

TOURNAMENT AGRONOMY PREPARATION REPORT

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

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Tournament: **LET Qualifying School**

Tournament Date: 6-9 and 13-17 December 2012

Visit Date: 27/09/2012

Please refer to this report when planning maintenance in advance of **LET Qualifying School 2012**.

INTRODUCTION

It was my pleasure to visit the Al Maaden Golf Club to complete my second course inspection in advance of the LET Qualifying School. The purpose of this visit was to evaluate the condition of the golf course at Marrakech (Morocco) and identify any issues which needed to be addressed for the final preparation of the course for the tournament in December.

The golf course overall condition has improved since our last visit. They are following all the cultural practices recommendations and they are making a big effort to get all the necessary resources to improve the golf course condition. This together with the professionalism of the greenkeeper makes our job easier. We would like to congratulate him on the work being carried out.

TOURNAMENT HEIGHT OF CUT

All tournament height of cut (HOC), with the exception of greens must be in place no later than one month in advance of the tournament. The following was agreed:

Greens – 3-3.2mm
Tournament Tees - 10mm
Green Collar - 9mm
Approach - 9mm
Fairways - 12mm
Semi-Rough - 25mm
Playable Rough - 50mm (mowed up to Wednesday of event week only)

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS AND SUBSEQUENT SUGGESTIONS

The greenkeeping items we reviewed on the golf course and discussed post course inspection are listed below:

Greens

Greens were recently hollow cored and are still recovering from the labor.



During the tournament week greens must be firm, without any spiking issue and speeds between 10.5 and 11.5 feet on the stimp meter are desirable. To achieve these goals we recommend to strictly following the next planning from now until the tournament:

October

- Weekly light grooming and light topdressing.
- Weekly double brushing.
- Weekly spoon feeding.

November

- Weekly light double grooming and light topdressing.
- Weekly spoon feeding.

Regular light dressings will help to maintain levels, keep surfaces firm and maintain green speeds without the need to roll or reduce height of cut.

- ✓ Maintain a well balanced fertilizer programme avoiding flushes in growth and leaning off of the turf.
- ✓ Ensure sensible use of irrigation avoiding overwatering.

I was talking to the greenkeeper about the need to make a preventative fungicide treatment and he thinks is not necessary due to the lower disease pressure that they have at this time of the year.

Everything in this report should be carried out with care and should any factor not be correct or causing damage then the process should be halted or replaced depending on what is best at this time. All greens should be checked daily for stress, disease or any other factors that may affect the surfaces. The sooner things are identified and treated the better the chance of survival and recovery of the turf.

Practice Greens

All practice greens must be prepared the exact same as greens on the course in the lead up to and during the event to promote consistent conditions throughout the facility.

Green Collars and Approaches

Greens collars and approaches were hollow cored and topdressed to ensure healthy firm surfaces are maintained. The greenkeeper chose a big tine diameter to improve infiltration, gasses exchange from the rootzone profile and root development.

Generally speaking LET recommend that all Collars and Approaches receive the same frequency of verticutting, topdressing and nutrition as greens. This helps to promote greater wear tolerance, resiliency and help to promote the bump and run style of shot preferred by our members.



Regular brushing or grooming with mowing will help on both approaches and green collars to ensure a tight sward.

Tees

Tees were overseeded 10 days ago and germination is very good at the moment.



To promote tillering and improve surface level we would recommend:

- Daily mowing frequency.
- Heavy topdressing the second week of October, followed by fertilization. Fertilization will be done this week to not promote bermudagrass development and growing.

It would be appreciated if the tournament tees be saved for a month before the event so that they are divot and blemish free for the tournament.

If time and resources are limited we ask that treatments are focused on LET tournament tees only.

Fairways and Playable Rough

11 fairways have been overseeded and this labor will be done during the next two days.

We would recommend the following program:

- Light fertilization on October 15th to not promote bermudagrass development and growing.
- Fertilization with 20-10-20 on November 1st to promote ryegrass tillering and to avoid a flush of growth during the tournament.
- Mowing every other day and from November 15th daily mowing.

It is also highly recommended a Semi-Rough pass introduced around the perimeter of all Fairways and from the centre line of the Fairway to the LET tournament Tee.

During the tournament bermudagrass rough will be dormant with the exception of holes: 9, 18, 10 and 1. The reason is that the property needs these holes green for commercial motifs.

We would like to recommend the same uniformity and consistency for overseeded and not overseeded rough.

Bunkers

A great job has been carried out on bunkers and it only rests add some sand is some bunkers, (**dead line to input new sand is one month before the event begins**). This action must be carried out as soon as possible to ensure a firm stand and to avoid any fried egg issue.

Our biggest preparation related concern will be:

- Evenness and consistency of sand depths.
- Contamination from stone.
- Potential 'fried egg' lies.
- Potential for water holding in the event of heavy rain.

Our recommendations are:

- All stones must be removed and sand must be redistributed to ensure a uniform depth of 100-125mm of compacted sand on the bunker floor and 50mm of compacted sand on bunker faces.
- All Bunkers will be clipped or edged where necessary to produce the lip and definition required for the event.
- Sand should be firm but not compacted and any drainage issues should be addressed and rectified before the event.

Short Game and Driving Range

The greenkeeping programme in this area must be increased and replicate all other surfaces on the golf course. The driving range will be over seeded

Manicure

The out rough will be rototilling to improve definition between different areas.



Tournament Schedule

MORNING	AFTERNOON
Mowing greens	Mowing greens
Raking bunkers	Mowing fairways
Remove dew from fairways and tees	Mowing tees
Mowing collars and approaches	Mowing semirough
Rolling greens (if necessary)	Repair Divots
Check machinery	Repair ball marks
Cut cups	Hand water (if it needed)

Advance Week Course Closure

LET and Al Maaden Golf Club must agree on the appropriate level of course closure in advance of the tournament to help preserve and recover the golf course.

I hope the information in this report is of benefit and if there are any issues which you would like to discuss further or questions which you would like to ask please do not hesitate to contact me.