



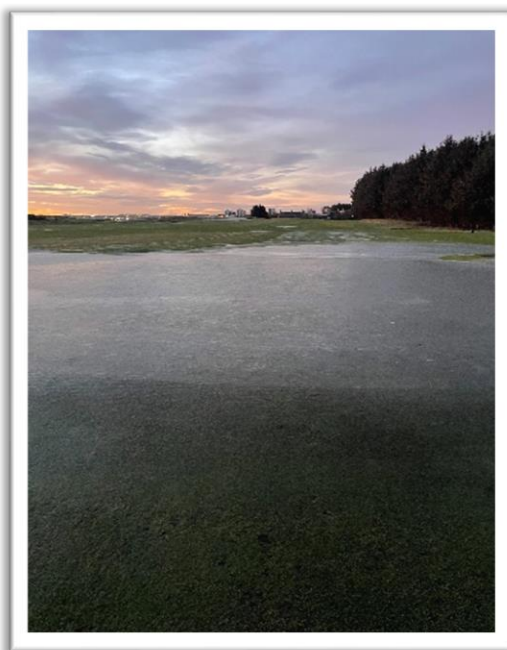
— Founded 1780 —

ROYAL ABERDEEN GOLF CLUB

BALGOWNIE AND SILVERBURN

UPDATE JANUARY 2023

We have experienced severe frost episodes since the turn of the year which although inconvenient for the golfers is an important part of soil management due to the expanding and contracting process in the soil. It also helps to naturally control some of the bugs, mainly leather jackets of which there are thousands at the moment. We experienced hard frost conditions followed by heavy rain which left the greens looking like curling rinks.



All areas on both courses were verti drained using 12mm solid tines to a depth of 220mm. This has created a deep link to the lower soil profile to improve moisture movement away from the surface and a channel for us to connect into in the summer months when we aerate as part of our routine maintenance programs.

Deep aeration work carried out on the greens on both courses as part of our annual aeration program. All surfaces were rolled using the turf irons to smooth any surface disruption.



The steep bank on the left of the 4th green was re contoured and turfed using some of the spare turf from the 4th fairway.

BUNKERS

Bunker revetment work was completed at the 2nd, 7th and 17th holes on Balgownie links and at the 16th fairway on the Silverburn course. Additional sand was added to selected bunkers to part fill them before being topped up in the spring.

GORSE CLEARANCE

A two-meter-wide strip of gorse was removed from the left side of the 18th green on the Silverburn course which was encroaching on the green surround. Gorse was also trimmed on the left side of the 17th tee on Balgownie links which was also encroaching near the tee.

Small bushes near tees and greens were removed using strimmer's and metal blades.

10TH GREEN

The small hollow behind the green was re-contoured as part of the maintenance plan. The existing turf was removed, the drain cleaned out with new gravel and membrane added. New root zone was put in to smooth out the sharp V shaped contour at the bottom of the hollow before it was re-turfed.

OTHER TASKS UNDERTAKEN

All course seats were stained for next season. Course furniture was painted and our mechanic has serviced and painted some of our mowing equipment.

The white tee at the 5th hole on Balgownie links was extended to double the size of the playing area. This tee was too small to cope with the wear and tear it gets in the summer.



Work undertaken on the white tee at the 5th hole. This extended area was turfed with some of the existing turf from the yellow tee which will be re-constructed in the coming weeks.

Robert N Patterson
Course Manager