</sup> tee will close at 2pm. Any social play will be off the 10<sup>th</sup> tee after 2pm. We will endeavour to core 5-6 greens and clean up on the Sunday evening. This will give us a head start on the process.
- Greens will be hollow cored; amendments applied based on soil tests and recommendations; heavy topdress with washed sand; sand allowed to dry before rubbing in; greens will be fertilised 2-3 days after final rub in. A dusting will then be carried out 7-10 days after renovations as a follow up.
- Chipping green will be closed on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March. We will core this green, the 19<sup>th</sup> green and nurseries a week before the greens proper. This provides an opportunity to iron out the kinks and be well prepared for later in the week.
- Ongoing grow in of new turf on 9<sup>th</sup> hole
- Superintendent would like to propose to the greens committee that the spring greens renovations be moved from August to early November. I believe this to be a more suitable time for the climate of our area and better prepare the greens for what is always the inevitable stresses of the summer months. For further discussion.