

February 2021



KNIGHTON HEATH GOLF CLUB

FORESTRY PLAN

Submitted by Chairman of Greens

Approved by Management Committee

Note: Any questions arising from this plan should be addressed, in writing, to our Club Manager – Reunert Bauser.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to outline the work that is needed to be carried out on the woodland at Knighton Heath Golf Club for the foreseeable future.

A course improvement plan has been prepared and should be read in conjunction with this document.

We have a rolling maintenance program in place on the woodland to promote healthy growth that will last for many years to come.

To do this we need to remove dead, diseased and damaged trees. Thin out and crown lifting the existing trees and replant where needed with native species for a heathland environment.

A woodland project such as ours not only needs to look short term but also long term to make sure that the course is in good shape for the following generations.

We need to plan now for the longevity of the course which will in turn ensure a healthy future for the club and its members.

As a part of the woodland maintenance we will be able to turn areas back to heathland by stripping the humus layer back to the mineral soil and introducing heather seeds to these areas.

This document will be updated and reviewed annually by the greens committee.

REASONS WHY.....

Pruning lower branches. (Crown lifting)

- Raise the canopy.
- Remove dead and dangerous branches.
- Allows light and air flow over the course. (To aid the health of the grass)
- Helps maintain the heather on the course.

Thinning out of trees.

- To maintain the health of the trees.
- Remove unwanted tree species not in keeping with a heathland golf course. Examples Conifers, Monterey pines and White Beam
- To stop interference on play by tree ingress.
- Allows light and air circulation around the course.
- To regenerate heather areas.

Planting of new trees.

- To keep the character of the course.
- For safety reasons.
- To keep our boundary protected.
- To be able to remove unwanted trees once the new trees are established.
- To introduce correct species for a heathland golf course. Example of this would be Scots pines and Birch.

Removal of dead, diseased or damaged trees

- To keep members and visitors safe while near trees
- To improve the health of the wood

Any tree work that is required due to Health and Safety reasons is carried out as it arises for the safety for all that use the club.

The following report is a breakdown hole by hole of what work is required to the woodlands at Knighton Heath Golf Club to improve the golf course for playability and the health of the trees

Highlighted in red are areas that have already been completed as at the 11th February 2021

1st Hole

- Remove conifers at the back left of the green. This will improve the air circulation around the green improving the sward.
- Remove Monterey pines right of the green. This will improve the grass coverage around the green.
- To under plant the large trees right of the fairway.

2nd Hole

- To prune up the trees left and right of the fairway. To aid with air circulation.
- Thin out the wood left of the fairway. To help the health of the wood
- Under plant Monterey pines left of the fairway. To keep the dog leg of the hole

3rd Hole

- Prune up and thin out both side of the hole and the area behind the green. To promote healthier trees

4th Hole

- Prune up and thin out right of the fairway. This will help retain the heather in this area
- Thin out the trees left of the men's tee. For light and air circulation.
- Thin out the Birch trees back left of the green. For light and air circulation.
- Thin out Oaks behind the green. To improve grass coverage behind the green

5th Hole

- Thin out the wood left and right of the men's and ladies tees. For the health of the wood.
- Prune up the Scots pines left of the fairway. For playability and light and air circulation
- Thin out and push back the tree line right of the fairway. For playability and health of the wood

6th Hole

- Prune up and thin out the trees left and right of the fairway. To promote the health of the wood

7th Hole

- Thin out and prune the Scots copse in front of the green. To improve the health of the area.
- Thin out Monterey left of fairway. For playability and health of the grass.

8th Hole

- Thin out the trees blocking the tee shots on the left.
- Remove Oak right of the fairway to improve grass coverage in this area.
- Remove the large Birch at the front right of the green. To improve the grass coverage of the walk off area
- Thin out the wood left and right of the green. For light and air circulation.

9th Hole

- Prune up the Scots right of the fairway. For playability
- Under plant the big Monterey pines by the houses.

10th Hole

- Thin out the trees right of the men's and ladies tee. To improve the light and air circulation to the tee and the 7th green.
- Prune up and thin out trees along the left and right of the fairway.
- Plant behind the shrubs behind the green with Scots pines. So that we can remove the shrubs improving this area once the trees have grown up.

11th Hole

- General maintenance to keep the health of the trees.

12th Hole

- Thin out trees left of the tee. To improve the health of the wood.
- Prune up and thin out the trees left and right of the fairway. For light and air circulation.
- Thin out the Oaks behind the green. To be able to improve the run off area around the green.

13th Hole

- Under plant around the boundary with Scots pines.
- **Remove willows in the ditch. To improve drainage on the course**
- Thin out wood left of the carry. To improve the health of the woodland

14th Hole

- Remove Monterey pines back right behind the green. To reduce debris onto the 14th and 16th greens
- Thin out wood right of the green. To improve the wood.

15th Hole

- Under plant all along the boundary. To protect the course
- Prune up and thin out trees right of the fairway. For playability

16th Hole

- Thin out the wood left of the tee. To improve the health of the wood
- Prune up and thin out the trees left and right of the fairway. For playability
- Crown lift the Beech trees left of the fairway. To improve playability
- **Remove deciduous trees front left of the green. To improve the grass coverage of this area.**

17th Hole

- Thin out trees right of fairway. To improve the health of the trees

18th Hole

- Thin out the trees left of the tee. To improve light and air circulation around the tee.

Drive in / car park

- General maintenance to keep the health of the trees.