



Course & Greens Update – May 2024

Dear members,

This report follows on from March and April notices and covers the current state of our greens and progress of recent communications of course improvements. Previous reports can be found at

<https://www.singletongolfclub.com.au/news>

Since the last report, a course advisory committee was formed to provide strategic direction for the course. This committee will provide advice on both short-term presentation, and long-term course master plan development. The committee is made up of current and past directors and course maintenance volunteers of various backgrounds, gender and golfing ability. Minutes of the first and future meetings can be found at <https://www.singletongolfclub.com.au/news> including the list of members involved in the committee.

In summary, the first meeting provided the following short-term outcomes.

- A request to remove the temporary cart barriers from the course was seen as a positive move to improve the look of the course. It was agreed to run a trial with the barriers removed and monitor for cart compliance to 10m stand off from greens.
- A request to shorten the carry from tees to fairways on the 3rd, 7th, 10th and 14th was unanimously endorsed.
- A request to widen the fairways by one mower cut was unanimously endorsed.
- A request to mow the fairway through the creek crossing on the 3rd was unanimously endorsed. This would need assessment on pipe coverage before fully committing.
- A request to mow the fairway to the green on the 8th was unanimously endorsed.
- A project to improve the tees was tabled and a plan to level these is underway. It is likely the second tee will be targeted first.
- A plan is being developed to continue with cart path extensions, with completion of the second and the path around the back of the 8th targeted first.

With the temporary cart barriers removed, we expect all members driving carts to remain 10m from greens and continue to use existing paths at all times. We encourage all members to please remind those cart drivers not adhering to the 10m clearance from greens of this requirement. This will prevent cart wear around the greens and prevent the return of barriers.

Steve has advised the extensions and widening of the fairways will be a progressive program as the mowers transition the rough to the fairway cut.

The greens

Autumn greens renovations recovery has progressed well, and we are finally back playing on 7 of the greens. The second and fourth will be put in play this coming weekend to coincide with the Singleton Open. The back of the second will remain cordoned off until it is fully established.

We thank all members for their patience and support during this past 8 weeks and fully appreciate the inconvenience this has caused. We believe our revised chemical and fertiliser program will see the greens return to their best condition and improve resilience to summers warmer weather.

We have taken possession of the spray unit which will be in action from this week onwards. This is a significant investment for the future quality of our greens.

The practice putting green

A few program changes have occurred in this space over the past few months with the practice putting green planned for reshaping in the coming weeks. The overgrown kikuyu surrounding the green will be excavated back and the area will be seeded to significantly increase the current putting surface area.



The dam fountain

Thanks to Mick at Singleton Pump and Water and Ricky J for their assistance in the design and operation of the dam fountain which has been operational for 3 weeks now. Aeration of the dam will assist in improving water quality to further strengthen the greens resilience during the warmer months.

The practice fairway green

The practice fairway green project has been put on hold for now whilst we concentrate all efforts to reestablish the playing greens to their best condition. We intend to progress as time permits and Ron Hinwood from Ellerston becomes available again.

If you have any questions or would like to put forward any suggestions, please don't hesitate to send them through to Chad.Vesper@singletongolfclub.com.au.

Yours in golf

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