



— Founded 1780 —

# ROYAL ABERDEEN GOLF CLUB

## BALGOWNIE COURSE UPDATE MAY 2023

### GREENS AND APPROACHES

Growth is now improving and mowing was carried out 5-6 times per week at 4mm HOC. Rolling has also been increased to maintain smooth surfaces and pace. Approach areas have been mown 3 times weekly at 6mm HOC. Liquid seaweed, wetting agent and soil amendment products have been applied as required to maintain slow hardy growth throughout. A plant growth regulator (PGR) was applied to reduce the volume of seed heads on the annual meadow grass plant. This product suppresses the production of seed and improves lateral growth which will increase density especially on the bent grass.

Pencil tining and sand top dressing operations were carried out as part of the routine maintenance tasks required during the growing season.

### TEES

Mowing was carried out twice weekly at 6mm HOC. Granular fertiliser was applied (4.0.8) to maintain good growth levels and to aid recovery form general play. Sand dressing have been applied to maintain firm dry surfaces. The newly turfed tees at the 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> holes are now being mown at 8mm and these areas have had increased dressing and fertiliser applications to further develop the new turf. Regular divot filling has been on going to maintain good surfaces throughout.



The new tee markers have now been put onto the golf course. The opportunity was taken to reduce the number of markers on the tees by combining the different colors on one marker where the measurement is the same.

## **FAIRWAYS**

Wetting agent, ammonium sulphate and magnesium were applied to improve growth levels and maintain soil moisture levels in the upper profile. Regular divot filling has been on going on all areas. Mowing has been increased to twice weekly at 9mm HOC. The newly turfed area on the 4<sup>th</sup> hole is settling in well and is being mown at 10mm HOC. Added sand dressings and fertiliser have been applied to seal turf joints.

## **BUNKERS**

All bunker faces have been sprayed with total weed killer to remove grass and weeds from the revetted face. Daily raking has been carried out and edges trimmed. The new roller rakes have been well received by the members and we have noticed there is reduced sand movement with the new rakes being used.

## **OTHER TASKS UNDERTAKEN**

Rough mowing has been carried out weekly now that growth has increased. All flymo work on banks and bunkers has been done weekly and irrigation heads and valve boxes have been trimmed.

The Gravel paths have been tidied up and re-surfaced where required.

## **IRRIGATION PANEL REPLACEMENT**

The new pump control panel has been installed and is now operational. This panel had to be replaced after it was damaged due to a power failure/surge in the winter. This updated panel is very similar but has new technology to run the pumps on a rotational basis which spreads the wear on them and means they run much smoother and quieter. Energy costs will be reduced also as the pumps now run on variable speed sensors which we didn't have on the old panel.



The newly replaced pump control panel is now fully operational.

**ROBERT N PATTERSON**  
Course Manager



## **SILVERBURN COURSE UPDATE**

### **MAY 2023**

#### **GREENS AND APPROACHES**

Growth is now improving and mowing was carried out 5-6 times per week at 4mm HOC. Rolling has also been increased to maintain smooth surfaces and pace. Approach areas have been mown 3 times weekly at 6mm HOC. Liquid seaweed, wetting agent and soil amendment products have been applied as required to maintain slow hardy growth throughout. Pencil tining and sand top dressing operations were carried out as part of the routine maintenance tasks required during the growing season.

#### **TEES**

Mowing was carried out twice weekly at 6mm HOC. Granular fertiliser was applied (4.0.8) to maintain good growth levels and to aid recovery from general play. Sand dressing has been applied to maintain firm dry surfaces. Regular divot filling has been on going to maintain good surfaces throughout.

#### **FAIRWAYS**

Wetting agent, ammonium sulphate and magnesium were applied to improve growth levels and maintain soil moisture levels in the upper profile. Regular divot filling has been undertaken in all areas. Mowing has been increased to twice weekly at 9mm HOC.

#### **17<sup>TH</sup> HOLE**

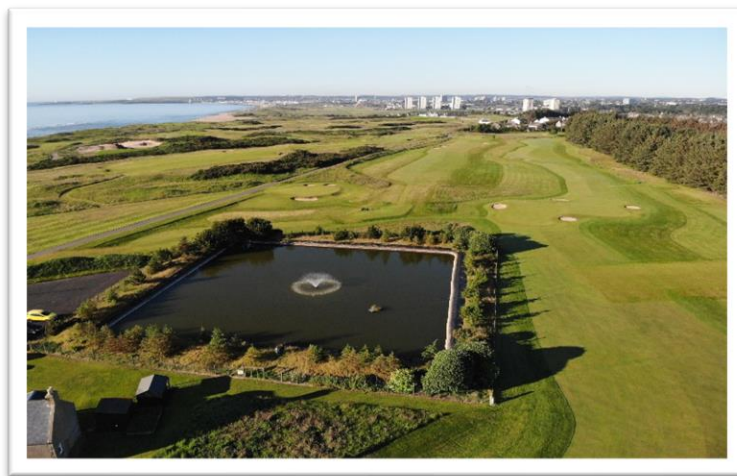
The newly turfed area in front of the green has been mown using the semi rough mower at 30mm HOC. As further growth improves the main part of the turfed area will be cut down further to tighten up the sward and make it into a small approach area.

#### **BUNKERS**

All bunker faces have been sprayed with total weed killer to remove grass and weeds from the revetted face. Daily raking has been carried out and edges trimmed. The new roller rakes have been added to the bunkers on Silverburn as well to make conditions on both courses the same.

#### **OTHER TASKS UNDERTAKEN**

Rough mowing has been carried out weekly now that growth has increased. The large rough areas on holes 8-16 have been sprayed with a growth regulator to reduce the volume of grass in these areas. This will slow down growth considerably and will reduce the mess that is made when the rough is cut during damp conditions. All flymo work on banks and bunkers has been done weekly and irrigation heads and valve boxes have been trimmed.



Presentation on the Silverburn course is now very sharp. Euan Polson who recently started looking after this course has settled in well and has the course looking very well.

**ROBERT N PATTERSON**  
**Course Manager**