

# Winter Maintenance Programme

2018/2019



Unfortunately, we have reached that unpopular time of year when the inevitable remedial work has begun to improve the course for next season. As you will see listed below, there are a few projects that are scheduled to commence once the coring, top-dressing and leaf clearing has finished. The focus this winter will be paths and renovating bunkers. The report below lists the tasks that are to be carried out over the Autumn and winter seasons.

## Greens

- Hollow coring and top-dressing of the greens will commence on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> of October.
- The greens will be cored using 13mm hollow core and then top-dressed using between 30 to 35 tonnes of Fs9 horticultural sand.
- The greens will be solid tined using 20mm tines at a depth of 9 inches to relieve compaction and to create a bigger space for root growth.
- A balanced winter-feeding programme will be carried out to ensure the greens are healthy and have a good grass coverage come the spring.

## Tees

- The tees will be hollow cored and top-dressed as soon as the work on the greens has been completed.

- The tees will also be solid tined using 20mm tines at a depth of 9 inches to relieve compaction and to improve drainage.
- The tees will be Top-dressed using around 15 tonnes of sand.
- Any branches or trees that obstruct line of sight or airflow at the tees will be removed.
- The fitting of Astro-turf around the stone and wooden markers will continue.
- As part of the programme to introduce stronger and more hard-wearing species of grass to the tees, the par 3 tees and some of the weaker tees i.e. the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> will be over seeded using 100% Dwarf Rye grass, this species is more tolerant to shade and has faster recovery rate. This will be carried out in the spring.

### **Approaches**

- This year we tried coring the approaches, but the ground was too hard for the hollow tines therefore we will solid tine them during the winter and I will extend the deep scarification to cover the approaches as well.
- Any bare areas that didn't recover from the warm summer period will be re-turfed.

### **Fairways**

- Solid tining of the fairways has commenced and will continue until they are complete.
- The fairways will also be aerated using the large slitter, this will be carried out in early spring.
- Any holes left from the removal of the distance discs will be filled in and turfed.
- Any bare areas will be repaired and turfed.

### **Semi-Rough**

- The semi-rough will be verti-drained using 20mm tines at a depth of 9 inches.
- The semi-rough will also be tined using the big slitting tines.
- Mucky holes and bare areas will be turfed.

### **Bunkers**

- Some of the bunkers including the right greenside at the 4<sup>th</sup>, the two bunkers at the 6<sup>th</sup> and the greenside bunkers at the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> will be restored back to their original state and re turfed. We are hoping to go a step further and possibly start lining bunkers with re-cycled astro-turf, this will stop any contamination of the bunker sand from stones or dirt. To date, we are still in negotiations with a supplier to supply us with as much manageable astro-turf as we can get.
- Extra sand will be purchased to ensure that every bunker has the correct sand level requirements.
- Below are a couple of examples of how other courses improve their bunkers by lining the bunkers with Astro-turf and by creating a stronger edge by either using 3 or 4 layers of upturned turf or by using a more permanent edge by using astro-turf tiles. This is the blueprint that should be used to improve all the bunkers on the course.



*Astro-turf edges and lining*



*Upturned turf edges*

### **Ditches**

- Andrew Wilson will clear all the main ditches on the course.
- All the smaller ditches and the burn in front of the 15<sup>th</sup> green will be cleared using the tractor and back hoe.
- Any unsafe or unstable parts of the Bishopbriggs burn will be identified and fixed where possible.

### **Paths**

- The path at the 12<sup>th</sup> tee will be extended with large exit and entry areas created at both ends using the mushroom template.
- A small hard standing area will be created at the corner of the 4<sup>th</sup> tee to prevent that area churning up from foot traffic.
- Extend the path at the 15<sup>th</sup> red tee to further down the 15<sup>th</sup> fairway.
- Create a path at the left-hand bridge at the 13<sup>th</sup> green to re-route traffic on to the road.

- Repair and fill in potholes on existing paths.

### **Trees**

- Trees that are dead or dangerous will be removed from the course.
- Any trees that affect light or airflow getting to playing surfaces will be identified and removed or pruned back.
- The tree line at the 5<sup>th</sup> will be extended to the back of the 6<sup>th</sup> tee to protect golfers from wayward shots.

### **Course Furniture**

- All the benches and markers will be brought in and painted during the winter months.
- New benches will be created at the 5<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> using sleepers.
- New hazard markers will be made and painted for the 2019 season.

**Ian Anderson**

**Course Manager**

