

Course Report

August 25th

Over the last few weeks we have had over 220mm of rain which has made the golf course very difficult to maintain.

Bunkers have been the main problem with sand wash out and sand compacted. We have been out regularly raking, destoning, and topping up with new sand where needed.

Additional difficulties cutting wet grass which then looks a bit untidy. We have hitched up the tractor mounted blower to help us try and disperse the clumps of grass.

Greens

Greens have been holding up well in the wet conditions but we are out regularly sweeping off water in the morning before play.



This is a photo of the 12th green but it gives you an idea of what we are coming in to some mornings.

Greens speed has been consistent over the last few weeks despite the wet conditions. - 9.5 on the stimp meter

Greens have been spiked with 8mm solid tines to relieve compaction, helping the water down through the profile and allowing air into the roots.

No top-dressing was applied because of the weather and the overcrowded fixture card this will be carried out in the next available window.

Up and coming plans for greens

September 9th Air2G2 - second visit.

October 2nd Graden work this is our third year with the Graden work.

Trees

On the 3rd of August, we had a visit from Alasdair Hood who is a consulting Arboriculturalist. He is helping us develop a tree management plan for the course. This will be published in the next few days.

Alasdair did note that the large Sycamore tree at the 11th has considerable rot and is likely to be structurally unsound. This presents a safety hazard and therefore a risk. As a precaution, we have roped off the area to the west of the 11th green pushing people up to the path at the 12th tee. The large poplar on 18th/practice ground should also be felled before it damages the adjacent tree. This will be replaced by a young oak.

The last Cherry before the pro's shop needs replanting as it is slowly obscuring the visibility of the 1st tee from the road.

Bunkers

Last week we had a sub-committee discussion with green staff and cross section of members, discussing the best way forward for bunkers. A policy document will be drawn up and published for the members' consideration.

Kenny Duncan

Head Greenkeeper

Dunfermline golf club