

TOURNAMENT AGRONOMY PREPARATION REPORT

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

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Tournament: LET Qualifying School

Tournament Date: ~~20-23 September 2012~~

Visit Date: 03/07/2012

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

INTRODUCTION

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

The Amelkis Golf Club is maintained to a low standard for daily play. Except bunkers all the golf course surfaces need lots of improvements to rich LET specifications for tournaments.

In due course Amelkis and LET should discuss the important point of course preservation and closure in advance of the event. Generally speaking every day the course is closed in advance of the event allows the turf to recuperate and recover as well as allowing Greenkeepers uninterrupted access to the course to complete work in a more productive manner. Generally speaking for an event of this stature and considering the weakness associated with the course I recommend 7 days of course closure.

TOURNAMENT HEIGHT OF CUT

At the moment, there is almost no definition between the different playing areas. So, the first step is improve the frequency of cut and proper maintenance all the machinery.

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 – 3.2-3.5mm
Tournament Tees - 10mm
Green Collar - 9mm
Approach - 9mm
Fairways - 12mm
Semi-Rough - 25mm
Playable Rough - 50mm (mowed up to Wednesday of event week only)

See the attached document in the last page.

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS AND SUBSEQUENT SUGGESTIONS

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

Greens

The front nine greens lack of infiltration. As a result, there is a great proliferation of moss and algae.



Bad infiltration and algae.

Moss and algae compete with turfgrass species in a better environment for them and cause a loss of turfgrass density and a very poor ball roll quality.

The golf course foreman told us that the front nine greens and the back nine greens were built with different sand and that is the reason of the different behavior of the greens.

To improve infiltration, root growth and canopy density, **from September 15th**, we recommend to strictly following the next planning:

- Hollow core aeration (19 mm) as deep as possible and heavy topdressing. For choosing topdressing sand do not forget the rule of thumb: Coarse over fine, never fine over coarse. This rule is very important to prevent layering issues.
- Following aeration, apply slow release fertilization with a 1-2-1 fertilizer ratio and 25 gr/m² dose. Phosphorous will promote root development and as a result improve turfgrass condition.
- **Three weeks after aeration:**
 - Grooming three times per week.
 - Weekly light topdressing.
 - Biweekly spoon-feeding.
- Applications of Iron Sulphate will help manage moss.
- Increase mowing frequency and blade sharpness. This will improve grass coverage.

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 in very poor condition. Thus, it is necessary an intensive cultural program to improve their condition. 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

Surface levels on tee boxes are good but have inconsistent grass cover, plenty of yellowish grass patches.



View of a tee box in Amelkis Golf Club.

To improve surface levels, turfgrass coverage and to guarantee a nice player stand, we would recommend:

- Audit the irrigation system.

From September 15th:

- Hollow core aeration.
- Deep verticutting in two directions.
- Overseeding with *Lolium perenne* at a dose of 50 gr/m².
- Fertilization with a starter fertilizer (1-2-1).
- Heavy topdressing.

After overseeding it is very important keeping the soil moist for seed germination and establishment. For that reason it is necessary to check continuously the irrigation system and apply multiple short irrigation cycles along the day.

10-15 days after germination it is recommended to increase the frequency of cut.

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

Fairways

There is a lot of thatch and lack of uniformity on fairways due to the low mowing frequency.



Lack of uniformity on fairways.

There is a very big weed pressure on fairways. It is been applied a non selective herbicide (glyphosate), we recommend that all fairways and rough must be treated with a selective herbicide (i.e. halosulfuron) to control weeds. Apply a selective herbicide when soil is moist and weeds are actively growing. Most weeds will be controlled by a single application however some of the older species which have overwintered or become hardened will require two applications. The application of a nitrogen fertilizer approximately 10 days prior to the treatment of weeds will aid weed control.



Patches of dead Bemudagrass due to glyphosate applications.

There is no definition between fairways and rough because of the low frequency of cut and the bad irrigation coverage.

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.

Until lower temperatures it is not recommended to perform any aeration or overseeding work in the course. So we strongly suggest to do an irrigation audit to ensure a proper performance during overseeding grow in.

To achieve a good consistent grass cover that provides a perfect playing surface, we would recommend:

- Audit the irrigation system and trim sprinkler heads for better operation.

From September 15th:

- Solid tine aeration.
- Deep verticutting in two directions and raking all debris in.
- Overseeding with *Lolium perenne* in two directions (30 + 30 gr/m²).
- Fertilization with a starter fertilizer (1-2-1).
- Heavy topdressing.

After overseeding it is very important keeping the soil moist for seed germination and establishment. For that reason it is necessary to check continuously the irrigation system and apply multiple short irrigation cycles along the day.

To ensure the success of the overseeding it is very important minimizing traffic during 15 days from the overseeding date.

When turf is established improve frequency and quality of cut.

As rough will not be overseeding, we recommend:

- Solid tine aeration and fertilization.
- Audit the irrigation system and trim sprinkler heads for better operation.
- To prevent any seed contamination, a pendimethalin (preemergence herbicide) pass around fairways must be done just after fairways overseeding.

Bunkers

Bunkers, in general terms, are in good condition. However we found some stone contamination.



Current condition of bunkers at Amelkis Golf Club.

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.
- 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 short game area is not maintained to the same standard as surfaces on the golf course. The greenkeeping programme in this area must be increased and replicate all other surfaces on the golf course.



Panoramic view of the driving range.

The driving range Teeing area is uneven and has poor surface cover of grass. Overseeding of this Tee is recommended at the same time as Tees on the course. It is necessary to improve the quality and frequency of cut. Irrigation coverage is also an issue and must be checked.

Advance Week Course Closure

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

Unfortunately we did not meet with the greenkeeper on our visit as we could have discussed the actions to take.

Finally I would like to thank for your time and hospitality during my visit and wish you every success for the tournament and the future. If you have any questions regarding this report please contact me.



LET Presentation & Mowing Graphic

