

COURSE MANAGER REPORT

October 2014

COURSE WORK

The seasons have definitely changed. In September we had 17.1mm of rain and in October we have had so far 92.9mm and we are only 2 weeks into the month. The wind has picked up as well so much so that it is taking 2/3 staff members 4 to 5 hours just to clear the greens for play and by the end of the day they need it again. This is why the bunkers are being left at the moment as we have only 3 staff members in due to holiday.

Greens

Course maintenance week went well apart from the rain we had on the Wednesday which pushed the maintenance into the Friday. All of my staff worked very hard to get all of the tasks completed within the week.

These tasks were

- Scarifying 9mm deep
- Verti draining with 17mm tines 7 inches deep
- Top dressing 50 tones used
- Over seeding with bent (grass type)
- Fertilizing

There were some issues with the seniors section on the Monday and Friday.

Monday they complained that the temporary greens were not cut, marked out and top dressed for them. Last year in the maintenance week all they had was the flags stuck in the fairways, this year with less staff we put out the 6 inch holes to give them something to aim at.

Friday they had booked a friendly match against Highcliffe, due to the rain on Wednesday the maintenance was put back 1 day so the greens were closed and the course was open on temporary greens. The seniors section were told when they were booking this match that it was maintenance week and they ran the risk of the course being on temporaries but they still booked it.

In maintenance week we put the greens onto temporaries so that we can concentrate on the vital tasks that need to be completed to keep improving the greens. This is the quickest way of doing it with the amount of staff we have, to carry out all of the tasks one green at a time it would take 2 to 3 weeks to complete.

The rain is showing up greens that need drainage work carrying out, namely the 7th, 8th and 17th. These need to be re-drained with pipes at 3/4 meter spacing if they are to improve.

Approaches

We were unable to scarify, over seed and top dress the approaches in maintenance week. We did however verti drain them.

If we have a good weather in the autumn then we will try to complete these tasks but we might have to wait until the spring to carry out this work.

Tees

Mats and winter tees will be used from the first of November or earlier for the par 3s

Hopefully we will be able to carry out the following tasks on the par 3 tees scarifying, verti draining, over seeding and top dressing. Once this has been done the tees will be out of play for the winter.

Fairways

These are cut at the height of 18mm, this hasn't changed all year.

The fairways need to be divoted but we do not have enough staff to do this while maintaining the rest of the course.

The mats will return as this will protect tow of the small fairways from divots.

Rough

We are cutting this as much as possible but this is the one area that is be left.

Long Rough

We will cut more as and when we can.

Ditches

The ditches approved by the committee will be dug in November and the spoil if will be used to improve bear areas around the course.

Irrigation

This will be drained down soon.

White lines

The lines are back, please could all members be made aware as I still see buggies and trolleys past these lines

Temporary greens

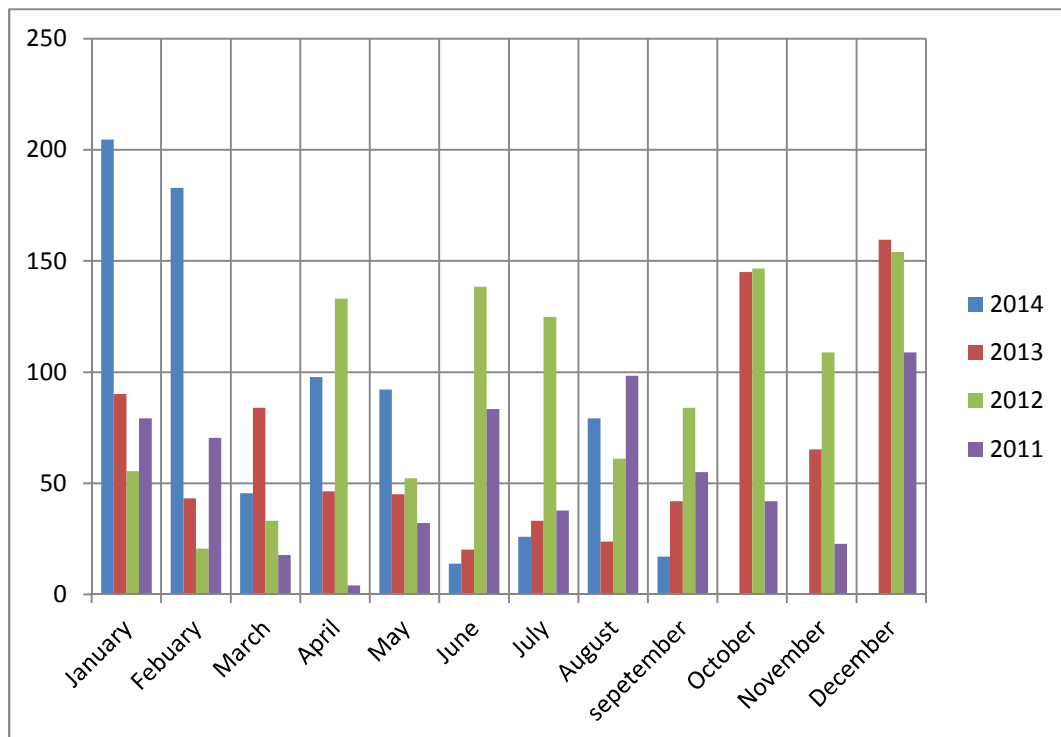
It is better to have and not need, than to need and not have.

These are a last resort. If the greens are playable then they will be open.

When work is being carried out on a green the temporary for that hole might be used until the work is finished.

RAIN

See table below for how much rain we have had so far.



Total rain fall

2014 = 759.2mm

2013 = 797.7mm

2012 = 1112.5mm

2011 = 651.6mm