

Killermont Winter Programme

2018-2019

The Winter programme is designed to inform council of intended works for the winter period October/ April, giving clear guidelines on construction tasks, drainage works, winter renovation tasks, and finally tree work. The general everyday maintenance operations need mentioned only to highlight the tasks completed on a regular basis.

Construction tasks are decided through sub committee meetings and as a result of various works highlighted in course development. In previous years spring course preparation has suffered, as a result of various winter work still outstanding this should be eliminated to ensure better presentation early in the season.

Included within the construction work is a small alteration to the teeing site on the 12th to allow a wider passage for golfers and minimise the damage normally caused through wear and tear. Other construction tasks will be limited due to the quantity of bunker renovation work required.

Bunkers have to be renovated each year as a result of their design and the regularity of use, last year no bunkers were tackled giving a greater need to complete works this year and some 5 bunkers are outlined for completion with several just requiring a small lip replacement, which can hopefully blend into the surrounding turf.

Installation of the artificial turf on the practice area has proved successful, the recent installation to the field teeing area will help permit all year round practise but further material could be placed at the hilltop in the field to allow alternative sites.

Drainage tasks to be completed have been discussed with my staff to prioritise the areas but consideration has been given to the 5 year plan and the issues raised by Mr Heath earlier in the year. Contractors will be used to attend to some areas and costings for this will sought in the near future.

Renovation tasks are an annual event covering all areas of the course, something which cannot be avoided if the course is to remain playable. These involve coring, Verti-draining, slitting and top-dressing, all of which cause disruption to play and the surface.

General tasks undertaken during the winter months are as follows:

- ◆ Leaf clearing
- ◆ Bund creation
- ◆ Path work (repair work, painting)
- ◆ Painting (tee markers, hole cans, bothy and sheds etc)
- ◆ Furniture renovation to seats, bins, and the sponsor posts.
- ◆ Tree maintenance (pruning trees, shrub clearing, tree felling, planting, and hedge cutting)

All these are time consuming operations undertaken when outside tasks prove difficult due to ground conditions. The chipper will allow material to be shredded to a size usable on shrub beds and limits traffic movement on the course, it also improves efficiency of operation by reducing the time taken transporting material to fire sites.

The main tasks for undertaking are as follows:

- 1 Bunker reconstruction work to holes 15, 17, 18 and 7 in priority.
- 2 Bunker lip work to holes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 15.
- 3 Drainage works to 6, 8, 9, 12 and 15.
- 4 Contractors drainage to holes 10, 17 and 18.
- 5 Renovation work to greens, tees, aprons, fairways and semi-rough.
- 6 Field construction work to teeing sites.
- 7 Felling of dead trees (24), lower limb pruning and hedge cutting.
- 8 Installation of artificial turf to practice field top site.

Schedule of works

September

Coring to tees and top-dressing
Micro coring, scarifying, seeding work to greens followed by top-dressing
Turving to odd areas and worn bunker banks
Winter greens cored, verti-draining and top-dressed
Construction of teeing areas in field
Drainage work to 6th teeing area

October

Verti-draining and top-dressing work to tees
Coring and verti-draining work to greens and top-dressing
Coring, verti-draining and top-dressing work to aprons
Coring and top-dressing to walk-ways and walk-offs
Verti-draining to fairways
Bunker work to 15th
Drainage work to 15th left side

November

Verti-drain work to rest of fairways and walk-offs
Sorting to bunker lips at holes 1 and 2
Bunker renovation to holes 17
Drainage work to 8th fairway

December

Verti-draining work to some semi-rough areas
Bunker work to holes 18
Sorting of bunker lips to holes 3 and 4
Drainage work to hole 9
Tree and shrub clearance work to roadway to field and hedging around the perimeters
Health and safety checks

January

Bunker work to holes 7
Sorting bunker lips at holes 12 and 15
Tree clearance work to lower branches and hedge cutting
Verti-drain work to semi-rough
Health and safety checks
Drainage work to 10 and 17th by contractors

February

Finish tree work
Verti-drain work to tees
Verti-drain work to fairways and odd areas
Verti-draining work to greens and walk-offs

March

Coring and verti-drain work to greens
Coring work to winter tees and verti-draining
Coring and scarifying work to fairways and semi-rough
Scarifying work to tees and aprons
Tidying work to course
Topdressing work around various areas

Other improvement tasks are the installation of seating areas to holes 4, 11 and 13, these areas would be slabbed and brickwork on the outside to match the ball-washers.

Cement work to the ball-washer areas will be required and in some situations the site may be moved.

Other brickwork tasks involve the repair to storage bay walls and the installation of walls to the extended slab area.

The path work will only involve hole 14 by replacing the existing material with playtop and extending the path slightly beyond the present area, a cost for this work is being sought.

The programme of works will vary dependant on weather and completion rate, therefore do not expect exact timescales, these are approximations.

The general presentation of the course will be maintained to as high a standard as possible but traffic wear and tear last year did create some issues, leaf clearing work is the priority, however, this does give issues with vehicle damage.

Drew Waddell – Greens Convener