

# Course Improvement Update

---

What a difference, this time last year 38 degrees on a daily basis and hand watering non-stop, this year 162mm in the last 5 ½ weeks and even worse, high humidity, but we won't complain as it makes life a little easier.

We had a great result with the aeration of the greens on Monday with the fertiliser washed in and the greens flushed by 17mm of rain in 30minutes. I watched an interview with Tiger Woods yesterday and he commented that the greens were extremely slow when putting up hill, but he realised that Victoria have had high levels of rainfall and this was the norm. Keep that in mind. We have been rolling greens on a regular basis and will continue to do so once the roller is operational. You may have noticed small oil drops on the greens during the champs. The roller had 2 oil leaks and we continued on rolling until the champs were over at a risk. The machine is now pulled apart and being repaired as we speak. An application of Primo was applied this morning which will tighten up the greens surface and add pace. We will also do a light dusting once the humidity levels drop.

You will have noticed quite a bit of turf work has been done over the past 10 weeks and we will continue on around greens and areas close to fairway edges.

Two projects currently underway are the widening and levelling of the 11<sup>th</sup> tee and a rock wall around the 8<sup>th</sup> tee to continue the theme that we have started around the course.

The 11<sup>th</sup> tee will be widened and lengthened to accommodate the new rating system. The tee will also be lowered so the green can be seen from the back of the tee. The trees were removed to reduce the shade problem and the tree root invasion.

NSWGA has requested Cumberland host the NSW Medal in January. At the completion of this we plan to remove the remaining Photinias from behind the 10<sup>th</sup> green, mounds will be placed between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> greens and the 11<sup>th</sup> tee and 14<sup>th</sup> green as per the master plan. At the same time we plan to reshape the bunkers on the 14<sup>th</sup> green in accordance with the master plan also eradicating the current drainage problems.

I believe that the works approved by the Board are a real step forward and our aim is to continue on.

Remember repair your divots and more importantly your LOB MARKS.

Mark Crittenden - Superintendent