

Dear Members and Guests,

It has been an excellent month for turf growth, warmer days with increased sunshine for longer hours, some humid conditions followed by a little rain. As great as these conditions are we do have the negative impact of diseases trying to form on greens and weeds, weeds and more weeds. What are weeds: Weeds are anything that you don't want growing in your garden or turf, from the wrong grass species to the easier to see broadleaf. Our major enemy out here is cape weed (see picture below)



We spent a week spraying the major playing surfaces, during this planned spraying we did not mow several days before and after to ensure the plant takes in as much of the selective herbicide as possible, so you may have noticed the course was a little (fluffy) longer than usual. Also the regular fertiliser schedule takes a back seat as to not promote extra strength in the weeds.

Our rough and weak fairways are getting some extra love with Santa ana sprigs and cores thanks to DCM turf. We have started at the 1st and 10th where it resembled a beach more than rough. This procedure will continue through spring and summer with trucks dumping piles for us in selected areas, we will spread and water them morning and night with the occasional daytime soaking. These areas will be GUR with drop zones marked for relief.

A new piece of equipment is being added to our machinery fleet, a second hand roller will be arriving late October. We have previously hired one but used it sparingly due to cost. Once it arrives it will be used in our regular greens maintenance routine usually going out a minimum of twice a week. Not only will this help with balls rolling smoother, when we check our speeds, we can identify the slower holes and give them an extra roll, to provide consistency from the putter to the 18th

Recently we have been repairing tees from levelling and re-turfing areas that are too damaged to self repair. This practice sometimes puts large proportions of the tee under GUR and forces markers to be moved extremely far forward shorting the hole. We actually can avoid this work with better tee management of the markers. For example the 4th tee has a high mound running down the middle from front to back, this is because players predominantly use the middle of the tee, therefore we divot the middle all the time forming the mound and wearing out only one area. The reason for this explanation is that when I move tee markers and they are placed to one side on the best possible surface, i don't do it to make the course harder, it is for the long term health and survivability of the tee. So if you see anyone move markers, tell them they have no right and they are destroying the tee

What we have done this month

- Planting @ 1st & 10th Tee
- Aerate tees & select fairways
- Insecticide application to greens

- Root invigorator applied to greens
- Applied broadleaf weeder to fairways, tees, greens and rough
- General maintenance mowing of fairways/tees/and green
- Fertilise and top dress weak green areas
- Turf out some weak areas in fairways
- Fungicide application to greens
- Rd up Bunkers
- Rd up Fences and Landscape areas
- Gypsum applied to tees and select fairway areas
- Sprigging to 1 & 10 rough
- Re turf 2nd Tee

Coming up

- Liquid fertiliser to greens, tees and fairways
- Fungicide to greens
- Dust & drag greens
- Root & soil invigorator to greens
- Turf out bare areas
- Sprigs to bare areas
- Path rejuvenation

If you see our faithful volunteers, please buy them a drink and give them a huge thank you. Without this enthusiastic group continually helping clear fallen branches, planting trees, mulching, cleaning drains, fixing hazards we defiantly wouldn't have such a wonderful place to play.

I hope you are enjoying being back and getting consistency into your game as much as we are being here gaining that momentum to make Brighton stand out

Kind regards
Jarrod Parlby