



**Columbia Association Green Committee
APPROVED Agenda**

Meeting Date	05/20/2014 – 7pm
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Attendance

Chris Ward	Joan Lovelace
Donald Fitzgerald	Nick Mooneyhan
Mo Dutterer	Don Van Deusen
Buck Hartley	Daniel Wildeman
Ben Clements	
Beth Leaman	

Topic	
Review and Approval of Agenda Review & Approval of 02/18/14 Minutes	
Superintendents' Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hobbit's Glen • Fairway Hills 	
Columbia Association: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hobbit's Glen Clubhouse Update 	
General Manager/Club Professional Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hobbit's Glen • Fairway Hills 	
New Business	
Adjournment	

Superintendent's Report

Fairway Hills Golf Club

May 20, 2014

Course Conditions:

The temperatures over the past month have been great for cool season turf growth. Our greens, tees, approaches have filled in nicely and the rough is filling in well. With the heavy rains it has been a challenge to get the rough mowed frequently enough. Rough mowers can do more harm than good if we put them out right after a heavy rain. To help greens consistency and to promote upright, dense growth we have been vertical mowing the greens on and off for the past week. Vertical blades skim the greens canopy just ahead of the mower blades to stand the turf up before its cut. With the cool temperatures this is a good opportunity for this practice. Tees, approaches and greens have been sprayed with plant growth regulators to slow upright growth and promote a denser canopy. PGRs improve plant health, prolong fungicide activity and reduce the amount of poa annua populations. So far this year I feel these playing surfaces are responding well to our chemical and fertilizer applications.

The fairways have filled in a lot over the past week with the warm days. But we still have some work to do. Unfortunately many areas are not receiving as much direct sun light as others. These areas along with those that had standing water and ice over the winter are thin with growth if any at all. We have noticed a great deal of growing roots in these areas and are confident much of it will fill in naturally. Spring dead spot damage is far less than in previous years. Our program of proper aerifying, fertility and the right fungicide seems to have made an impact. We have sprayed the most severely hit fairways over the past 3 years and today the SDS is hardly noticeable. We'll definitely spread our program out to other fairways this year.

The high water table has caused a number of abnormal wet areas (springs) on the course. The left side of # 2 fairway, right side of # 10 fairway and on # 15. I have seen this happen in years past after a severe winter. There is no way for us to dry these areas out so we'll have to be patient and let nature run its course. Once these areas do dry out they'll be mowed and aerified.

Agronomic Plan:

To promote growth on fairways we plan to feed them with a quick release fertilizer. This will give them color, density and promote lateral growth. The areas with little to no top growth will be aggressively verticut to open up the roots to air and sunlight. Over the next few weeks we'll be applying a pre-emergent on fairways for goosegrass and crabgrass and soon after our grub control product. Also upcoming tees, approaches and roughs will get their season long fertilizer application.

Storm Damage:

We are still feeling the effects of the flood on May 1st as well as last week's flooding. Our tunnel pumps were pushed passed their limit resulting in ponds in each tunnel. It takes about 3 hours for our portable pumps to clear each tunnel. Our 3 portable pumps do about 400 gallons a minute. That's over 70,000 gallons in each! The bunkers were washed out and filled with sediment but we have them back in shape. Some river banks were washed away and planning is underway on how to combat the problem.



12 tee station



6 green

Thanks for all your patience as we continue to clean up storm damage. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me or Nick. Thanks and see you on the course.

Wade Shaw

wade.shaw@columbiaassociation.org

Director's Report

Hobbit's Glen Golf Club

May 2014

Course Conditions:

It has been a difficult spring to say the least. The cool temperatures and more than adequate rainfall has created the perfect conditions for cool season grass growth. We have been using two rough mowers and two surrounds mowers out just to keep up. A blower is sent behind the mowers to disperse clippings. Greens are in terrific shape and have fully recovered from aerification. We have been aggressively grooming the greens to reduce the grain and laid over leaf blades. I have also increased the growth regulator rates recently to help reduce leaf tissue, to help speed up the greens and to help deter poa annua populations. You may have noticed that the poa populations have increased this spring. Cool wet weather favors annual bluegrass growth over bentgrass. However, I can identify bentgrass plants within the annual bluegrass patches. The annual bluegrass populations will reduce as I increase growth regulator rates and temperatures increase. Our annual bluegrass reduction strategy needs to be expanded into the roughs beginning next fall.



The fairways have been slow to green up and fill in completely due to the cooler temperatures especially night temperatures. I am currently evaluating the extent of any winter damage to determine what renovations are needed to recover. A combination of verticutting and sodding will be used on the moderately to severe areas while areas that are showing signs of growth will be helped along with nitrogen applications. The picture below is of Hole # 2. Notice the zoysia grass primary on the left made it through the winter just fine, while latitude bermuda grass did not. The zoysia installed last year on #14 fairway is also doing well. I am considering expanding these zoysia areas as early evaluations have been promising. Overall, I believe the zoysia to be a better choice over bermuda grass in shaded and cart traffic is excessive. There is less than 10,000 sq ft of bermuda grass that requires attention and only a small fraction of that will require sod.



The turnhouse sewer line installation is nearing completion. The line runs the entire left side of hole # 10. The trench has been back-filled and strawed as temporary stabilization. My staff will take over soon to perform the final grading, sodding and hydro seeding. A machine, known as a rock hound will be needed to reestablish the area back to previous form. The contractor will provide a credit back to the Maintenance department for completing the work.

The course received 7.5" of rain in within three days over April 28, 29 ad 30. The flood waters eroded the soil alongside a large drain pipe causing a section of cart path to collapse. The damaged has been valued at \$50,000. The repairs and replacement of the pipe will be covered under our insurance policy for the most part. The repairs will begin on May 26 and will take two weeks to complete.



Thank you for your continued support as we improve the course!

Nick Mooneyhan

Director of Golf Maintenance

Columbia Association