

20/10/17

Weather

For the month of September we had 4mm of rain which fell over 2 days. The same month last year there was 86mm recorded over 9 days. The annual total to the end of September is 357.5mm compared with 823mm for the same time last year.

Our warmest day for September was 29.7 degrees and our coldest night was 1.7 degrees. Daytime average high for September was 20.7 degrees and nightly average low was 6.4 degrees.

Water Usage

Effluent usage for September was unavailable due to staff changes at the treatment plant. During September we used 5.652 mega-litres of bore water. Irrigation usage for September was 14.528 mega-litres.

Irrigation System

Four irrigation repairs to the system during September; Split compression coupling in front of 2nd green; split fitting R/S of 2nd fway; split pipe L/S of 4th fway; split bell join R/S 16th fway

Planned Works in October 2017

Golf Course

Greens will receive an application of fertiliser and growth regulator
Greens will receive an application of insecticide and fungicide
Tree removal around the course
Fairways and surrounds will be scarified
Turfing around the 11th tee. Re-seed bent turf nursery
Bunkers will be renovated
Mulching of areas around the course

Bowling Greens

Greens will receive an application of fertilizer
Fungicide and insecticide will be applied to the greens
Light topdressing of areas of both greens
Both greens will be verti-cut
Growth regulator will be applied to the bottom green

Golf Course

The golf greens are currently a little slow as they continue to recover from renovation. The cutting height is now down to our normal maintenance height of 3mm and we will be verti-cutting the surface and dusting the greens on a regular basis through the growing season. These practices will help to produce a firmer surface, resulting in faster speeds. Greens rolling will also be increased now that we are cutting at 3mm.

The fairways and green surrounds will be scarified during October. Due to the later arrival of the newly ordered machines, we will be doing a lighter scarify over all fairways before the end of October. After the Ladies Open, we will scarify the fairways and surrounds again but go deeper, and rip more material out. The new fairway scarifier is even better than I assumed and will make a massive difference to the maintenance of the playing surfaces with regular scarification now available.

We will be getting turf from MIBC during October, off bowling green 4, which will be used to turf the edges of the new paths at 11 and 14. If there is enough turf, we will repair other areas around the course also.

Bowling Greens

The bowling greens are now out of dormancy and starting to grow. The top green is only being mown twice a week however the bottom green is being mown 5 times a week. Growth regulator has been applied to the bottom green which should see a reduction in mowing to 3 times a week. Light topdressing will commence on all the areas affected by the ERI disease with some plugging of the worst areas.

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Aaron Miller

Course and Greens Manager