

Course news- April 2011

Spring is almost over and you would have been forgiven for thinking we have been in the height of summer as the daytime temperatures have been almost in the 30's and the weather glorious. This dry weather has caused us a few problems during the bunker renovations as the newly laid turf has shrunk in some areas. We will address these problems by filling in any gaps with a loamy dressing.

Since my last update we have employed 2 qualified greenkeepers, Rob Lucas and John Quinn. They have both worked at some prestigious golf courses and are settling well here at CHGC.

As you may have seen we have recently started our spring programme. This includes aeration, scarification, top-dressing, overseeding and feeding.

The work carried out, although very disruptive to the playing surface is vital to maintaining a healthy green. As well as relieving compaction allowing for gaseous exchange, improved drainage and root growth it helps with the removal of thatch. Thatch is a layer of dead, decaying or living organic matter which if excessive can create an unfavourable growth environment which can promote an array of problems such as diseases, dry spots and moss.

In the next few weeks we would like to organise a divoting party. This would not only benefit the course but it would be a good chance for the members to meet the greenstaff and ask questions about what goes on, on the course. I will get a date sorted out at the next committee meeting and look forward to seeing you there!

Jon Scoones
Course Manager