

February Letter from Chris Getty  
Squire Golf Course Superintendent

Greetings from the Squire! After a few weeks of below normal temperature, things are starting to become warmer and greening up around the course. The past month has brought minimal rain which has allowed the course to dry out, and as a result, hopefully created great playing conditions for you during your golf experience. Let's hope this beautiful weather continues to be cooperative in the upcoming weeks. Here are some updates from around the course:

**Greens-**

- The greens have improved tremendously since losing their color by the two weeks of blistering cold weather and cloud cover. If the weather continues to stay sunny and moderately warm, as it has entering February, the greens should continue to have a great look to them.
- The recent warming trend gave us the opportunity the last week of January to pencil tine aerify the greens. Pencil tine aerification creates openings in the soil profile to allow oxygen to the roots and relieve soil compaction, resulting in softer greens.

**Upcoming Plan:**

The greens will be top dressed and fertilized twice in the month of February. Look at the weekly maintenance plan on the Member's Club website for the exact dates.

**Bunkers-**

- In the month of January, the greenside bunkers on #16 had sand removed from them to achieve the proper 4" depth. The greenside bunker on #3 was completely redone, in which new drainage and new sand was added, as well as, lowering the bunker lip to allow easier entry into the bunker.

**Upcoming Plan:**

We will continue to focus on removing excess sand from the greenside bunkers on #15, followed by the greenside bunkers on #14.

**Upcoming Plan for Tees, Fairways, Rough:**

- The entire golf course excluding the greens will be fertilized approximately mid-month. This fertilizer will contain a pre-emergent herbicide which helps prevent germination of weed seeds during the spring.
- The overseeded fairways and approaches will start being mowed in the same direction to "burn in" the lines to produce a nice striped look.
- A focus throughout the course during the dry season will be to manage the amount of water run from irrigation.

Projects completed in January:

- Weeds have been sprayed in tree beds
- Tee & fairways plaques have been installed
- Ficus trees have been pruned and reduced behind #17 green

We are continuously trying to improve the Squire, and at the same time, making your golf experience as enjoyable as possible. You can help us achieve this goal by repairing ball marks, filling divots, and following traffic ropes. I look forward to communicating with each of you in the future. Thank you for being a member and helping us achieve our goals! Hit 'em long and straight!

Chris Getty