

## *From The Fairways & Grounds*

We have entered the transition zone. This is the process of eliminating the winter grass that we seeded last fall back to Bermudagrass. Growth on the Bermudagrass slows down in the winter months and occasionally will go into a brown, dormant state when the temperatures get cold enough to produce frost. In order to provide a green and growing playing surface during the winter we overseed with Ryegrass and Bluegrass late fall. Now that the temperatures have gotten warm, the overseeded grass does not like the heat and dies out. There are several micro climates around the golf course where the overseeding out competes with the Bermudagrass during the winter and when the Ryegrass dies out we are left with thin areas of Bermudagrass. The maintenance plans to repair these areas are:

- Fertilize, aerify, and topdress areas of concern until Bermuda grass is fully established.
- Sod areas where Bermuda grass is less than 50% coverage after Memorial Day weekend.
- Rope off areas to minimize traffic stress (many of the areas are walk ups to greens).
- Height of cut in the roughs raised back to 1.5".
- Selective watering performed during the day with sprinklers and hoses in gaps of play.

The transition areas are mostly concentrated on the Champions course in the rough areas. The greens, tees and fairways on all golf courses have come through transition very well. The rough areas commonly struggle due to the fact that the cool season Ryegrass grows taller and thicker during the cool season and shades out the Bermuda grass.

The aerification process on the golf courses has proceeded nicely. We have finished the Haig, the Champion and the Palmer. The Squire will be closed from June 1st<sup>to</sup> June 11th and the Estates from June 14<sup>th</sup> to June 23<sup>rd</sup>. In conjunction with aerification, we have treated for the microscopic parasites, Nematodes, on the Palmer, the Champion is scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, and the Estates is scheduled for June 27<sup>th</sup> and June 28<sup>th</sup>.

Spring and early summer are very busy times for us with aerification. It normally takes 3 weeks (approx) after aerification until the greens have recovered. We understand the inconvenience this places on all and for that I appreciate your support. Fortunately, we only do this cultivation twice per year. The next series of aerification begins again August 1<sup>st</sup> on the Champion.

Some of the other projects that we will be working on this summer include:

- Continue bunker work, removing sand, correcting drainage, and replacing the bunkers with the sand that is presently on the Palmer
- Drainage project on #5 Squire to drain the wet area on the right side of the cart path
- Additional fairway repair on #8 of the Haig
- Tree trimming
- Sod area in front of #10 tee Palmer
- Paint rain shelters and bathroom #8 of the Estates

I hope you all have a very enjoyable summer.

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Directory of Agronomy