

AGM 2019

Greenkeepers Report

Another golfing year draws to an end and we can look back at a very successful year at Forrester Park. Though last winter seems such a distant memory it was very productive with drainage work being successfully completed, bunkers removed, and bunkers reconstructed all making a huge improvement on the course.

The golfing weather came early with some amazingly warm days at the end of winter coming into spring what led us having to irrigate very early compared to previous years. But who can grumble when golfers were out in tee shirts in February and the course looked amazing?

Running into summer and things returning to the more normal course maintenance, we managed to get all our spring green renovations completed and the greens recovered well giving us an excellent putting surface, It soon became apparent of where we had leather-jackets and with no chemical control on the market anymore, all manner of home remedies were tried with some positive results but not the cure that is missing. That said only a few greens were adversely affected and it proved more of a frustration than causing any detrimental effect on the playing surface and with many forthcoming compliments throughout the season from members and visitors. Though not as hot as last summer, it proved to be just as dry with our irrigation system running nearly constantly overnight using 5000 tons of water throughout the year keeping greens as receptive as possible. As soon as the main golfing events were finished we were back to our end of season renovations, and although the disruption is kept to a minimum we understand that for the weeks when we are doing our renovations it's less than ideal for golf and are thankful for your understanding as this work is essential for the upkeep of greens.

We have made some significant purchases to continue us to provide a great course, we purchased a new John Deere fairway mower costing the club just short of £50,000 to replace our 10 year old machine what was really quite tired. The purchase of 2 new buggies and a rental agreement on another 4 during the busy times of the year what have proved a popular investment.

As the captains are changing, I'll like to thank you all for the efforts each of you have made and for Buz having to endure a round of golf with myself when we invited the greenkeepers association to enjoy our course and congratulations for all the money made for your choice of charities, I would like to take the opportunity to wish the incoming captains the very best of luck for their year of captaincy. I'll like to personally thank all have sat and that sit on the greens committee throughout the year and all other committee members that all give up their time for the club, it is really appreciated.

Jeff Taylor

Head greenkeeper