As Easy as ABC

You never stop learning so, in conjunction with the GTC and lecturers from some of the UK's top greenkeeping colleges, Gl has launched a new series which gives the developing greenkeeper the chance to add to their knowledge with some useful advice.

MOVING TEE MARKERS

One of the most overlooked and yet important operations on the golf course is the positioning of the tee markers correctly. Leaving them in the same spot for too long can lead to all sorts of problems including weakened, stressed turf, soil compaction and poor cosmetic appearance.

As a rule of thumb you need to move tee markers in accordance with the playing/competition programme for your course and the type of play being carried out on the teeing area. High-handicap golfers produce many large divots, so you should move the markers on a daily basis. On the other hand, if your course typically hosts above-average players, moving the markers every other day might be sufficient.

Remember, though, to co-ordinate the tee marker placements with the pin placements for the day, altering the length of the course too much could invalidate the competition being played!

Placement of the markers must also take into consideration the current tee position and the wear that has been currently received. Tee markers should be moved backwards away from the current position to allow the position to be divoted with seed and rootzone (if required) and allow the area to rest thus allowing a new clean surface to be available next time it is needed. Develop a tee placement plan highlighting the available positions that everyone on the team can follow.

Align the tee markers. Once you have determined the location of the tee markers, you must ensure that they are properly aligned. The goal is to align the markers so that when golfers stand between them in their normal stance, they are aiming at the landing zone in the fairway. The rest is up to them!