



## **Hazlemere Golf Club - Course update July 2010**

### **Background**

This is the fifth course update and in addition to outlining course projects we have incorporated some of the questions asked by members during the course of the past month. Copies of this update will be emailed, posted on the board in the player's corridor, posted in the pro shop, posted on the web and displayed in the club house.

### **Pin Position Guides**

The dry weather has caused some problems recently with actual pin positions not corresponding with guides. The current scheme will be suspended for 2 weeks and then be reinstated as from August 1<sup>st</sup>, in a simpler format, allowing the green staff greater flexibility with pin positions. Each of the greens will be labelled with one of the following abbreviations

- F, M or B - Front, Middle or Back
- B or T - Bottom or Top
- L,C or R - Left, Centre or Right

Copies of the guide will be available from the pro shop and a limited number will be placed in the Mens Locker Room for the Vets Section for use on Monday mornings.

### **Course Improvement Plan**

All the notes have now been compiled into one working document and will be prioritised at the August meeting of the Greens Committee.

## **Course Activity**

### **Course Maintenance Week**

As mentioned in last months update this will commence Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July. The main purpose is to scarify, overseed and top dress the greens and dependent on available time some of the tees.

### **Manning Levels**

Russell is now back from holiday and Adam Smith joined us on 5<sup>th</sup> July replacing Matt Mckenzie, bringing us back to our full complement of 5. In addition we have Andrew Mapley for the summer break.

### **Clearing of the bank to the left of 15<sup>th</sup> tee**

The bank will be resprayed this week, gorse tidied up and conifers on the tee side will be faced up.

# HAZLEMERE GOLF CLUB

*Conferences Weddings & Private Functions*



## **“Broken Tees” Pots**

Having had positive feedback the trial will be extended to the front 9. A suggestion to make new tee placings and “broken tees” pots out of hard wood is currently being considered.

## **9<sup>th</sup> Tee**

Slate and sleepers now complete and turf has for the most part taken well. The tee will now be cut but we are not planning to bring the tee back into use before the knockout finals.

## **Gorse above 2<sup>nd</sup> Green**

First pass now completed. Second phase of selective spraying and removal of ash saplings to be completed this month.

## **Questions**

**What is scarification?** – in the course maintenance week this is a relative heavy scraping of the greens surface (creating slots 13mm deep and 2mm wide) to remove any moss but more importantly thatch, the build up of which causes disease (fusarium). Once the rubbish has been cleared away the greens will be sprayed with fungicide, overseeded and top dressed. The top dressing will be pure sand which suits this particular seed type, is less expensive and will aid drainage.

**We have only just got the greens back why are we doing this now and how long will this take?** – This is the optimum time for seed to germinate and we will reap the benefit in the months to come. Weather permitting the Greens staff aim to complete each green in about 2 hours, **during which time the Flag will be put on the Temporary Green.** In the short term we will lose the smoothness of the putting surfaces but we will be trialling vibrating rollers with the aim of getting the greens back in condition in 7-10 days.

## **What is the latest position on the Bunker project?**

Latest fundraising figures will show we have collected over **£10,000.** The Greens Committee have confirmed the first project will be the upgrading and redesign of the bunkers on the 5<sup>th</sup> Green. Agripower, the specialist contractor, has now been booked to start work on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. A group representing the playing membership are being invited to review the detailed plans before month end.



## **What can be done to prevent unauthorised access to the course**

**particularly by the back of the 16<sup>th</sup> tee** – a difficult question in that the cost of making and maintaining our course a secure site would be astronomical and a moot point as to whether the benefits of preventing any actual or potential retaliatory vandalism would justify the expenditure. We have only to look to our neighbour, who borders the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> fairways as an example. He spent thousands of pounds on fencing his property only to have it torn down and then been victim to a number of incendiary incidents by vandals who obviously saw it as a challenge.

As a relatively low cost trial we will block off access from the area behind the 16<sup>th</sup> tee, using cut down trees and bushes, and monitor the situation. Planned completion by the end of July.

## **What can the members do to help?**

Obviously the course audit will identify areas where member's working parties will play a vital role but for all members and visitors there are basic housekeeping tasks which should be part of their daily golfing routine.

### **Heather Bed by 2<sup>nd</sup> Tee**

Now completed two sessions with a third planned for course maintenance week. As before would volunteers please contact Jane Doyle.

**Litter.** Please help to keep our course tidy – do not drop wrappers, cigarette ends etc, put them in the nearest rubbish bin or take them home.

**Raking Bunkers after use.** All bunkers are surface raked daily to remove any footprints and deep raked once a week (nine on Tuesdays and nine on Wednesdays). It is up to each and every golfer to leave the bunker as they would wish to find it and to remind those who may have forgotten.

**Repairing Pitch Marks.** We all know the consequences associated with pitch marks left not repaired, damage taking weeks to recover can easily be avoided by golfers repairing pitch marks immediately on reaching the green. Help by repairing others which may have been unintentionally overlooked.

### **Golf Trolleys and Buggies.**

Would all golfers please refrain from taking their trolleys and buggies between greens and greenside bunkers.

Greens Committee  
20<sup>th</sup> July 2010