

Greens Update March 2021

In December, we issued a newsletter, describing the scheduled work programme on the course over the winter months. As the major work nears completion, it seems appropriate to update the members on the progress we have made. It's also relevant to remind members that all the work carried out was essential and urgent, based on the need to prevent serious deterioration of certain greens. I'm pleased to report that the efforts made have been successful in delivering the changes needed and members will see the benefits through time.

My role, as greens convenor, is difficult with limited budget and this winter we had to take big decisions on improvement but to do nothing was not an option if we want to maintain and improve the greens. Great efforts have been made to complete the work as cost effectively as possible.

Kevin and Fraser have completed most of the turfing now that the frost has lifted in the last week or so. Greens 3,4,8,15 and 16 have all got improved drainage, which can be added to if needed at the end of the season. At the 8th, trees have been removed to allow improved sunlight. Both the 8th and the 4th have seen major work, with areas of banking removed to stop surface water from coming onto the greens. We can already see major improvement on the greens with the introduction of the drains and the removal of banks. The sandstone wall at the 4th will retain the banking and adds an attractive feature. The stone was provided by Buccleuch Estate.





As we approach season opening, we continue to protect the course as much as possible. Can I remind all members to continue using mats on fairways or move your ball into the rough. Also, it is imperative that all pitch marks are repaired if we want to optimise the quality of the greens this season.

Jock Harkness

Greens Convenor