

OAK PARK GOLF CLUB

OCTOBER 2009

September Review

Mowing heights stayed at 4.5mm. The greens were virtycut with a light dressing applied, We applied topdressing little and often, this is to help keep a firm surface going into the winter. At this time of year a dew dispersant/penetrant was applied to keep the surface dry, as damp surfaces and high humidity are ideal breeding grounds for fungal pathogens to attack the grass plant. A preventative fungicide has been applied in addition to an application of iron to lightly 'acidify' the surface; this helping to ward-off any likely Fusarium Patch disease. Sarol rolling continued each fortnight in order to maximize air movement. Mid - late September we had a hit of anthracnose on some of our drier greens (3rd 16th 18th) and putting green. Anthracnose is a fungal disease. A foliar stress reliving turf tonic was applied, mid month followed by our autumn granular feed.

Greens: Mowing height likely to be raised to 5mm with regular brushing to keep a good quality of cut. This time of year it is vital we keep the surface as dry as we can. Continued penetrants will be applied with an application of top dressing. The greens will be sarol rolled twice on a two weekly bases. When the weather turns wet we will move from solid tining to slitting. This generally happens towards the end of October. Areas of wear will be tined, dressed and seeded by hand.

Tees: Regular divoting will continue and the weaker tees such as the 3rd 8th and 15th will be over-seeded and top dressed. We have now had delivery of our new 3250 greens-tees machine which will give us a better quality of cut to our tees and aprons. An application of pesticide will be applied mid to the end of the month containing clorpyriphos and carbemdazame, to knock out the casting worms and leather jackets.

Aprons: Much the same as in the previous month with some areas showing good growth with some dry and weak areas. The LHS of the 14th to be over-seeded and top dressed where they dried out back in June. Mowing to continue when surfaces are dry, whenever possible. Clorpyrifos and carbendazame will also be applied in these areas.

Fairways: A foliar feed will be applied mid-month to a few fairways now that conditions dictate the need for a slight boost of nutrients to replace those leached out. Fairway 150 markers on 9th 10th and 11th to be removed and concreted in straight. Clorpyrifos and carbendazame will also be applied in these areas.

Other: The areas of rough that have been Cut will be collected and taken away.

Trees in deep rough to be sprayed round with glyphosate and the tree canopy raised,

Ditches on and around the course to again be strimmed and glyphosate applied.

Bunkers to be given a light trim & edge, with sand again being added to those green-side bunkers where previous wash-outs have reduced the depth of sand.

Craig Earnshaw:

Course Manager