

MANAGEMENT

trast. It is essential however that the sand is free from foreign material such as clay and silt, weed seeds, earth, rubbish and gravel although it must be said that most Clubs do tend to buy the cheapest sand available for their bunkers!

Feel sensation is important for bunker play whether making an explosion shot or chipping off the sand surface.

The particle size distribution of the sand is critical and top sands ranging from 1mm to 0.25mm and with at least 75 per cent of the sand within the 0.25mm to 0.5mm particle size diameter provide the optimum material.

It is important to provide good ball lie within the bunker and a degree of firmness enabling a better shot which means a lack of surface crusting and a good basic drainage within the bunker to avoid the plugging associated with wet sand and poor maintenance.

The use of rounded sand tends to produce a loose and fluffy surface and quite often the ball will sink level with the surface as opposed to penetrating about half this depth although ball lie, of course, apart from the type of sand does depend on the angle and velocity of the ball

CHOOSING A BUNKER SAND

Guidelines suggested by the USGA

1. