



AEdG Conference

November 2011

Gordon McKie
Course Manager
The Old Course



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Agenda

Preparations and changes from 2005

Managing the Old Course for an Open

Road Hole changes

Championship Week

Post Open



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Preparations and changes



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Areas needing looked at:

Greens surround and bunkers

Fairway widths, rough and site lines

Reducing 'Fairy Ring' activity



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2nd Greenside Bunkers





4th Green Surround





5th Green Surround



Hill Bunker





7th/11th Green Surround



Before...



...during...



9th Green

...After









4th Fairway





Growing rough



Sight lines





Fairy Rings



Promotional filming









Study Tours



Just another Sunday!





Divots!



Managing the Old Course for an Open



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Maintenance Practices

Fertiliser

Irrigation

Aeration

Topdressing

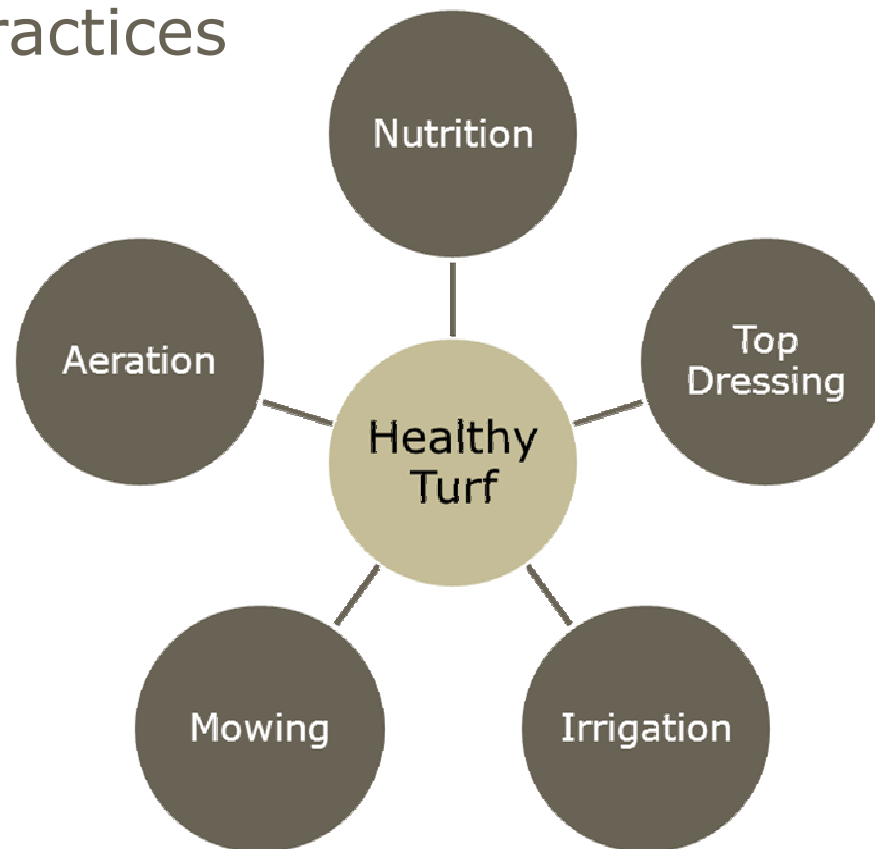
Mowing Programmes

Chemical Usage



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Cultural Practices



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Fertiliser Regime

< 40Kg N/Ha

Applied by hand or applicators



Greens and surrounds fertiliser application

Date	Product	Analysis			Kg/L/Ha	Total used	N	P	K
		N	P	K					
07/02/10	Seamac Proturf	2.5			15L/Ha	60L	0.55		
11/04/10	Scotts Sp start	16	0	16	150Kg/Ha	460Kg	24		24
14/06/10	Seamac Proturf	2.5			15L/Kg	60L	0.55		
05/09/10	Seamac Proturf	2.5			15L/Kg	48L	0.44		
24/10/10	Scotts Invig.	4	0	8	250Kg/Ha	750Kg	10		16
Total units used (Kg/Ha)							35.54		40

Irrigation

Not much needed in last few years

Hand watering preferred option



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Aeration

8 mm tines Verti-Drain
12 mm tines Verti-Drain
Hydroject
Hollow coring



Over-seeding Specifications

Greens

50% Slender Creeping Red
Fescue

50% Chewings Fescue

Tees, Aprons, Fairways

30% Slender Creeping Red Fescue

30% Chewings Fescue

30% Strong Creeping Red Fescue

10% Browntop Bent



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Topdressing

Little & Often

300T – Greens/Surrounds/Tees
Nov – May

300T – Fairways Nov – May



Benefits of Sand Topdressing

Organic Matter dilution

Promote fine grasses

Aids firmness

Excellent drainage properties

Smooth surfaces



Mowing Programmes

Hand Mow all season from April 1

6 staff daily / 3Hrs

Produce better surface earlier

Reduce risk of Hydraulic leaks

No triples until after tournament



Large surfaces





Green sizes

5 and 13 = 37,846 sq.ft.(3,500 m²)

