

COURSE NEWSLETTER – January 2021



We hope you are all safe and well and, doubtlessly, you are all missing a game of golf and the usual relaxing chat in the bar afterwards. With this in mind we thought it would be a good time to give you an update as to what has been going on out on the course in January.

We've reduced the green keeping team down to 5 members of staff with the other 2 placed on furlough for the foreseeable future. This will give us some flexibility should there be an issue with a COVID-19 infection within the team at work. Given our opportunity to work on the course without golf being played, we will be able to meet all of our planned objectives before the start of the season.

The whole course has had a trim since Christmas keeping things nice and tidy and all playing surfaces are looking well.



Greens

Normally, the team carry out greens' renovation work in the 3rd week of March. We've found this work is never popular with golfers, but it is very much an important maintenance task that helps improve putting surfaces each Spring. Given that the course currently closed for golf at this time, we've decided to bring the greens' renovation work forward over the next couple of weeks if the weather and ground conditions are conducive. By doing this work now, we won't have to do it in late March when, hopefully, you are all back playing golf and not have to deal with slow, sandy, bumpy greens at the start of your season.

Tees

All these areas have received a winter feed and are currently being verti-drained which will aid decompaction and root growth.

Trees

The team have begun some tree maintenance work with lower branches being removed on several holes. This procedure helps us maneuver mowing equipment around effectively and efficiently without causing damage to the trees or the operator. There are also a number of areas of work to restore vistas from highpoints of the course.

Club house Surrounds

During some wet weather we have tidied around the car park edges. Unfortunately, we have had to remove the small hedge either side of the pathway to the main entrance of the club house because it was dying. Although this is disappointing, it gives us the opportunity to improve the drainage in that area and, subsequently, replace the old hedge with some other decorative features.



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Workshop

One task that we have been able to carry out during the most recent inclement weather is a revamp of our workshop facility. By us removing one of the internal walls, the workshop is now 50% larger and will enable the team to work on more machinery inside the workshop and adhere to COVID regulations.

We hope to see you all soon back out on the course. Stay safe.

Best regards

Allan Davies, Chair of Greens & Steve Lloyd, Course Manager.

For regular course updates, please follow Steve Lloyd on twitter - @MalvernGreens

