

Turf Care Department Report



July 2017

Greens: The greens are currently being mowed every day and rolled every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. They will remain at their current height of cut, 3.81mm, for the rest of the summer. 6 green will remain at 4.19mm as well. We are maintaining the green speed at 8.5 – 9 feet of ball roll. Holes are being changed daily.

The greens have been sprayed twice with a foliar fertilizer, once with a biostimulant to promote plant health and better rooting, and have had a granular silicon product applied to enhance turf resilience and promote upright growth. They will be sprayed with a small amount of nitrogen the third and fourth weeks of July. We plan to start our Primo Maxx (plant growth regulator) applications the third week of July. These applications will continue until mid-September. The greens will also be sprayed with a wetting agent this month.

The greens, collars, and approaches have been sprayed with a fungicide for the first time this year. The disease Dollar Spot was active in the collar on #1, the clubhouse putter, and the nursery between 6 and 11 greens. This application should last roughly until the middle of August when we will apply another fungicide to control the disease.

The greens were aerated to a depth of 3" with ¼" solid tines on July 13th. They will have a light topdressing applied on July 20th and possibly July 27th if it is needed. Ideally, a light topdressing of sand is applied every two weeks to smooth the putting surface, dilute any thatch which may be accumulating, and to maintain the firmness of the greens.

Tees: Tees are currently being mowed on Mondays and Thursdays. They have not had any fertilizer applied this month. They are still growing well from the fertilizer application at the end of May. Tee divots are filled every Monday and Friday.

Approaches: Approaches are currently being mowed on Tuesdays and Fridays. A few of them are showing signs of drought stress. We are combatting this by aerating the affected areas with solid tines to open the soil surface and hand watering as needed.

Fairways: Fairways are being mowed twice per week. The evening mowing program continues to work well for us.

The fairways will have a second application of the wetting agent Dispatch this month. This product helps move water into the soil profile and it also makes the soil easier to rehydrate when it dries out.

To date, we have aerated 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 fairways. We have put the aerating program on hold for now and have moved to brushing and mowing fairways in preparation for club championships. We have brushed 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, and 18 fairways. Brushing stands up the grass and allows for a better cut. It is difficult to get a clean, even cut on our fairways because of all the undulations. We plan brush and mow the remaining fairways before the end of July.

The weak area of the fairway in front of 14 green has been aerated, overseeded, fertilized, and is being watered regularly. The sodded area on 9 fairway has also been aerated, overseeded, fertilized, and is being watered regularly. We are trying to increase the turf density in both of these areas. The sod on 9 is weak and thin looking. It has a shallow root system which is causing it to become unhealthy under traffic stress. We started directing cart traffic into the rough on either side of this area on 9. The turf will continue to need attention until it has established a good root system and is able to withstand the cart traffic better.

Bunkers: We are adding sand to the bunkers as needed. Some of them have become quite shallow. We started replenishing the greenside bunkers first and will move to the fairway bunkers once the greenside bunkers have had their sand levels increased.

Surrounds: All the bunker and greens surrounds have been fertilized. The high volumes of traffic in concentrated areas around the greens/bunkers cause the turf to become weak and thin. We have also aerated certain areas to help alleviate soil compaction that occurs due to traffic from both golfers and our mowing equipment.

Employees: Our Irrigation Tech. has resigned. The staff currently consists of 2 full time employees, 8 full time seasonal employees, and 4 part time employees.