**GREENS REPORT**

**August 2024**

As I'm writing this on Monday afternoon it's pouring down outside. Kind of typical of this Summer, in fact kind of typical of the last year.

I've noticed a lot more fungal activity this last 2 months, with massive puffballs on the 7th fairway and fairy rings on 6th fairway, with a few fairy rings now appearing on the 5th green.

This leads me onto the disease on the greens. It is bad this year with take all patch on most of the greens with the 8th green particularly affected. The greens have now received a Summer granular feed to perk them up a bit . I've been researching into the causes of take all patch disease, and it could be a number of things:

* Soil PH risen
* Imbalance of nutrients
* Summer stress of the grass plant Worse in cool wet years.

I've had PH samples taken from the greens and the water is being PH tested. Awaiting those results. The annoying thing is with this particular disease it tends to affect the finer bent grasses. I'm continuing with a programme of overseeding with fescue as it is more resistant to take all patch.

Out on the course continuing with the usual cutting, divoting of tees and fairways etc.

My thoughts are now turning towards our greens maintenance week in September. I'll have a chat with the Greens convenor about that soon.

The bell and it’s stand at the 11th are now both knackered and really need to be renewed. Maybe with the SGTC logo incorporated.

I'd like to highlight the continuing lack of golf course etiquette seen out on the course - Divots not being replaced on fairways, bunkers not being raked and the amount of broken tees left lying on the tees is shocking.

*Stewart Fotheringham*

Head Greenkeeper