8 and 10 = 36,063 sq.ft.(3,350 m²)

17 = 7,078 sq.ft.(657 m²)

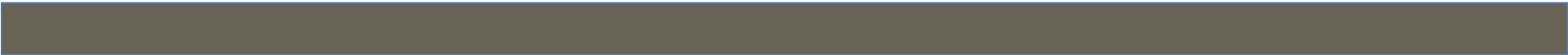
18 = 15,570 sq.ft.(1,450 m²)

Green 5 and 13 is 98 yards from front to back.

Green 7 and 11 is 112 yards from left to right.

Green 6 and 12 is 104 yards from left to right.

Fairway 1 and 18 is 129 yards wide and = 7.2 acres. (30,000 m²)



Chemical Usage

No fungicide for 20 years

Herbicide used for control of weeds in fairways

Hand picking weeds greens and tees



Then we get one of the coldest snaps in 30yrs!



Sunday 27th Dec – 4/14 Green



Monday 11th January – 18th Green



Tuesday 12th January – 8th Green



Highest tide in 50 years!



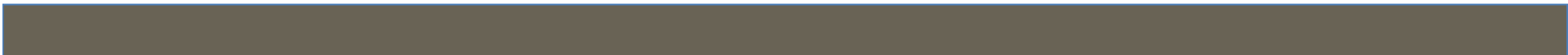
Rough Management





Pearlwort





Road Hole Changes

New image here please



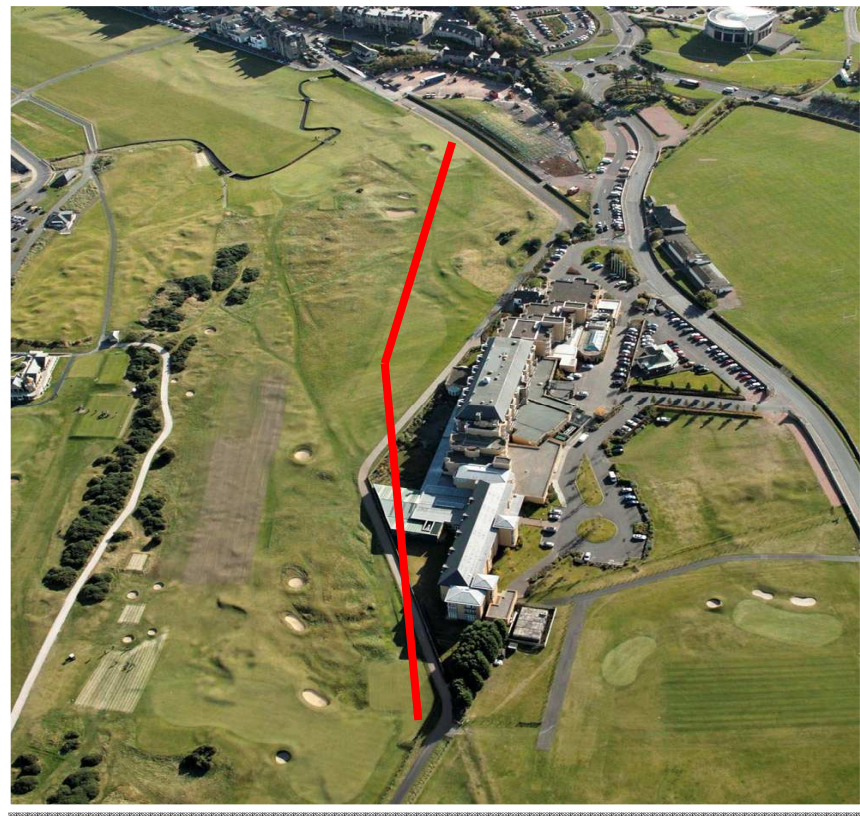
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Road Hole

Probably most famous golf hole in the world !

