Greens Committee Member's Update

October 2024

Winter Drainage

Overview

Last winter's wet conditions resulted in many course restrictions and closures. The main areas worst affected by the wet conditions were the 9th (fairway & green) and 10th fairway, this resulted in the 8th, 9th and 10th holes being closed on numerous occasions. We have focussed much of our winter plan on trying to rectify and improve these areas and hopefully offer the membership more and an improved winter golf experience. A trencher has been purchased by the club specifically for this type of drainage work.

9th Hole

Work has already started on the 9th with a drain dug on the approach to the 9th green.

Pipe has been laid, back filled and turfed, this turf stands proud but will sink, the area left of the new bunker will be reworked and seeded. Early signs of water flow within this drain are encouraging and hopefully this will reduce the amount of water reaching the green.

A fairway drain is planned for the 9th running left to right located approximately below the ridge on the fairway joining into the ditch. Soil excavated will be used to construct a new temporary green positioned on the left beyond the plateau, hopefully this will cure the problem of the temporary green placement previously on the fairway.

10th Hole

Drainage is also planned for the 10th fairway. Plans are currently being formed to decide positioning and format etc. These areas will be turfed and not seeded for maximum recovery. A winter tee will also be constructed on the 10th offering a par 3 alternative when conditions dictate.

8th Hole

The bottom right side of the 8th fairway and semi-rough may also be drained depending on sufficient time as the 9th and 10th holes are our priority.

Winter Greens and Tees

Temporary Greens

We appreciate that the membership will encounter hole closures and temporary greens whilst drainage work is being carried out, but this is necessary, and your patience is appreciated. Temporary Greens have been marked and are being prepared, they are treated as GUR with mandatory drop.

Winter Tees

The 4th tee will have a portable mat installed for day-to-day golf with the grass section being saved for weekend or competition golf.

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Course Protection

Protecting the Course
The Greens Committee and Greens Staff understand the importance of offering the membership winter golf but to help reach a sensible balance we ask the members to play their part.

Please carry if you are able, if you do use a trolley, please respect the ropes and directions to ease wear, this year we have seen more golfers taking trollies inside green side bunkers on or close to aprons, please take a route outside these areas.

There is no doubt that at points this winter we will see wet weather and these conditions will test our course and Greens Staff, but we / they will try to offer the members the best possible winter course.

Heavy Traffic Areas
Heavy traffic areas will be protected by roping with and additional posts have been purchased along with additional signage.

Heavy traffic areas for trollies and buggies around tee approaches will be protected with trolley parks.

Winter Restrictions

Guide to Restrictions and Closures
This winter, the club will adopt the following arrangements for winter golf subject to conditions:

- **Course Open** – No restrictions to trollies or buggies

- **Course Open with Restrictions** – Buggies and trollies may be banned except for medical certificate holders or, on a trial basis, trolly users over the age of 70. There may be temporary greens or hole closures.

- **Course Open, Carry Only** – Buggies & trollies banned, there may be temporary greens or hole closures. This will be applied when normally the course would be closed but carry only will be allowed.

- **Course Closed** – Course closed to all play.

The club website will be updated daily by the green staff once the course conditions have been assessed.

We hope this will clarify the conditions and golf available throughout the winter period.