

Course Superintendents Report July 2025

Over the month of June we received a total of 11.5 millilitres of rain which was a relief especially at this time of year. I have purposely tried to keep the course as dry as I possibly could through this time of year hoping that if we do get a downpour the ground will soak the majority of water up so we can continue to operate and get the golf carts out on the course sooner rather than later.

The beginning of this month hasn't started off well with 42.5 millilitres of rain falling on the 1st of July but the course was able to handle the rainfall and remain playable for walkers only.

We have started trying to rejuvenate some of the bare patches on the fairways caused by a combination of dry patch and ground pearl, all areas have been aerated and fertilised but I would like to really turn the soil over and get as much air in the soil as possible so when we apply our insecticide in Spring it has more of a chance to reach our targeted pest. The best possible way to do this is using a power rake because it not only rotates the soil at the desired depth but it can level the surface at the same time. I have been in contact with Concord Golf Club to see if we could borrow their attachment but I highly recommend investing in purchasing one because it will be a highly useful attachment that would be used on a regular basis and it would increase productivity because logistically it takes a long time going between here, Concord Golf Club and NSW Golf Club picking up attachments and trailers. If purchasing a power rake isn't an option I feel a trailer will be the next best option because I can just go from point A to point B instead of driving all around Sydney picking things up and dropping things off.

We have removed all the concrete in the bunker on the 2nd holed and replaced it with a bunker matting instead, the process took a week to complete and Serge was able to help out which was much appreciated. The 3rd fairway bunker has been filled in as well as the front left hand side bunker on the 13th to create a grass bunker, we will now move on to reducing the face on the 13th fairway bunker. Once this is complete we will then order the turf and lay it all at the same time.

Hydro Technics have dropped off a lot of their machinery and resources to begin our rewiring process which will be a massive improvement to our golf course this growing season. I have started planning our Spring renovations but it will all revolve around when and if we can water while this process is being performed.

We are going to aim to scarify, aerate and fertilise all fairways this year depending whether we can irrigate but unfortunately the price of fertiliser has sky rocketed over the last 5 years and if we were to fertilise it would cost close to \$8,000 which is a lot of money and I want to seek approval before purchasing.

Peter Chard

Course Superintendent