

Happenings on The Haig - Golf Maintenance Newsletter February 2010

Greetings from The Haig golf maintenance department. First, I am excited to say we have successfully made it through unseasonably cold temperatures that lasted for an unusual duration of time. The bermuda grass endured this stress better than anticipated and has fully recovered/rebounded except for some of the rough (which is the area affected most by the frost) that entered a false/temporary dormancy. Frost is actually a positive, because it provides some natural control (ex. weeds and pests).

- Status Report: As we hope most of you have noticed, we have begun trimming the trees on the course, the majority of landscape beds and tree rings are now mulched (excluding some of the bigger ones), and many of the bunkers have been manually gone thru to remove some of the rocks/shells that were existing.
- Through the month of February we will continue devoting additional man hours in repairing ball marks on greens via ball mark repair tools and sand. We will be topdressing the greens a couple of times this month to also help offset ball marks, keep the canopy filled in and provide better putting surfaces.
- The Haig maintenance staff will continue current and be performing additional sod projects throughout the month of February. We will be installing sod in/on some previously prepped areas, along with stripping and replacing, with sod, some bare areas in #8 fairway (focusing mainly on the landing area).
- Continuing thru the month of February, we will finish any remaining mulch projects and continue manually going thru certain bunkers to remove rocks and shells. The other "big" project will be trimming of the palms and some trees throughout the course. This requires the hauling of a lot of debris, so please bear with us in reference to the increased cart traffic necessary to transport these trimmings.
- We are filling divots at the driving range on a regular basis, if not daily, to keep the tee tops in as good of condition as possible. Also, we are fertilizing and applying additional seed to offset the increased usage. I know there has been some concerns/comments about The Haig range tee, but let me assure you there is plenty of grass. It is being masked by the increased sand applications and the recent cold temperatures slowing recovery.

In closing, The Haig maintenance department would like thank you in advance for your cooperation and let you know we are striving to provide the best possible playing conditions. We are performing multiple projects and appreciate your understanding if any inconvenience is encountered. Lastly, as you all know we are rapidly approaching The Honda which adds additional challenges experienced by all.

Dale Knefely
Superintendent of The Haig
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