

HAZLEMERE GOLF CLUB

Conferences Weddings & Private Functions



Hazlemere Golf Club - Course update August 2010

Background

This is the sixth 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

Unfortunately the concept of using abbreviations for Front, middle back etc proved to be impractical for the planned printing on scorecards so we have changed to a 3 position (A, B and C) guide which will be in place from 19th August.

Copies of the guide will be available from the pro shop and a limited number will be placed in the Men's 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 circulated to the members of the Greens Committee. These will be prioritised at the September meeting taking into account seasonal, practical and financial factors.

Course Activity

Course Maintenance Week follow up

Further to the work carried out during this program 12 of the greens have now had an additional light top dressing, brushing, feeding and watering and the remainder will be completed by August 20th. The greens should be back to normal by the first week of September.

Clearing of the bank to the left of 15th tee

The bank will be sprayed again with total weed killer and in the autumn the Greens Committee will review putting down a membrane and planting heathers.

“Broken Tees ” Pots

Having had positive feedback the trial has been extended to all tees. A suggestion to make new tee placings and “bro ken tees” pots out of hard wood is currently being costed and it is hoped a sponsor will volunteer.

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9th Tee

The turf has taken well and the grass is being cut to surround height. The top left hand corner needs to be seeded and top dressed. The grass will then be cut to tee height for bringing into play for the club knockout finals in October.

Gorse above 2nd Green

The gorse to be lightly pruned and the remaining ash removed, target completion 20th August. Once the growing season has started again the area will be sprayed with selective weed killer.

5th Green Bunkers

Following advice from a golf course consultant and feedback from a select group of members as well as a number of local golf courses which have recently undertaken similar projects the plan has now been refined as follows:

Reshape the left hand side bunker and make it into two bunkers, reshape the right hand side bunker. Each bunker will have a sump filled with hardcore to act as a soak away. There will be pipes connected and dug into a drainage ditch taking away excess water to the right hand scrubland. The bases of each bunker will be levelled and covered with a man made liner. The faces of the bunkers will be lined with either turf or a man made liner, dependent on the extent of the reshaping, then top soiled and turfed. After the turf has taken root sand will be put into the bunkers.

Agripower, the specialist contractor, has been booked to start reshaping the bunkers on Monday, 6th September. **It is anticipated the 5th hole will be out of play for 4 to 5 days and the bunkers, and maybe some surrounding ground, will be G.U.R for the next 10-12 weeks.**

As part of the 5th Green Bunker project it is proposed that if there is sufficient material left over it will be used **to fill in the bunker on the left hand side of the 8th Fairway and also to prepare and turf the right hand side of the 14th tee** (taking advantage of bulk buying turf for the project).

Captains Copse

This is the plantation in between the right hand side of the 12th fairway and right hand side of the 15th fairway currently designated as G.U.R. with dropping zones as appropriate to each hole. It is currently being considered to remove the G.U.R. status as from January 2011 however, before then we will need to have resolved the problem of lost balls and any impact of slow play caused by returning to the tee.

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Questions

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.

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

17th August 2010