

GOLF COURSE UPDATE – 20TH AUGUST 2009.

Rainfall.

Members may be interested to know that we have received 470mm of rainfall for the year to this date with 89.5mm falling in the month of August so far.

With more forecast for the remainder of the month and into September members should please be mindful of their movement around the wetter areas and any areas that may be struggling for growth. This is especially important if you are using motorised buggies of any kind as these can have a significant impact on the turf areas.

Bunker Raking Machine.

Our ability to rake bunkers on our regular raking days has been interrupted recently with the unreliable nature of our existing machine. This unit was purchased in 1997 and has completed in excess on 8100 working hours, a significant amount of work.

As can be expected at this age, its performance has diminished rapidly over the past 6 months and it now requires a substantial amount of money to be spent on it to return to operable condition.

This outlines the importance of a sound Machinery Replacement Programme to replace aging machinery before these expenses are required as it often costs more in the long term to repair older machinery than replace it with new and down time is a significant factor as it can affect the ability of staff to produce the required preparation of the course for the members.

Bent Grass Nursery.

The bent grass nursery near the 5th hole was recently prepared and seeded with bent grass. This seed has now germinated strongly and will be established to putting green standard over the coming few months in case it may be necessary for use on either a new surface or patching and turfing that may be required on collars or greens. It is good policy to have a nursery like this in case of incidental damage.

Kerbing alongside access track.

Members may have noticed the new kerbing that has been laid along the southern side of the main access track for machinery onto the golf course. The reasoning behind this was to restrict storm water coming down the track and flowing onto the turf surfaces around the clubhouse and controlling traffic around this area.

It is our intention to extend the path from the 10th tee exit to this kerbing and also the entrance path from the 9th green to the buggy storage building.

Further improvements may be made to this track at some stage in the future.

Bushland around Top Dam.

Groundstaff have completed a clean of vegetation around the top dam over the past month. This area had become so overgrown that it began to slow down play and it became difficult to see whether golf balls had entered the hazard area.

Jon Carter
Course Superintendent.