Over years has become a weaker hole for top players

Most players hit drive and short iron to green – Hole length – 455 Yds



Road Hole

Blue Line – existing tee and line to landing area

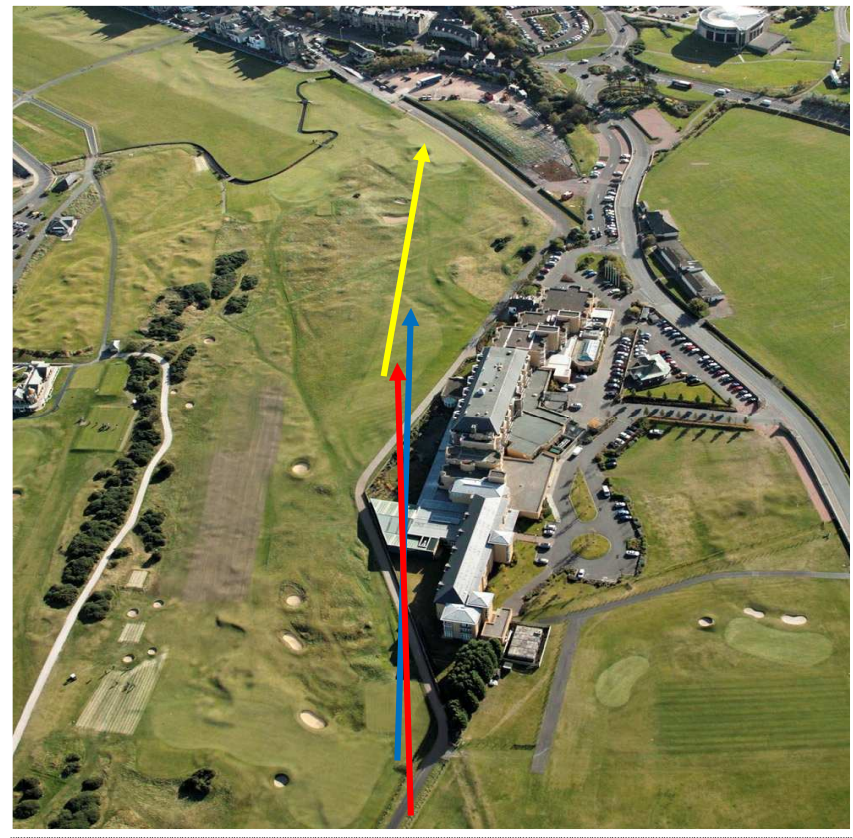
Red Line – New Championship Tee and line to new landing area

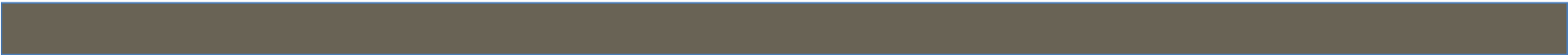
Hole will increase to 490 Yds

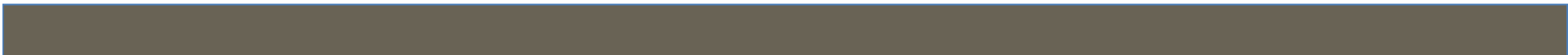
Drive and 4/5 iron to green

More challenging

Drama!









