

## Members update.

### Golf course and winter construction work.

Not wanting to begin on a negative note, it is still disappointing to see certain areas of the golf course still haven't recovered as well as I would have liked after what was a very dry summer and a relatively dry start to winter.

Certain fairways notably 1-4-5+6 are still some way off even after a fertiliser application and a deep aeration programme. These weak areas will be over seeded in the spring and given a more intense maintenance programme in a concerted effort to bring them on.

The greens are slowly recovering, although 7+12 are still lagging behind. More deep aeration work is planned for March to coincide with an over seeding programme as soon as ground conditions and temperatures allow.

Winter construction work to the bunkers is on schedule with 10 bunkers rebuilt, 3 of those waiting for final turf/seeding, it is hoped to have another 5 rebuilt before the main tournament season begins.

The bunkers at L'Ancrese have been a weak area for a number of year's, these rebuilt bunkers using the Eco bunker system should ensure sustainability and consistency for a number of years. A three year bunker renovation programme was introduced this year to rebuild, fill in and add extra bunkering over this period.



Some of these bunkers may look severe, in fact the deeper bunkers have in fact had the bunker floor raised and the top shaved off to ease difficulty. They will still provide a good hazard.

Work has also been ongoing at the 5<sup>th</sup> hole. The ladies tee has been halved in width and levelled, whilst the white tee has been extended and raised taking the length to just over 400 yards.



Winter servicing of all machines has been ongoing as has the grinding of the cutting units.

Staff training and maintenance workshops have also been carried out in house in an effort to keep the staff up to date with modern and traditional green keeping practices.

Marcus Hamon  
Head Greenkeeper  
For and on behalf of Golf Course Management.  
Friday 1 February 2019