



GOLF MANAGEMENT TROPHY DAY

Sponsored by
Scotts (UK)
Professional

A Midland Region Golf Management Trophy Day sponsored for the 12th successive year by Scotts UK Professional was held at Newark Golf Club last month.

Teams from 14 golf clubs enjoyed a great day on a superbly presented course, prepared by Course Manager, Graeme Macdonald and his staff. One or two heavy rain showers made the day more challenging, but the course stood up really well. Everyone was made to feel very welcome by all the staff and members at Newark Golf Club, and our thanks are extended to all at the Club.

The established format of four man teams playing Stableford with the best two points scores on each hole to count. The home team led by Course Manager Graeme Macdonald became the first club to win this event on home soil with 85 points; Stourbridge Golf Club was 2nd with 83 points on countback, and 3rd was Trentham Park Golf Club also with 83 points. Nearest the line on the 7th was won by Barry Gaynor, from John O'Gaunt Golf Club, (his drive was actually on the line!), and Bill Tyler, from Rothley Park Golf Club, won nearest the pin on the 17th hole. The photograph shows the winning team from Newark Golf Club receiving the trophy. From left to right: Lew White, Chairman of Green; Barre Ramsbottom, Club Captain; Graeme Macdonald, Course Manager; David Collingwood, Club Secretary, and Simon Hardcastle from Scotts.

The Midland Region of BIGGA thank Newark Golf Club for hosting the event and Scotts for their continued sponsorship.

*Peter Larter,
Midland Regional Administrator*

Rufford rootzone system used in modernisation and restoration project on Wentworth's famous West Course



Mick Higgins (left) and Jonathan Skelton (centre) of Rufford overseeing the project with Course Manager, Chris Kennedy.

Rufford's specialist rootzone system, TurfStart, is being used in the modernisation and restoration of Wentworth's West Course. Work began in June to reconstruct and modernise all 18 greens and surrounds on the West Course to a USGA specification, replacing the current poa greens with colonial bent grass.

The new greens are being constructed with TurfStart to encourage faster establishment and healthier grass.

The rootzone system is a combination of graded sand, a blend of organic amendments, Devon lignite and a controlled-release fertiliser. Supplied by Rufford from its quarry at Redhill in Surrey, the rootzone has been specially designed for the Wentworth project to full USGA specification.

In previous projects, both seed and turf grown using TurfStart has succeeded in a much faster establishment than turf grass grown using conventional construction techniques, producing a root mass up to 60%

greater and increasing the rate of ground cover by as much as 60%.

"Our TurfStart rootzone system has repeatedly proved itself in establishing healthier greens in a much shorter space of time. It lends itself perfectly to the West Course modernisation scheme and we are delighted to be part of the team assembled to deliver one of the most important projects in Wentworth's history," said Mick Higgins, Rufford's Technical Manager.

"This is something we've wanted to do for some time and I'm very pleased that the opportunity has now arisen," said Chris Kennedy, Course Manager at Wentworth Club.

"The objective is to produce a USGA specification consistent surface of the highest quality on every green on the West Course. Working closely with Ernie Els, the 7-time Champion on the West, we have reviewed each green so as to ensure that they become a fitting test for the modern day golfer while staying true to Harry Colt's original vision."