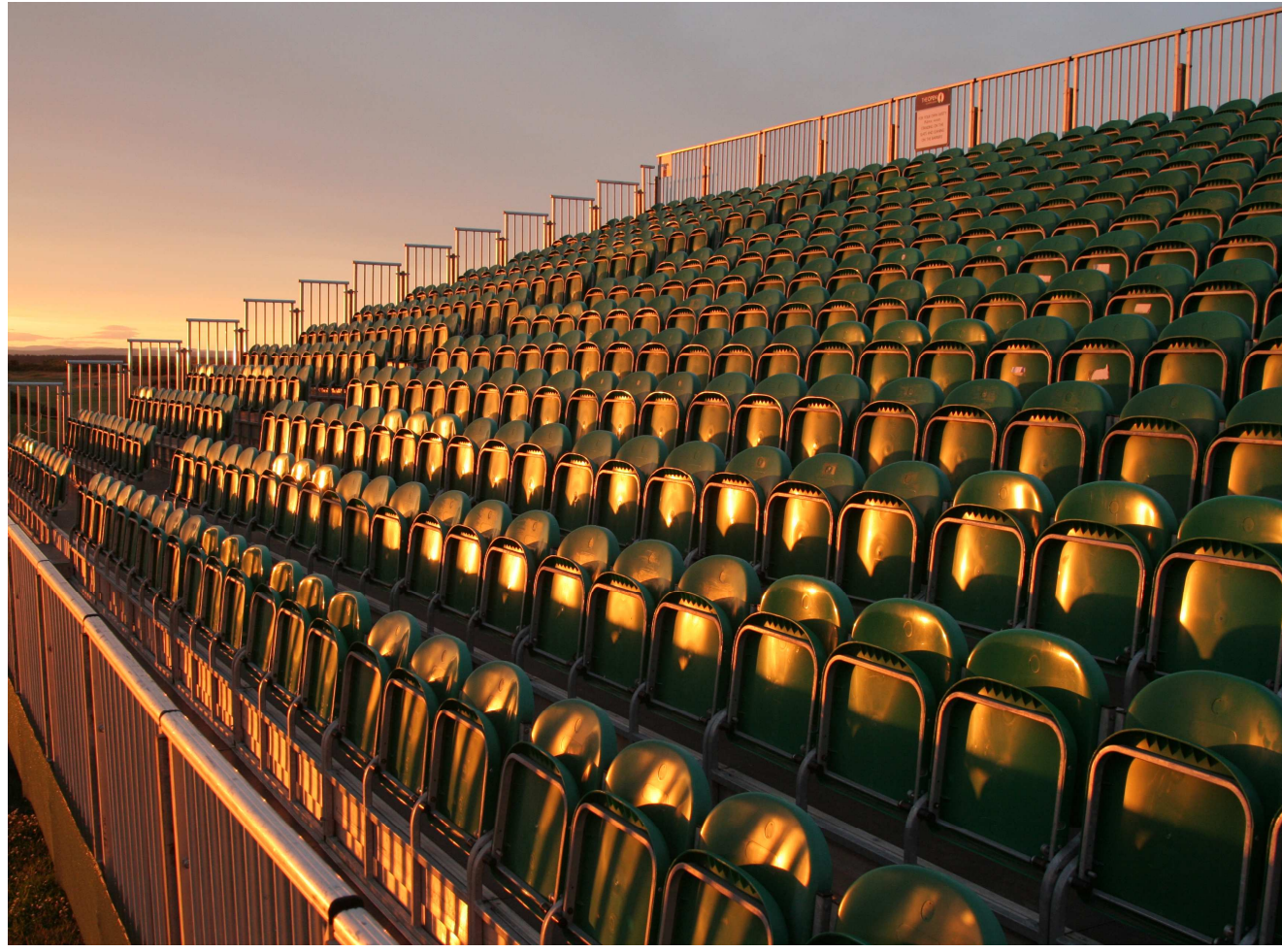




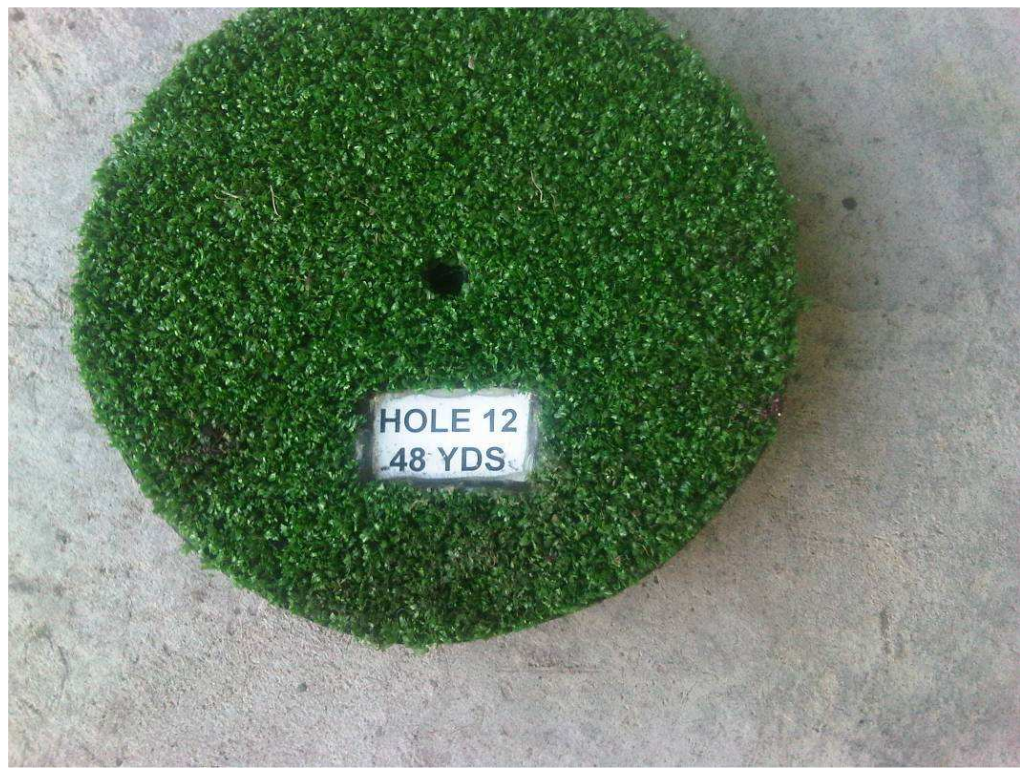
Nesting Birds



Grandstand Locations



Grandstand builds



Attention to detail!



Championship Week



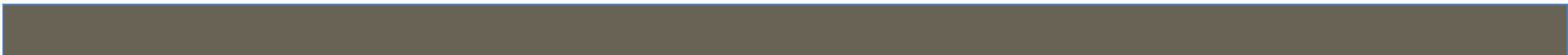
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Saturday 10th July









The best laid schemes o' mice and men, gang aft agley. Robert Burns, 1796



The STRI Programme

STRI Programme & The Old Course

Inconsistency in green speeds and smoothness

How can we improve performance?

