

COURSE SUB-COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024 AGM

Improvement works completed or underway

There has been a lot of construction work undertaken over the past 12 months. The following captures some of the work and a future vision for the next few years.

Fairways

Work commenced to improve the growth on the fairways with the control of couch mite and black beetle along with many other common pests. The results over the last growing season were certainly a step forward and with ongoing care and attention there should be continued improvement.

Teeing Grounds

We have focussed on the par 3 teeing areas as it was noted the surface area was fine for a club of 200 people with limited rounds played – but as we passed 500 members it was very clear there was simply not enough surface area to allow sufficient rest and recovery time between use. We also see some of this impact on our other Teeing grounds.

To this end the work undertaken on the par 3 tees should see us in good shape well into the future.

Bunkers

It was identified the current bunker sand was not draining at all – this meant any time it rained the bunkers became unplayable. To rectify this a huge amount of work has been carried out by the volunteer crew digging out the old bunker sand – improving the drainage where required, installing Geofab and refilling with sand.

Greens

Recently the greens were returned to the original designed size. This will allow for some interesting pin placements that have not been possible in the recent years

None of any of the above work could be undertaken without the continued assistance of the volunteer crew – always willing to assist in any way possible – a huge thanks for all involved.

Future Works – Vision for the future

Teeing Grounds

The remaining Teeing Grounds will all be levelled – enlarged and improved over time – the new nursery currently being established between the 9th and 10th fairways will play a big role in this.

The end vision is to have 4 Teeing areas for each hole Black, Blue, Red and White allowing for different options for each hole allowing patrons to play the course that suits them on the day.

Vegetation

It is the goal to return as much of the course as possible to Native indigenous vegetation – encouraging native wildlife and create a really tranquil setting to enjoy the game of golf. Part of this is to remove a majority of the pine trees to allow for the native revegetation to occur. Pine trees have roots very close or above the surface dragging moisture away from the turf, the roots that are above surface damage equipment course equipment and the pine needles dropped increase the acidity of the soil. None of these attributes are good for a golf course.

Practice facilities

The practice facilities are in process of being upgraded – the first step will be to have range balls available at the driving range – along with an updated area to hit from. This will bring an extra income stream to the club provide additional facilities for the patrons. In time a short game area will also be constructed to complete the practice area

John Kerr

Chairman – Greens Sub-Committee, Belvoir Park Golf Club