



Melton Mowbray Golf Club



Thorpe Arnold, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE14 4SD
Telephone Secretary/Caterer (01664) 562118
Telephone Professional Shop (01664) 569629
Email: meltonmowbraygc@btconnect.com www.mmgc.org

Greens News – April

Dear all,

I am sure that like me you are completely fed up with the weather we have been having over the last few months. With the snow and the unprecedented amount of rain the course remains in a saturated condition and this has led us to make the difficult decisions to partially or fully close the course.



Paul, his staff and the artisans have been doing what they can but we are well behind the plan we had imagined for this time of the year. We were hoping to have started to prepare and fill the bunkers on the back nine but the ground is too soft to get the trailer near the greens without risking permanent damage, so we need the ground to dry up.

Now on a more positive note the weather looks like picking up over the weekend and into next week. With this in mind we are taking the opportunity to complete the spring maintenance on the greens. We are doing greens 5 and 15 early on Tuesday morning and then completing the job on Wednesday. Unlike last year

where we used a 15mm diameter solid tine and then applied sand back fill, we are going to take a different approach this year with the intention of minimising disruption to play to just a few days rather than a few weeks.

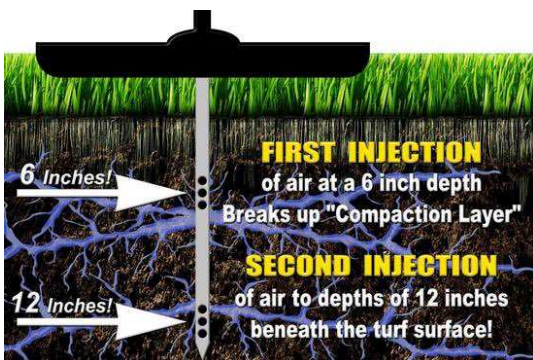


The key objectives are:

1. Aeration
2. De-compaction
3. Moisture drainage / evaporation

We are going to use a Terra Spike machine with a 10mm diameter x 250mm long solid tine and then iron the green. Due to the much smaller diameter holes we do not need to back fill with sand. This will minimise disruption and also make sure we do not ruin the mower blades.

We are also going to experiment with an Air injection technique on the 5th and 5th green.



The Air2G2 equipment is being supplied as part of a demonstration, this only puts very few holes in the ground so we will see what impact it has.

This action next week will lead to firmer greens, encourage root development and strong grass growth, this should set us up for greens in great condition for the main competition season ahead.

Hopefully over the next few weeks we see the weather back to normal and we can enjoy our golf again.

Tim Mortimer, Greens Director

13th April 2018