2008 evaluated how best we can we improve this

Organic Matter Testing

Evaluation of Specific Greens through 2009



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Process of Assessment

2009 Evaluated Greens 1, 6 & 9

Evaluation consisted of taking

Organic Matter Testing

Moisture readings

Firmness Readings

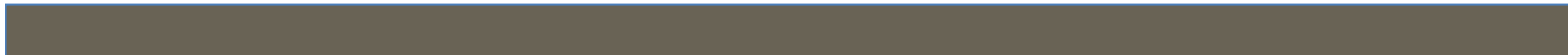
Green Speeds

Undertook full trial assessment during Dunhill Links in October





Organic Matter Content							
Loss of Ignition (%)							
	1G	4G	9G	11G	15G	17G	PG
0 – 20 mm	9.0 (9.8)	8.2	7.3 (7.8)	8.5	9.5	8.5	6.2
20 - 40 mm	5.9 (5.9)	4.4	4.0 (5.0)	5.8	5.0	5.4	3.7
40 - 60 mm	4.1 (4.0)	3.3	3.4 (3.5)	3.5	3.3	3.0	0.9
60 - 80 mm	3.8 (4.1)	3.8	3.3 (3.8)	4.1	4.0	3.3	0.7



2009 Conclusions

Greens 1 & 6

Slower, more moisture retentive and softer
Higher organic matter content

Green 9

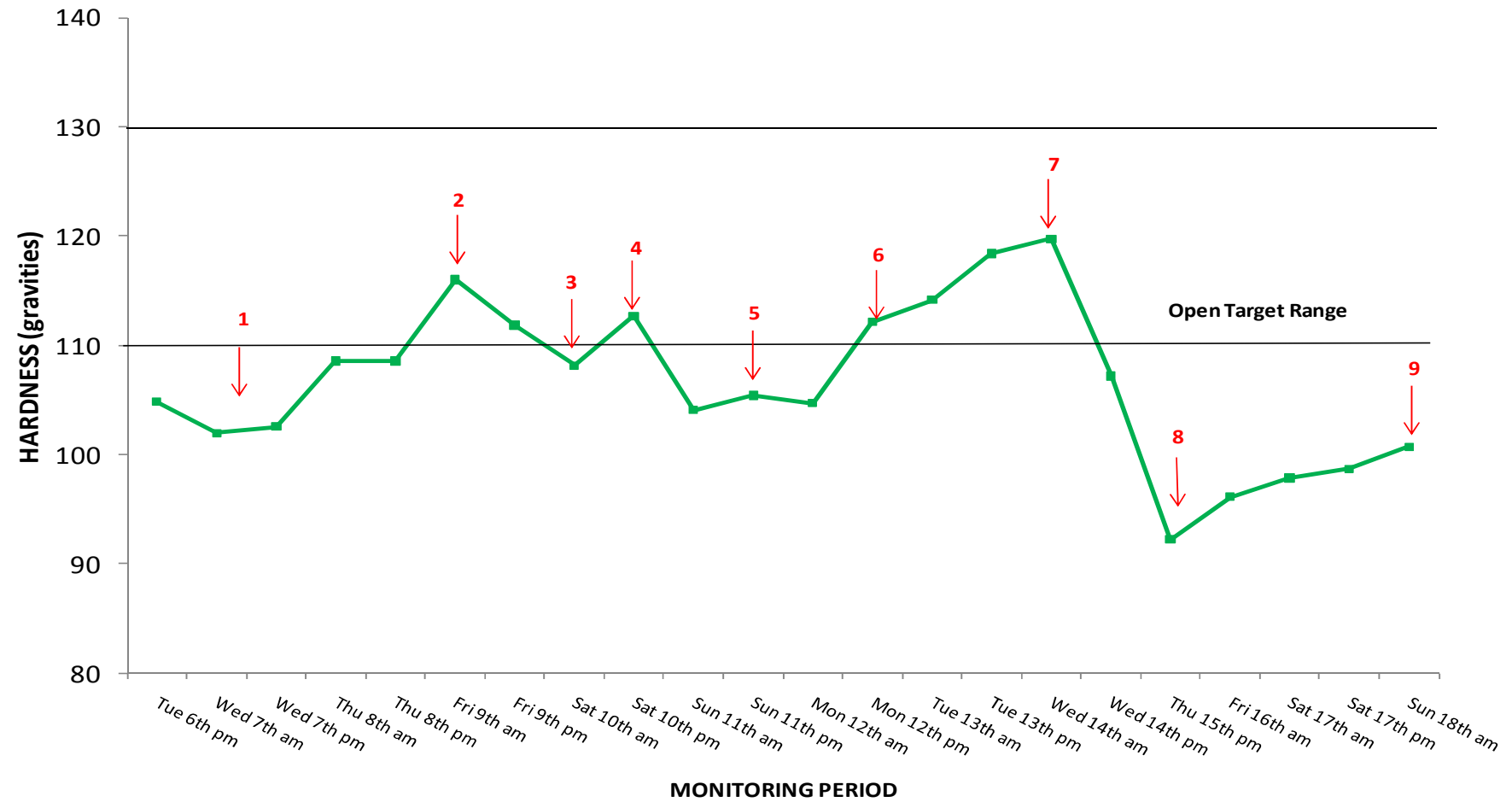
Firmer, Drier, Smoother



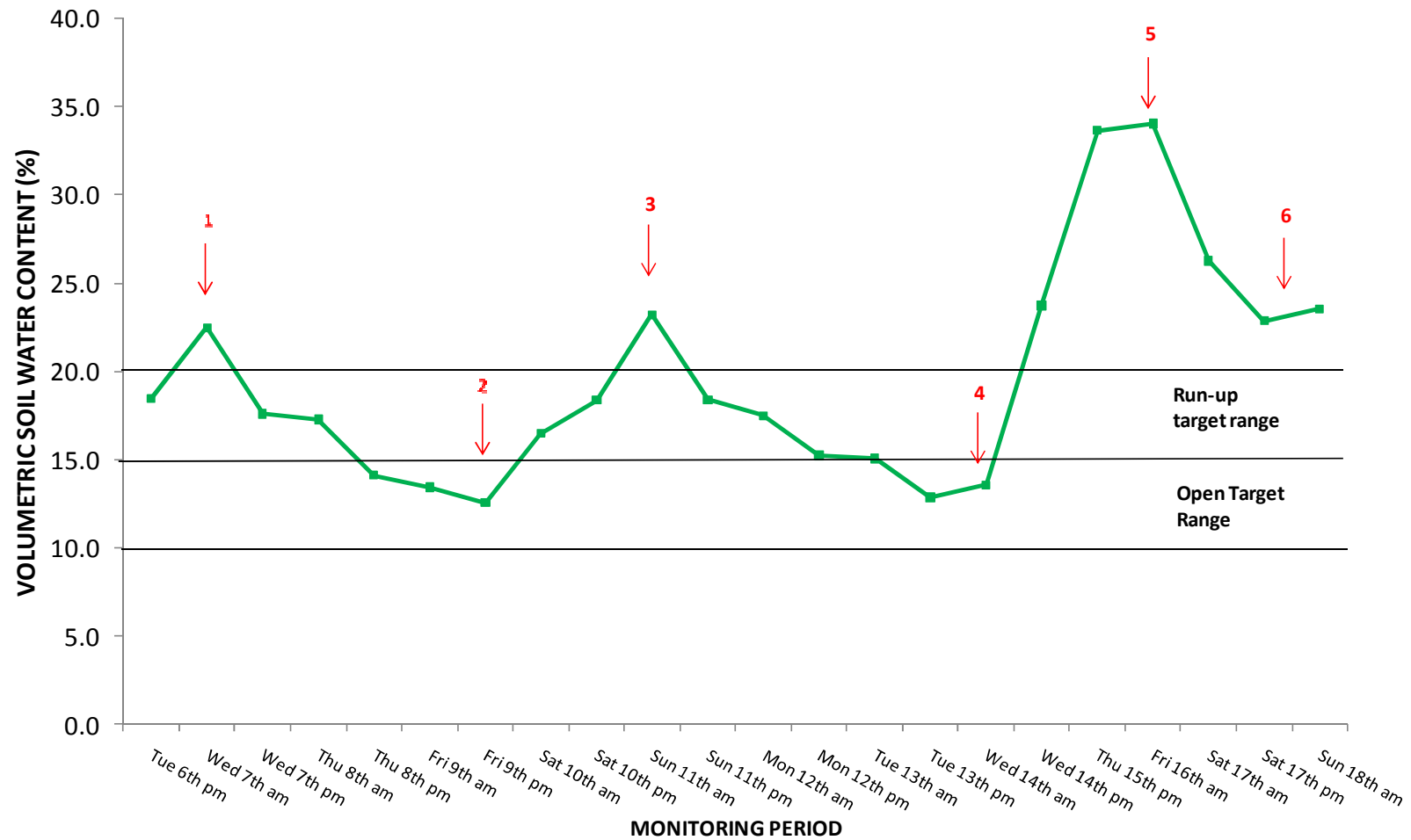
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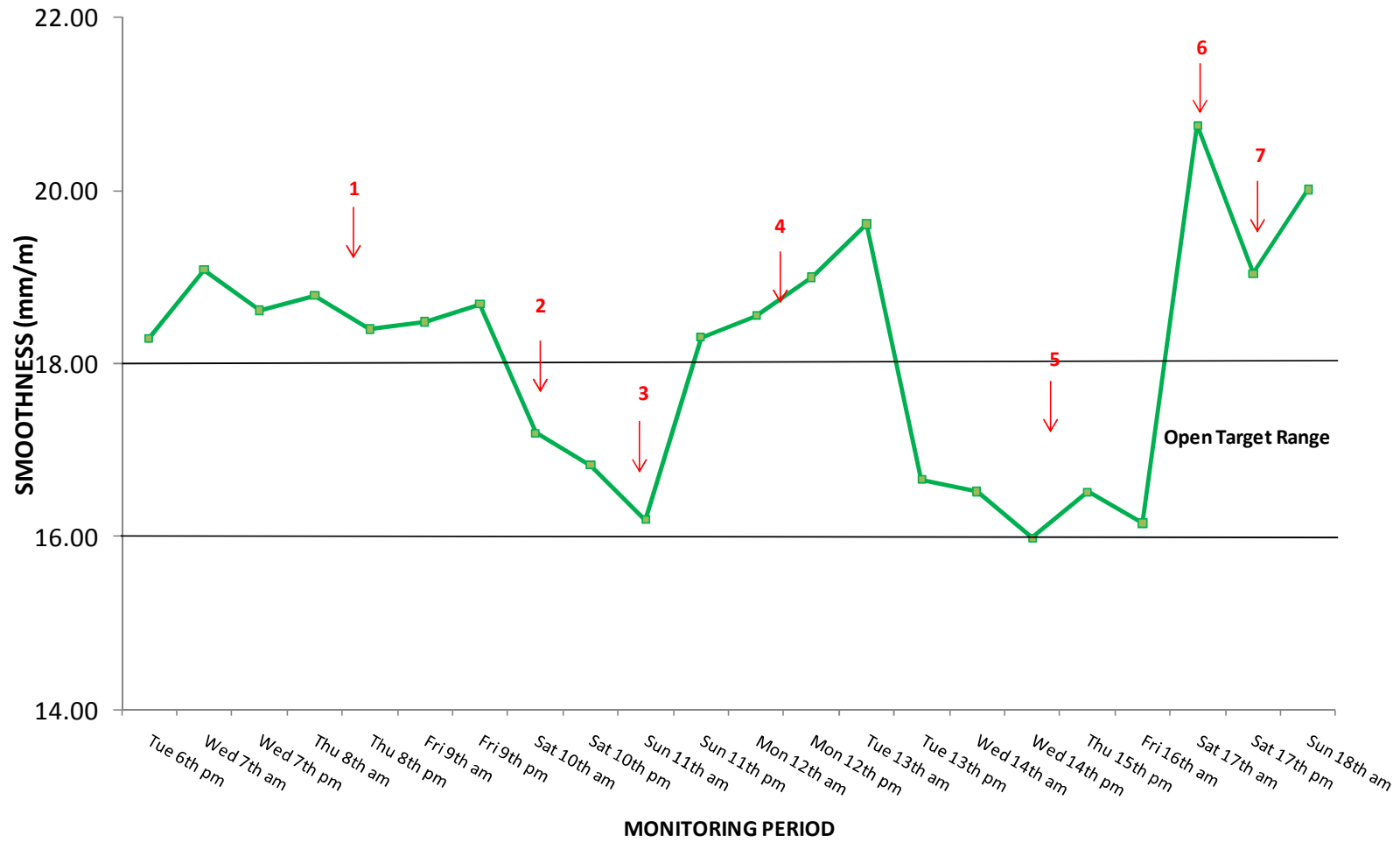
2010 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP AVERAGE HARDNESS OF OLD COURSE GREENS



