

## COURSE REPORT APRIL 2017

### Spring Hollow Core



As with previous years a deep Spring Hollow Coring took place in March.



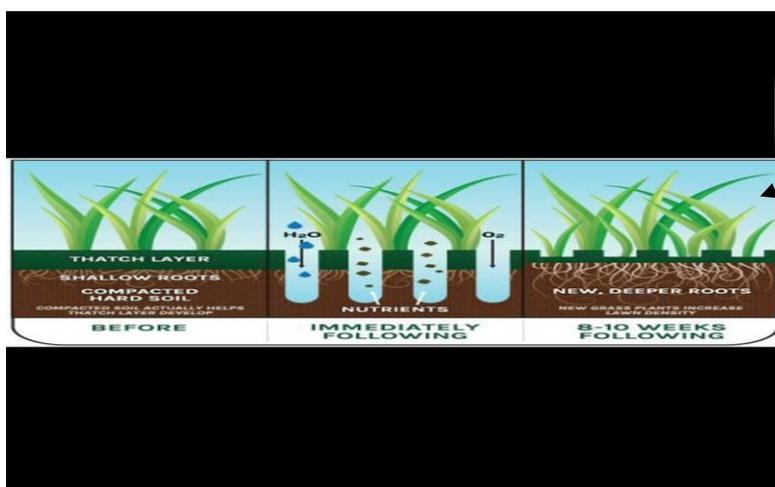
As seen here we extended the coring to include most greens aprons.



About 140 tons of sand was used to fill and dress the greens. We have exchanged over 700 tons of material with sand over the last 3 years.



Cores were collected by hand and recovery has been very good.



I am often asked why we hollow core. This brief explanation highlights the importance of this process which leads to less thatch, healthier, better quality and more free draining putting surfaces.



## Practice Area

The planning permission from Ashfield District Council has been granted for the practice area alongside the 13th Hole. We have had a reasonably good result with the initial seeding of the practice ground and this will be built upon with over seeding and treatment with appropriate fertilizers and weed control during the year and beyond. I'm hopeful this area will be available mid-summer.

Below you can see the Teeing area being laid.



Steps from the Observatory car park will be installed to allow easy access to the practice ground. Appropriate signage, measurements and targets will be incorporated as the area progresses.



We will also be constructing a path from the car park near to the Greens Compound to the practice ground.

## 15th Hole Tee Extension

Part of the planning permission also included creating a Tee extension for the 15th Hole (see Moodie / Brown course development report).



### Bunkers and Mats

All new and refurbished bunkers are now in play. Mats were removed at the end of March however pick and place on fairways will remain until the end of April.

### Winter Work

The majority of winter work has been completed, there are however some areas that are still to be tidied up and these are being done as soon as possible.

Fescue grass seeding of many areas affected by woodland work is taking place over the coming weeks and I would ask members to be patient as these areas begin to grow and establish.

### Agronomist

May will see a benchmarking visit from agronomist David Stansfield as soon as his report is completed I will feedback the results in the next course report.

### Top 100 Courses - National Club Golfer Magazine

The course has been shortlisted by National Club Golfer Magazine to be included in their inspections for England's Top 100 Golf Courses 2018. It is testament to the hard work of the Greens Team that our course is once again being recognised for its undoubted quality and I am sure our continued hard work will be looked upon very favourably by members and visitors alike.

### Pin Mapping

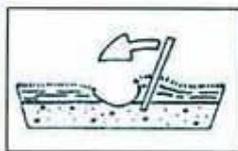
Members will have noticed in the diary and on the course some work taking place on the greens by a company called Pin Mapping. They are producing a detailed map of our greens surfaces showing dips, undulations, runs etc. A bit like a Stroke saver course guide they will be publishing a similar booklet for each hole which will be on sale in the pro shop.

### Members Doing Their Bit

I can't stress enough the contribution you as a member can make to our course, please replace any divots you may take, it makes a huge difference not only at this time of year but year round. Also any litter you find please pick it up and dispose of it in the bins it's our course let's keep it clean.

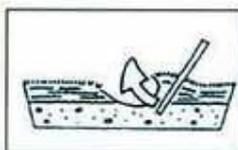
A real concern for us all are the unrepaired pitch marks so do your bit and repair an extra one or two even, the difference it makes to our greens is there for all to see.

## guide to how pitch marks should be repaired



### RIGHT WAY

1. Insert repair tool just outside the back of the ball mark. Pull the turf toward the centre of the hole. Repeat this same motion on all sides of the hole
2. Gently tap the repaired area with your putter
3. This action stretches undamaged turf over the ball mark providing instant recovery



### WRONG WAY

1. DO NOT pry up the centre of the depression with the repair tool as it exposes the soil and will delay the healing process
2. DO NOT insert repair tool and twist it. This only breaks more turf loose
3. A ball mark takes only 15-30 seconds to fix correctly. A ball mark fixed incorrectly takes over three weeks to heal. PLEASE REPAIR THE RIGHT WAY

## Our Team

Below is a recent photograph of the 2017 Greens Team. I can't express how proud I am of this group and how grateful as a member of our club for the unstinting hard work they perform on our behalf.



From Left to Right:

Dave McGarry, Chris Bailey (*Deputy Head Greenkeeper*), Callum Clarke (*Apprentice*), Christian Johnson, Ian Clarke, Richard McGarry, Jon Stocks (*Apprentice*), Ben Cumberland (*Head Greenkeeper*) and Paul Orton (*Greens Chair*)



A warm welcome to the new Vice Greens Chair Gary Sludds below who takes up his post after the recent AGM:



So you can spot me around the place here is a recent photograph.

I hope you will find Gary and I approachable so feel free to ask questions or give feedback for the greens team.



PAUL ORTON - Greens Chair Coxmoor Golf Club