

Course Maintenance Programme - Tuesday 6th to Thursday 15th September 2016

It's approaching that time of the year again when we undertake our Annual Course Maintenance programme and the details are included below. We hope you agree that the quality of the greens has significantly improved over the last few years and this work is essential to continue that progression in the quality of the surfaces and the chance to play on the greens and tees longer into the winter months. All of this work is weather dependant and therefore may change. Please contact the Green keeping team or Pro Shop for daily updates.

During this time there will be significant disruption to the course with some closure of holes. We therefore ask members to be patient and give the Green Staff and Contractors absolute priority during this period.

Why do we Graden greens and what is it?

The Graden machine is a deep scarifier that removes thatch and improves aeration of the surfaces. Thatch is the buildup of organic matter between the grass sward and the root zone. It can prevent water and nutrients from reaching the roots, making the turf shallow rooting and therefore sensitive to drought and other stresses.

Why do we verticut greens and what is it?

This process compliments the Graden process. A verticutter has blades that cut down into the thatch without damaging the healthy grass. This breaks up that dead layer and brings it to the surface so it can easily be collected and removed. It also alleviates problems such as compacted surfaces after long periods of continuous use.

Why do we top dress with sand?

As you will appreciate our greens are clay based, top dressing with sand helps break down the clay dramatically improving the drainage.

Why do we vertidrain and what is it?

Vertidrain involves punching solid tynes into the greens to improve drainage and aeration.

The proposed programme is:

Tuesday 6th September. Graden/verticut greens

Wednesday 7th September. Top dress greens

Thursday 8th September. Vertidrain greens

Friday 9th September. Top dress, seed, fertilise greens

Monday 12th September. Vertidrain tees

Tuesday 13th September. Vertidrain approaches

Wednesday 14th September. Top dress, seed, fertilise tees and approaches

Thursday 15th September top dress greens.

We understand that most of us members profess to be Green keepers but if you need further information please contact our actual Green keepers!

Ken Bonser & Chris Weir