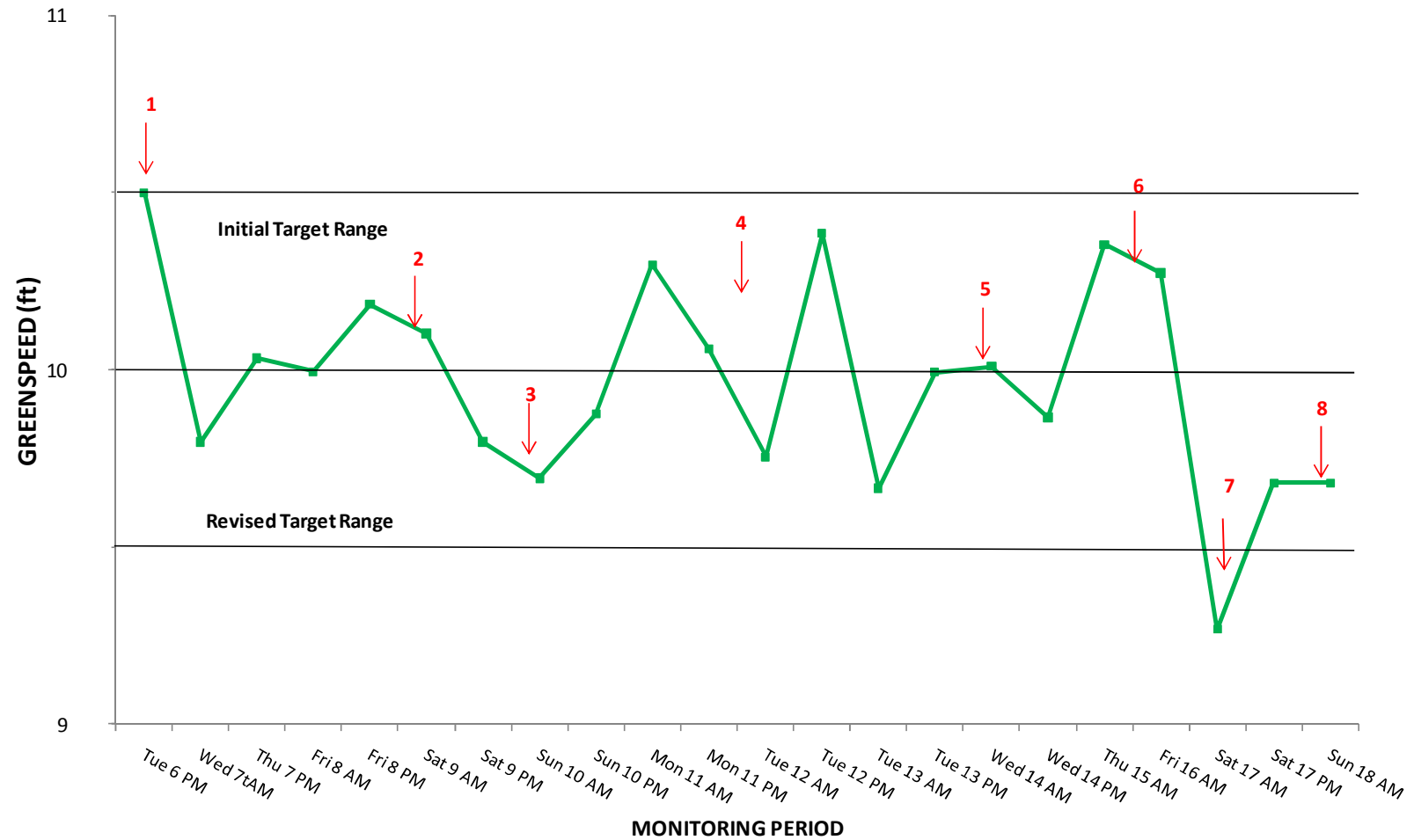
2010 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP AVERAGE SOIL WATER CONTENT OF OLD COURSE GREENS



