

**Greens Reconstruction Project**  
**Weekly Report #14**  
**July 8, 2020**

Project Overview

The complete Project Overview can be found on the SCOV website. Go to Members => Committees => Greens Reconstruction Project Committee. It is hoped that this overview will answer many of your questions.

Safety

We cannot stress enough the need for everyone to stay safe during construction. Please stay well clear of the areas under construction. While the contractor is working on only a few holes at a time on the course, we ask that golfers give the contractor the priority as they move equipment and materials.

The contractor has planned to work 6 days a week beginning at 6 AM each day. As a result of progress made to date, and the temperatures being higher than normal, the contractor may only be working 5 days a week. Saturday work will be determined as needed based on project requirements and construction efficiencies. Walkers and players should be cautious.

What has Happened

It was observed early the week of June 29<sup>th</sup> that the greens were collapsing. Investigation into the problem determined that greens mix sand was being carried away from the greens through the drainage system. This resulted in a sinking of the greens surface above the flat drains.

The process of correcting this problem is to: 1) to remove the sprigs on the back nine greens; 2) excavate and expose the flat drain pipe in all of the greens; 3) flush and blow out the flat drain pipes; 4) install fabric over the flat drain pipes; 5) replace the greens mix sand; 6) reestablish the contours on the greens; and 7) re-sprig the back nine greens.

The SCOV Golf Course, Building, and Common Area Maintenance Crews, along with the contractor's crew all pitched in to expose the flat drainpipes in just a few days. This was a significant effort and it contributed greatly to the rapid correction of the drainage for the greens.

As of this writing, July 7<sup>th</sup>, the repair of the flat drainpipes on the front nine has been completed.

The greens project, as measured by actual progress, is 94% complete. This percentage completion recognizes the repair of the flat drainpipe.

Amendments have been added and mixed into greens #6 through #9.

All drainage outfalls are complete.

The installation of bunker liner material has been completed on the back nine. Bunker sand will be installed at the end of the project.

### What will Happen Next

Work will continue correcting the flat drainpipe on the back nine. The repairs on the back nine will be completed by the end of the week, July 10<sup>th</sup>.

The front nine and putting greens will be compacted, rough graded, and then final shaping will be completed by the architect, Mike Gogel. The day of sprigging the greens will be brushed before sprigging. (See sprigging process below) The contractor is “detailing” the surrounds in preparation for sod.

Sodding on the front nine greens began on Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>. Photos of #1 and #2 are shown below.



#1 was Sodded on 7/7



#2 was Partially Sodded on 7/7

The primary contractor, along with the architect, Mike Gogel, will complete the final detailing of the front nine greens and the putting green prior to sodding and sprigging. Sodding the front nine and the putting greens will be completed on July 14<sup>th</sup>. The sodding schedule will have gaps in it due to the necessity of rescheduling and the availability of crews.

The schedule dates for sodding around the front nine greens and the putting green, and sprigging of all greens is as follows:

	<u>Sodding</u>	<u>Sprigging</u>
Front Nine & Putting Green	7/7 to 7/14	
Back Nine Greens		7/14
Front Nine & Putting Greens		7/15

Thanks to Dave and Sharon Heaps for allowing the hose from the sprigging truck to go through their yard to reach the 15<sup>th</sup> green.

The back nine will be closed on Tuesday, July 14, and the front nine will be closed on Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> when sprigging is performed.

**Please do not walk or drive on the newly sodded and sprigged areas. These areas will be heavily watered and walking or driving on them will result in ruts that will require additional work and expense to repair. Look from a distance only.**

Drainage for the range will be installed by the primary contractor after the cart path concrete is cured and backfilling has been finished around the new paths. New “zoned” irrigation for the expanded range will be installed. The zoned irrigation will allow maintenance staff to irrigate portions of the range while players are practicing on other areas. The old range irrigation design would not allow for this. The result will be the improved ability to repair and grow range turf.

The synthetic turf line for the driving range will be installed the end of July or early August.

#### A Word About Sprigging of the Greens

The grassing and sprigging contractors will be increasing the sprigging rate at no cost to SCOV. This increased rate will allow the grass on the greens to reach maturity quicker and, minimize the disruption to the overall project schedule.

The grassing contractor will sprig the back nine greens in one day and the front nine greens, along with the putting green, the following day. When the greens are sprigged, they will look unkept, spotty, and generally not good. This is normal and expected. Do not panic!

The sprigging of all greens over a two-day period results in all greens having the same maturity. This is a benefit as there will be a single maintenance program for all the greens. The previous schedule would require two separate programs for fertilization, mowing heights, etc.

The July weather in Oro Valley is excellent for growing bermuda grass. This grass likes high humidity and temps.

Once the greens are sprigged, the contractor will have punch list items to correct and the Greens Reconstruction Project will be complete and on time. The contracted substantial completion date for the project was July 15<sup>th</sup>, and that will be achieved.

The Driving Range Expansion will be completed shortly.

### The Sprigging Process

Prior to sprigging, Mike Gogel “brushes” the green contours to remove all animal prints. (See below left)



Mike brushing a green



Shipping Hoppers

The “Sprigs” are shipped in small hoppers. The sprigs are shown in the photos below.



The spigs, along with fertilizer, mulch, and tackifier, are loaded into the “sprigging truck” and water is added. (Below left)



Loading the truck



Green Surface After Sprigging



Sprigging



Rolling the Green

The sprigging is a hydro conveyance process to deliver the sprigs and amendments to the green surfaces.

Once a green is sprigged, the surface is rolled to compress the sprigs on to the surface. (Photo Above)

The initial watering cycle is to water the greens every 15 minutes for a 4-minute duration. The sprigs must be kept wet until they are rooted.

A few days after sprigging, the greens will turn brown. This is normal. As the sprigs root into the green sand mix the grass plants will again turn green.

## Then We Grow Grass

Consultation with the agronomist will provide recommendations on fertilization, other amendments, and when initial mowing can begin. It will be the agronomist who will tell us when we can begin play on the new greens.

As the sprigs begin to grow, the greens are initially just rolled to encourage rooting of the sprigs and to maintain contours. Later, when mowing the greens begins, the mowing will encourage the bermuda grass to grow horizontally rather than up. This horizontal growth will serve to increase the number of grass plants per square inch.

Mowing of the new greens will initially be done with walk behind mowers at a height of 0.200". Walk behind mowers are used to eliminate the disruption to the grass plants caused by the turning radius of the larger riding mowers. This is the same height as the temporary greens are currently mowed. Over time, as the grass plants mature, the mowing height will be reduced to 0.125".

## Conclusion

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