A Quick Guide to...

Moving Trees

1. A Fantastic Resource

Many golf courses have fantastic resources of young and semi mature trees that can be cost effectively transplanted using tree spades.

Trees are moved to replace lost trees, define fairways and greens, allow for tee relocation and every year to keep up with the improvements in drivers, by adding new or reinforcing old hazards and planting along boundaries to keep balls in bounds.

2. Young Plantations

Trees are typically sourced from young plantations or screens and often are selected as part of thinning of these areas.

3. Instant Maturity

The trees add instant maturity in their new locations and savings of up to 90% can be generated when purchasing new trees.

4. Tree Spades

Tree spades are generally available in three sizes, large 2.1 metre diameter, medium 1.5-1.6 and small 1-1.1 diameter.

Trees up to 20cm diameter can be moved with the larger spade.

5. Choose Carefully

It is prudent to select trees that are within the capabilities of each spade and if your course has never used a tree spade before, a visit by the operators will assist the choice of trees and confirm numbers that can be moved during a hire period.

6. Correct Timing

Typically, during a days hire, 12-15 trees can be moved.

The optimum time to transplant trees is from as soon as the heat goes out of summer, until the end of March.

Trees can be moved outside these times, however a slightly smaller tree is selected and the necessary aftercare (watering) has to be increased.

While tree spades have floatation tyres, the timing of works, to utilise periods of firm ground can be prudent within a golf environment.

7. Additional Costs

The watering of the trees and the requirement to guy (to aid stability during establishment) are additional costs that should be allowed for.

Your tree mover should guide you to the trees that do not require guying when choosing trees to transplant.

8. Ground Level

Trees and planting locations selected should ideally be on level ground, as any slopes will cause part of the rootball, if planted on level ground to be exposed and the opposite side below ground (unless the slopes at both locations match).

These areas require dressing with soil.

Guide by....

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