2010 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP AVERAGE SMOOTHNESS OF OLD COURSE GREENS



2010 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP AVERAGE GREENSPEED OF OLD COURSE GREENS







"I thought the greens at St Andrews were fantastic. I think I only had two three putts in four rounds so that in itself is a testament to the quality of them."

Open Champion, Louis Oosthuizen



Post Open

New image here please



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The Day After...

Old Course – Open for play 7am

New Course – Open for play 9am

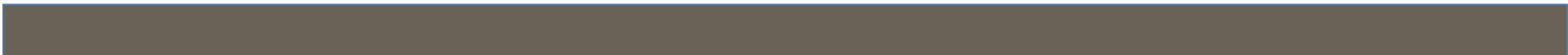
Eden Course – Open for play 9am

Jubilee and Strathtyrum – Open 3 days later

August 31st – Goodbye contractors and we get our practice ground back



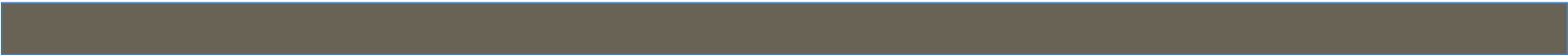
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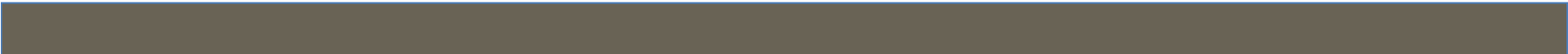


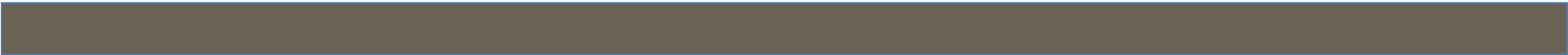


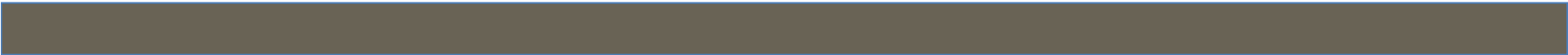














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