

NEATH GOLF CLUB

MONTHLY GOLF COURSE REPORT

JUNE 2012

- June has been an extremely wet month, the wettest on record with 251mm falling. This has been trying at times but the course continues to perform well under such extremes with very few days' closure.
- There have been signs of Fusarium on the greens surface, this is only superficial and not attacking the grass plant, only the leaf. An application of iron was applied (26/6) to harden the greens up to ward off this attack. This was successful but I will keep a close eye for its return, which is possible if this weather pattern continues.
- Greens were verti-cut at -1mm on the 11th June 2012.
- Top dressed 12th June 2012.
- Due to the climate and increased aeration and top-dressing the sward is very dense, this is obviously a good thing, but on the down side, green speed is slower than I would like. The decision was made to lower the height of cut down to 4.0mm; this has had a great effect by putting, on average a foot per green on the stimp. I am confident that the finer grasses will not be compromised in doing this. I will closely monitor this and raise the height of cut if necessary
- The patches on the greens have been seeded and let to grow for 2 weeks, they are now showing signs of recovery and filling in which is pleasing

PLAN OF ACTION

- Mowing at 4.0mm with alternate brushing.
- Increase verticutting to twice a month
- Rolling when required.
- Solid tine
- Top-dress
- Apply Ferrosol, Farmsea10 liquid feed and conditioners
- Hole change twice weekly

TEES

- The tees are performing well; the 1st, 2nd, 11th and 14 are still struggling. Regular seeding and dressing of these areas should see them improve in time.
- 3 and 13 are holding up. The third is taking a beating each week, so I will be putting the yellows on to the green tee a couple times a week to allow it to have a rest obviously avoiding any handicap qualifiers.

PLAN OF ACTION

- Divot
- Top dress
- Fertilise

APRONS

- Approaches continue to hold up well
- With the Fusarium on the greens the aprons have had a application of iron
- Verticut with units set level
- The rye grass stalks have been cut with a flymo.

PLAN OF ACTION

- Solid tine
- Top-dress
- Fertilise

FAIRWAYS

- All fairways will fertilised with 50lts of Porthcawl, 20lts of Ferrosol and dispatch wetting agent.
- The divot boards are working well at the weekend with them needing topping up daily, but in the week, they may go 3 days. Maybe more encouragement may be needed.

PLAN OF ACTION

- Divot
- Regular moving and filling of divot boards

BUNKERS

- 14th bunkers are looking good and growing in well. Then plan is to try and keep a grass face on them, if this growth turns patchy I will strim them off.
- The liner in the 9th bunkers has been removed because of the reasons explained in last months meeting

PLAN OF ACTION

- Regular raking, moving of sand and stone picking.
- Continue topping up with sand where necessary

ROUGH AND OUT OF PLAY AREAS

- The seedbed on 6 and 9 has been ameliorated and time will tell if this will be a success, the signs are promising by the look and texture of the soil.

PLAN OF ACTION

- Continue tree removal when time allows
- Start cutting back gorse when it starts becoming “leggy”.