

Oak Park Golf Club

September 2006

August Review

The return of much needed rainfall (50mm) and lower temperatures has allowed recovery to gather pace and by the end of the month, many areas of the course have returned to their normal colour for this time of year. Although the greens have performed well, tees, collars and approaches have been severely affected with drought damage and throughout September renovation work will be carried out to re-establish the turf on these areas.

September

Greens: Hollow tining will take place to maintain acceptable thatch levels. Sand dressing will be applied to fill the holes and speed recovery on the majority of greens, however, greens 5,8,9,11 & 12 will be dressed with Axis, a material that has good drainage and nutrient holding capacities. Whilst this work is being carried out cutting heights will be 4.5mm and mowing will continue daily.

Tees: All woodland tees have been hollow tined and a sand based dressing containing organic material will be applied, followed by seeding and a light feed. Tees such as the 3rd will not recover sufficiently with this type of renovation and will require new turf. Cutting heights are 12mm and mowing occurs Tuesday and Friday.

Surrounds: As with the tees, much aeration has already taken place, however, areas that have not recovered before the end of next month will require new turf during the winter.

Fairways: Woodland fairways have suffered from drought and therefore heavy scarifying will take place towards the end of the month. Scarifying and cleaning is slow (2 hrs per fairway) but is essential to remove as much fibre as possible, thereby giving the roots a better chance to move deeper into the soil. A foliar feed will be applied where recovery is slow once the initial work is complete.

Bunkers: All will be edged and weeded this month.

Other: Ditches on 1st, 3rd, 14th, 15th, 17th & 18th to be sprayed with Round-up. I hope to receive indication of the remainder of the irrigation project, bunker and path renovation by the end of the month.

Course Manager: Spencer Hawkins