

# OAK PARK GOLF CLUB

October 2006

## September Review

The Indian style summer of dry weather and above average temperatures during September was great for golf but put a halt on recovery and some of the planned work programs. Ground conditions again became very hard and there was a need to recommence irrigation. Only during the last few days was there a substantial level of rain, to again 'kick-start' growth and recovery to those areas previously affected by drought. Some early Autumn renovation work to greens and tees was completed but in the main, other areas were put 'on-hold' until conditions again became more favourable

## October

**Greens:** As previously mentioned, the greens have been hollow tined to a depth of 4" and dressed with sand and further dressings will be required to produce a more even ball roll. Further aeration in the form of slit tining and scarifying will occur later in the month, weather permitting. Scarifying reduces the levels of thatch build-up, removes horizontal growth and helps to firm up the surface. The greens were overseeded after hollow tining and sparse areas will be seeded again this month. At this time of year, feeding will be limited to very low Nitrogen, high Potash and possibly low Iron to encourage the cell wall within the plant to 'thicken' thereby reducing the risk of disease. Warm, moist & humid conditions are ideal for disease to attack the turfgrass and the added use of penetrants will help to keep the surface as dry as possible as well as daily mowing or dew removal. Recent out breaks of disease have resulted in fungicide applications to cure and prevent further attacks, this is important because the recovery is slower at this time which increases the risk of scars remaining throughout the winter months.

**Tees:** Having been hollow tined, seeded and dressed last month, scarifying and further seeding will take place on the tees worst affected by drought. All tees have been fed with a slow release fertilizer to further encourage recovery.

**Surrounds:** As per last month's report, any weak areas will be tined, dressed and seeded now that the conditions are ideal. Similar to tees, a general low N granular feed will be applied to help give good turf density approaching the winter.

**Fairways:** All scarifying work on the Woodland has now been completed and this month will see applications of a foliar feed with iron and insecticide to suppress worm and leatherjacket activity.

**Bunkers:** Edging and weeding will take place with sand levels topped up where possible.

**Course Manager:** Spencer Hawkins