

# WITHINGTON GOLF CLUB

Minutes of Ground Committee meeting held 12 November, 2009.

**Present:** Steve Kelsall (SK), Gary Higgins (GH), Steve Marr (SM).John Cragg (JC).

**Apologies for absence:** Bill McKinney (BM), Pat Keane (PK).

- SK welcomed John Cragg to the committee and looked forward to his input. He hoped he would find the experience interesting and rewarding and that, in the longer term, he would want to take on full responsibility for Ground.
- GH reported that the following work had been carried in the past month:
  - Greens have been sarel rolled, solid tined, hollow tined, slit tined and top dressed.
  - Greens have been sprayed again with fungicide for fusarium.
  - Greens have been fertilised with slow release, high potash autumn fertiliser.
  - Surrounds of some greens have been sprayed with a selective herbicide to remove rye grass.
  - The damaged area on the 16<sup>th</sup> green has been returfed.
  - Winter greens have been top dressed.
  - Trees have been cut down on the left of the 8<sup>th</sup> green and on the right of the 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - Leaves are being collected using the new vacuum equipment.
  - Parts of the hedges o the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> have been trimmed.
  - Winter tee mats have been put out.
  - Three coloured marker posts have been placed along the river bank on the 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - A metal footrest bar has been added to the shoe cleaning area.
- SM reported that he had received favourable comments about the greens from professionals playing in the Alliance on Nov 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Work for the coming month will include:
  - Continuing to collect leaves
  - Roping off areas prone to damage from trolleys and foot traffic.
  - Vertidrainning tees.
  - Fertilising tees.
  - Continuing to cut greens (with pedestrian mower) as required.
  - Edgeing the path alongside the 14<sup>th</sup> tee and cover with red shale.
  - Start constructing a new path at the rear right of the 15<sup>th</sup> green.
  - Investigating wet areas of fairways and rough and rectifying problems if possible.
  - Improving the track from the sheds to the washdown area.
- SM reported that he had carried out a survey of all the bunkers on the course and would be presenting his findings at the next meeting.
- The problems of water filled and compacted bunkers were discussed. A number of ideas were suggested which will be discussed with M & H before any decisions are taken

- Following discussions it was agreed that we should be flexible as to how the course was set up over the winter. In principle, greens and tees would be used providing GH was happy that no damage would be sustained. GH will make the decisions on a day to day basis taking into account the current weather, the weather forecast and existing ground conditions.
- Following the meeting, SK and JC walked round the course. Before the next meeting JC will put forward some ideas for improvements which he hopes will add to the experience of playing golf at Withington.
- The practice net has reached the stage where it needs total refurbishment. SK will find out the cost of replacement netting.

**Date of next meeting: December 10<sup>th</sup> (TBC)**