



Knighton Heath Golf Club

Greens Report

September 2022

Graham Hastie
Course Manager

Greens

Maintenance carried out-

Greens cutting height raised to 5mm as cooler weather approaches
Roller used instead of mower to promote plant health heading into Autumn/Winter
Continuation of liquid fertilizer, emphasis on thickening grass sward to ensure coverage through winter months
Application of growth regulator to maintain smoother surfaces
Applications of wetting agents to promote uniform moisture percolation
Change to add turf hardening products, minimizing the use of expensive Fungicides
Holes changed twice per week (usually Monday/Tuesday and Friday)
Less watering applied but some drier greens may be watered occasionally to ensure no dry areas on greens
Repairs to animal damage-mixture of rootzone soil, sand, seed and fertilizer
Repairs to disease scars with same mixture as above (10th green is the worst effected but new growth has covered worst areas)
Granular fertilizer applied to greens 5,6 and 13 due to the sandy rootzone allowing liquid fertilizer to wash through too quickly

Course

Competition set up for Main finals day, Mens invitation and Knighton KO
Liquid fertilizer mixed with a growth regulator to promote health but prevent excess growth
Divoting of all tees and fairway landing zones to aid recovery
Tees remaining cut at 12mm twice per week
Approaches cut at 10mm still at least once a week (mainly twice per week)
Application of liquid fertilizer and small amount of growth regulator to thicken coverage up
All approaches have been tined. 12mm tine to a depth of 5inches to aid recovery from summer drought loss
Daily bunker raking
Strimming of bunker edges as and when required
Strimming of yardage markers as and when required
Rough cut as required
Fairways back to being cut at least once a week
Brushes engaged on fairway mower to remove some dead material on fairways
Semi rough cut twice per week now recovery has begun
Side of chipping green now down to 10mm cutting height
Side of chipping green dressed with sand to ensure a smooth surface once open again for play
Blowing of areas, greens, tees and some isolated areas on fairways
Occasional watering of Heathers planted at 4th tee
Use of irrigation to areas which struggled through the summer, 16th fairway, green surrounds and walkways

Staff Update

Daniel has started his college course at Sparsholt College. His first day being Tuesday 21st September. Let the learning begin

Ben has also started his second year and looks set to pass with flying colours

Myself and family have settled into life as a Poole residents now and apart from relying on the sat nav to take us anywhere other than work we are extremely happy to be down here

Data-

Rainfall recorded:- 82mm

Max temp:- 28 degrees, Low temp of 5 degrees

0 days closed

0 days temp Greens

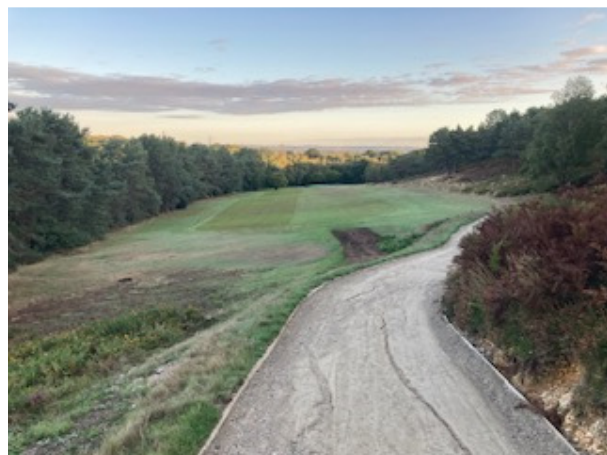
Other notes

One cause for serious concern was the shocking sight of a Jeep 4x4 truck driving onto the golf course on a Sunday morning. This happened between Greenstaff cutting greens and heading back out onto the course to complete a weekend set up. Residents from behind the 15th green confirmed it was a Jeep driving up the 16th Fairway and so this is what the tire tracks are up through the middle of the 16th fairway, fortunately the vehicle only drove over the 17th Green in a straight line and so didn't cause any significant damage. We have begun filling the damage with our divot mix on the fairway and so recovery should begin within the next week or so. **This cannot be allowed to become a regular occurrence.**

To stop this happening again we are deepening and extending the ditch network along the entrance driveway. We didn't want to place any objects in the way as this would become a danger for golfers hitting over, the risk of balls ricocheting is too high.

Two hydraulic hose bursts this month, first one went on the side of 13th Green and the second was on the 5th tee. These happen without warning and are completely unavoidable. Unfortunately, these areas are now dead, we intend to cut the damaged area out with our turf cutter and replace with some turf from the practice tee. This will be undertaken in the near future (when the daytime temperatures are low enough to not dry turf out but night time temperatures are still mild enough for the turf to root down)

Long rough areas have begun to be cut down for the winter, "eyebrows" on the bunkers have been taken down and some areas where there is no heather, have been cut down. We will begin cutting heathery areas once we have had a couple of good frosts.



Some definition has returned to the course after a long and hot summer.

4th Path was washed away again at the beginning of the month but we managed a good repair and have not had any downpours since.



Some extensive blowing has begun around the course. No doubt you have heard the guys and their noisy machines. This is undertaken every morning, even though by the time some golfers reach the later holes leaves have fallen once again.



Damage from the vehicle on the 16th Fairway.
Unfortunately, it is quite unsightly but we have begun filling the damage and await some recovery