



## Cheadle Golf Club

### Winter Plan 2023 October to January

#### General Maintenance

Day to Day course maintenance will continue throughout the winter. In accordance with weather conditions, playing areas will be mowed when appropriate and without damaging turf.

- TEES will be fully divoted, kept clear of leaves, receive aeration work through either slitting or verti draining, and will receive a granular or liquid feed to provide appropriate nutrition. Mats will be brushed and improved throughout the winter.
- FAIRWAYS will be slit, traffic management will be put in place to avoid excessive damage, any vehicle impact will be repaired through forking and sanding, leaves will be removed or blown.
- APPROACHES/TEMPORARY GREENS will be slit, kept clear of leaves, winter holes will be trimmed or relocated as appropriate.
- GREENS will be brushed for dew removal, switched for worm casting and debris, receive aeration, holes trimmed/moved, disease preventative treatment will be applied, and they will receive seasonal fertilisers/water penetrants in accordance with their nutritional programme.
- BUNKERS are to be continually maintained. Raking, weeding, and edging will continue. We may need to prioritise other projects if there is a particularly bad week of weather, but bunkers will not slip into a state of neglect. Sand levels will be reviewed and replenished ahead of the new season.

## *Project work and estimated timings*

### IN PROGRESS;

Installation of new drainage on the 5<sup>th</sup> green is currently underway. A new network of plastic perforated drainage is being laid to the back half of the green to attempt to end the annual saturation of the green. Throughout the summer there were 3 attempts to reseed the damaged areas which all largely failed. It was hollow cored and sanded to try to dry the site, with insufficient improvement. Just lifting the turf in preparation for trench installation has revealed anaerobic and saturated soil, evidential through black layer, a result of excess organic matter and bacteria hampering root growth. The rotten smell this releases has been evident when verti draining on multiple occasions.

The front of the green has already seen refreshment of an existing faulty drain, and 2 additional spurs piped and gravelled under the damaged front-right corner.

Removal of several bushes/stunted trees in the bank of the stream across the course has already taken place. Hopefully this will open accessibility and aid play, particularly on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> holes. Weed removal from the stream is an ongoing process.

### *FURTHER PROJECTS;*

*October/November*

### TEES

The uneven nature of several of the tee surfaces is going to be rectified. We are anticipating partial levelling of uneven areas on the 1<sup>st</sup> tee, and a whole levelling of the 2<sup>nd</sup> tee. This will be achieved by lifting the turf, and bringing additional rootzone to the sites which can be more accurately graded into the soil. Upon completion of these, the next tees for improvements will be evaluated, and could carry on in the new year.

### GREENS

Following completion of the 5<sup>th</sup> drainage work, the increasing waterlogging on the left of the 8<sup>th</sup> green will be investigated. At a later stage, drainage to the rear of the 6<sup>th</sup> green needs investigating.

### TREES

Cutting back of trees/branches that are encroaching on playing areas will begin and be an ongoing task through the winter months. The right of the 9<sup>th</sup> fairway will be the first focus in

reclaiming playing area, and hedge and tree growth will be cut back with the tools in our possession, and possibly with the hire of outside equipment such as a cherry picker.

Low branches all over the course will begin to be cut back, probably one plantation at a time. An area currently in the 8<sup>th</sup> plantation for burning of brash and branches will likely be kept as a fire site for the next few months and will be marked as GUR accordingly.

### *December/January*

Areas of trees that need attention will continue. There are a couple of trees being considered for pruning or removal to enhance playability of certain holes. This will only be carried out in agreement with the Golf Club.

The hedge and trees to the right of the 3<sup>rd</sup> green need to be thinned from the course boundary to avoid sideways growth spilling onto the footpath and pavement at the side of Cheadle Road. During the early summer the club received complaints regarding this issue.

Branches and debris from previous years will also be removed and tidied to improve the course appearance.

### PATHS

As well as regular maintenance of the current paths, we will aim to improve certain areas of path that have become worn out and uneven. Ideally and according to budget, we will turf-cut the edges of poor areas and install rails to define and raise the path, then add a thick stone for a sub-base and finer path topping.

### PRACTICE AND WINTER MATS

The current mats on the practice area are to be reviewed and if necessary, replaced and repositioned. Similarly, the mats on the tees for winter use will receive repairs and new frameworks/bases installed for easier maintenance and more level performance.

### DRAINAGE CHAMBER (Right of 6)

The hole in the ground that has been indefinitely roped off is going to receive attention! It is a good point for drainage inspection, as several drain inlets can be located here. Ideally, if weather had allowed, we would already have acted, but as soon as the current water level subsides, we can install a solid base and sides to the chamber and fix a removable cover.

## MISCELLANEOUS

The shed and surrounding areas will be improved and made more presentable.

There might be external input regarding water management in the stream, a follow up to the 'leaky damn' work which may need staff input.

Repair work to the collapsed section of stream bank.

Machinery maintenance and servicing.

In correspondence with the Greens Chairman, there will be a continual list of additional works. Progress will be reviewed and assessed ahead of plans for February/March.