

Greens Report March 2025

Since the last report, the weather has been remarkably decent. We were still having cold overnight temperatures but the daytime temperature increased. The first week of March seen temperatures into double figures, but generally the dry period has allowed us to progress with essential course work.

With the weather being decent, we eventually were able to get the greens sprayed. This is the first time in over 7 weeks the weather has allowed us to do this. Over that time period we've battled with frosts or strong winds. But we got a liquid feed of 4-0-4+4fe (basic nitrogen feed with iron) along with some extra Go Green (liquid iron) to help with the moss. Straight after we applied this, we then went on to follow up with a spray tank of wetting agent and seaweed. Unfortunately, these products aren't compatible to mix together, hence the 2 sprays, but regardless we got it done. The response from the feed and the iron was just what we required.

The following day, the reaction to the moss from the iron was visible and the decision was made to follow up immediately with the verti-cut units to rip out the surface organic matter and to help reduce the moss. All the greens were done, apart from 3rd, 16th and 11th greens, due to them being too soft. On average, we removed one full Kubota back to every 3 greens.

We have also hollow cored the back third of the 1st green, we used 5/8th tines to a depth of 3.5" (90mm). This again is in aid of reducing the moss content. All the 7th, 8th and 17th and back part of 18th has been tined. The hollow cored areas on 17 and 18 have been dressed by hand. The weather then turned, with snow and frost, but looking at the forecast, the remaining greens 7th 8th and back of the first, will be completed with dressing Monday, Tuesday this coming week.

In summary, the greens have been sarel rolled and power brushed, once again to keep up with our aeration programme. The greens were also cut last week with the Toro 3400 triple mower, to a height of 5mm. With all the greens being solid tined, then a selected few hollow cored, they have all been verti-cut, they will all be solid spiked again at 1/2" (7-8 mm). Once this process is done, all the greens will get a light dressing, in preparation for our spring granular fertiliser application.

All the tee box areas have been slit, with Sisis deep tine splitter. This was then followed up by topping them off with the hand mowers. The height wasn't too aggressive, it was more so to tidy the areas up. Upon the next cut, we will lower the height, ever so slightly, again in preparation for the spring application of granular fertiliser.

At the end of the season, when we moved the par 3 tees off a little earlier than the rest, this was to allow to spike and dress, too aid recovery. The 14th, due to the amount of moles, has had a few issues where the mole runs have collapsed underground, resulting in some hollows. So we have hollow cored the 14th again in preparation to apply soil and seed, true lute the area to help level the surface.

A general course tidy and litter pick has been carried out. We have also litter picked the path down to the 1st tee, edged the sleepers at the garden, tidied the driving net, wire brushed the patio area at the 1st to remove weed. Just before the season, we will jet wash the whole area.

While on about rubbish, we have re-sited the bin and ball washer at 16th tee. The bin was on an angle at the rear of the tee, it's been removed and repositioned at the steps. A new bin and post has been situated at the path, to the rear of the 18th medal tee. This is an area we feel a number of bottles and rubbish has been found in the bushes.

All course seats have been put back out on the course, all the seat plinths have been tidied. All the sleeper steps have been wire brushed, brushed and edged off, along with the removal of any weeds.

Finally, once again the excessive amount of pitch marks on the putting surface is terrible. Could we please remind the responsibility of members and visitors to repair them. If every player repaired their own and one other, then this problem vanishes. Just some facts and figures, if a pitch mark that is repaired properly within minutes of it happening, it will start to recover within 24 hrs. Pitch marks that are repaired after 24hrs can take up to 21 days just to start the recovery process of root regrowth and can up to 60 days to repair. This is a simple 10 second task that will benefit the course massively.

Key Course Stats

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