



Greens and Course Report – October 2016

The fine weather throughout September and October has been an added bonus to a fantastic July and August we experienced this year. October proved very dry with only 30 mm of rain. Disease activity is at its highest going into November with the dipping temperatures and dew sitting on the greens throughout the nights, applications of Iron has been made as well as a fungicide to keep activity to as little as possible. The best control of fungal activity in the soil is the weather regular frosts throughout the winter months helps protect the turf. A dew suppressant was also applied. During November we will be lifting the height of cut to 5mm to help the health of the turf and disease resistance.

The tractor mounted rough deck mower will soon be in operation to cut the normally unmanaged rough this keeps unwanted growth of Hawthorn under control. The semi-rough is still being cut weekly and areas of rough around the greens cut regularly. Over the winter we will be trimming around the bases of the trees to remove the suckers. The tractor mounted hedge cutter has made a start on some hedgerows but due to a mechanical failure is temporarily out of action.

Temporary greens have been cut out and marked as Ground under repair fingers crossed we will not rely on them too much. Fairways are still showing signs of good growth and hopefully we will be able to change some more layouts before winter sets in. The fairways will soon be marked out using a pedestrian mower to define the fairway from the semi-rough. Work will soon start on the new path leading down from the 8th green in front of the 4th tee and the work scheduled for the changes to the bunkers. As we enter further into autumn we will increasingly need to protect the course from wear. This will be achieved by using stakes and ropes to direct traffic away from high wear areas. White lines around the greens will be increased and moved frequently to protect the high concentration areas from trolleys.

Leaf collection has started with as many as possible collected for composting. Moles are the biggest pest on the course and trapping has commenced, inquisitive members of the public do like to pull them out of the ground and deposit them in the hedgerows if any traps are found it would be much appreciated if they are passed on to a member of staff.

Tom Hooper
Course Manager