

Greens Report
August 2024

The last month has really been spent keeping up with our cutting regime, maintaining the course and presenting it the best we can. It's been an extremely busy month, golf wise with 4 weeks of home team games back to back to close the season out. May I also add, well done to Captain Davy Pither and all the team players on such a good result. It was a nail biter! Well done to all involved ! We had the John Clark Memorial Day with over 180 entries, with great feedback. We also hosted the Seniors Open, which again saw over 130 entries and again with good feedback.

The weather has been decent, which has allowed us, with minimum disruption to continue with the processes we need to carry out, it's just been difficult at times finding a window of opportunity between big fixtures.

	June 24	June 23	July 24	July 23
Rainfall	48mm	27mm	148mm	156mm
Buggies Off	1 day	0 days	1 day	1 day
Course Closed	0 days	0 days	1 day	1 day

We have continued to do our monthly liquid feeds, with the last one adding liquid iron to help with the moss reduction. We have continued to sarel roll and 6mm tine the greens, along with power brushing to remove the dead matter, this again helps to breakdown the moss content.

We have also had the verti-cut units on the higher content greens (1st, 7th, 8th, 9th, 17th) with more to follow for a general verti-cut to thin out the matted grasses and allow better water and feed penetration into the soil profile. The moss is regressing nicely but as mentioned, this is an ongoing process, but hopefully with a better autumn and winter we can carry out more aeration, especially on areas required, whereas last winter was just nearly impossible due to the wet weather.

Some of the extra tasks done last month was weed, edge and rotavate the bunkers. Trimmed around the tee distance markers (inset white, yellow and red on the tee tops). Washed and wiped the wooden tee info markers as they were covered in bird muck. Trimmed greens pop ups along with all the plastic hydrant boxes. The brash around the flat had encroached the whole wall and was showing signs of causing damp damage. We cut it all back away from the building and cleaned out the gutters as they also were full, allowing water to sit on the flat roof and not drain away.

I have sprayed all the tees, intermediate and greens with wetting agent and seaweed, this will improve root and plant development and water penetration into the soil profile.

At the start of the year we had issues of grass lying, but unfortunately there was very little we could do about it. Once things dried out and allowed regular cutting, then this wouldn't have been an issue. But not getting any sequence of consecutive dry days, it just made it a continual nightmare. I managed to get a demonstration tractor mounted blower to help remove all the clippings. As you all know leaves are a problem also in autumn. So this blower would be a good investment for both tasks, not only been more productive, it saves massively on costs and man power. So with that in mind the club purchased the demo machine and I'm pleased to say we took delivery of it early July.

I would like to thank the directors for the purchase of this machine, it's a great bit of equipment to help us move forward.

Again I'd like to thank both members and Directors for the continual support.

Its been a little disappointing this year with the volunteer uptake. In the past we had several people divotting fairways in their spare time, which was greatly appreciated. The Development Committee asked for a list of things that people could possibly help with a few suggestions were:

- divotting fairway
- Cleaning Buggies
- Trim tee markers discs
- Cleaning advertising boards (around car park)

Final note, just a reminder to everyone that the first week in September will see our annual greens maintenance begin. Weather permitting this will be carried out within the week. I have hired in a deep scarifier (same as last year)

- The greens will be solid tined with 5/8" tines at approx 4-5" depth
- The Sisis scarifier will do a double pass approx 1/4"
- Top dressing applied

Can we ask members to give greens staff priority as we need to get this done as quickly and efficiently as possible. If we are working on a green please go to the next hole.

Thanks once again

Regards David and the team