

Greens Report

At the time of writing this article, wet weather was only just upon us and turf areas around the golf course were starting to slip into the slower growth period due to a reduction in soil temperatures. Apart from the obvious reduction of leaf on turf it is also evident with the reduction in mowing hours due to this decline in growth. No matter how much fertiliser is applied at this time, all warm-season turf slows to minimal growth as the plant physiological processes slow down.

It is more important now than at any time throughout the year, that we take due care with the golf course. All members should take care with their movement around the course and observe traffic signage, traffic hoops and the 'Blue traffic line'. These are placed around the course to preserve and protect it and their existence is to provide the best possible conditions for you the members of the club. Time and care should also be taken in repairing divots and ball marks also as the existence of these can affect course quality. Please remember to also repair your divots on tees as this is often a forgotten area that takes many man-hours to repair. Golf cart users must be particularly vigilant with their movement around the course as these can cause significant damage if driven in the wrong manner.

Also, when moving around the course, please avoid bare or

wet areas. Many of these weaker areas on green surrounds have recently been verti-drained and oversown to establish more grass but this will not develop if it is not cared for.

With the golfing season well underway, there will always be instances of golf clashing with planned maintenance around the course. Please take care when playing shots not to risk the safety of groundstaff if they are working in the area. Quite often we find they are put at risk during the course of the day and have recently encountered some near misses. Please wait for acknowledgement from groundstaff by way of hand signals before hitting, or if work is taking place on the green the hole is deemed to be in play when the pin has been replaced. I'm sure with these precautions we can avoid any safety issues.

Enjoy you golf season!

Jon Carter
Course Superintendent
Duncan Ridley
Chairman of Greens.

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