

HAZLEMERE GOLF CLUB

Conferences Weddings & Private Functions



Hazlemere Golf Course - Course update March 2010

Background

As part of the ongoing effort to improve communications throughout the club Steve Hunt and the Greens Committee, at their last meeting, suggested the introduction of a monthly update of work on and around the course. In addition they wanted to adopt an initiative successfully introduced by the House Committee in helping make such great improvements to the Clubhouse, The House Audit or in the case of the Greens Committee "The Course Improvement Plan". Although I am the scribe this really reflects the work of all the Greens Committee particularly Russell and his team.

Winter Rules

Having met with both Russell Gavin we agreed in accordance with BB&O guideline Winter Rules would finish on March 31st.

White Tees

At the same meeting we agreed white tees will be on the course as from April 1st for both social and competition golf. We envisage 3 tees still to be played from winter mats, the 3rd, 11th and 17th. This position will be reviewed weekly and weather permitting it is hoped all tees will be in play by mid April.

Pin Position Guides

Following a request from both Greens Committee and Golf Committee Gavin and Russell are working on a pilot scheme which they hope to have in place by May 1st.

Course Improvement Plan

As mentioned earlier the Greens Committee will be introducing this document and as such members of the Greens Committee, Russell, Gavin and representatives from the different sections of the club will be walking the course to compile the document. Date to be agreed at the next Greens Committee meeting. Learning from the House Committee experience this took 6-8 weeks to become a working document covering short, medium and long term projects and needs to be flexible to allow for both physical and financial resources to be in place.

Course Activity

The whole course was fed with sulphate of iron last week (the distinctive smell of seaweed). At this time of year the Greens have a 5mm cut three times a week, weather permitting this should change to a 3mm cut by the end of April and continue at this height for the rest of the year. Fairways are cut twice a week at 15mm cut all year round.

The program of edging the bunkers is three quarters of the way through and should be completed by April 1st. Gathering and removing dead wood and debris is ongoing.

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Bunkers are deep raked weekly, front 9 on Tuesdays and back 9 on Wednesdays, footprints are raked through daily. The Green Staff will be moving to their earlier start time of 6.00am (rather than 7.00am) as from April.

It is intended to top dress greens and tees before April 1st however this is heavily weather dependent, needing dry conditions to be effective and there are only two short working weeks before the end of the month.

This update is not intended to be an exhaustive report of all activity but to provide an overview of key areas. The Course Improvement Plan will be an invaluable aid to monitoring progress and identifying areas where working parties can prove as effective on an around the course as they have been in the Clubhouse.