

## **Dear Members,**

Firstly, apologies for another course report so quickly after the first report but this is in response to the members regarding the current condition of the long rough area. We have received communications from a few members regarding their concerns about slow play and loss of golf balls.

As part of this report, I have updated other areas that we discussed during our first greens meeting on 26/04/24. We discussed all the communications received from the members and have highlighted several areas on the golf course that require immediate attention.

We take all your communications seriously and I will continue to listen to the members.

Hopefully the information provided within this update will answer most of these concerns.

### **Long Rough Areas**

This is not meant to be a cop out, but it has been an exceptional year with regards to weather conditions which has left the club in a situation where we have denser grass than usual in the long rough areas. We have listened to all your concerns and cutting back the longer areas at this time of year would very time consuming and realistically unachievable within the main playing season.

The plan is as always to cut down all the longer rough areas towards the end of September early October for the normal winter course set up.

We discussed certain areas that require attention but most of these are more within the main playing areas and will be addressed but probably not until after the club championships.

The longer rough will be assessed and discussed to see what needs to change for the 2025 season. This will obviously not resolve this year's issues but should be better for next season.

### **Greens**

As part of a longer-term strategy for the greens quality we will be demonstrating a sand injection unit on the main putting green in early August this machine injects water and is then displaced with sand.

This allows a path for water to penetrate the top layer (thatch) of soil and be absorbed directly into the root zone to encourage rapid healthy

development of the grass, and over a period of time changing/amending the growing medium.

Due to concerns regarding the visibility of the Black flags we have ordered white flag sticks which will hopefully address this issue.

### **Bunker banks/green surrounds**

A question was raised as to whether the longer grass affected the course slope rating, we have been informed that the Slope Rating will not be affected as this has been taken into consideration when the Slope Rating takes place.

This is very much a trial, and these areas will be monitored to make sure they aren't causing issues with lost balls, etc. It must be noted that the unprecedented high rainfall so far this year has meant some areas are 'lusher' than they normally would be.

We are going to survey these areas and where the grass has grown excessively and become too penal, will be cut back.

Again, these areas will form part of our discussions for the 2025 playing season course set up.

### **Wildflower areas**

These areas will be weeded and made more presentable, the area adjacent to the 17th green will be marked as GUR.

It is hoped that these will improve over time as they haven't been as successful as expected.

### **Greene King 9 Hole course**

Putting green for 9-hole course opened 21/06/24

### **General etiquette**

Can I politely remind golfers to consider other golfers and respect the golf course by correctly raking bunkers, replacing divots and repairing pitch marks.

There will be some new signage placed on the 1st and 10th tees to politely remind golfers of these basic etiquette rules.

**David Reid**

**Interim Greens Chairman**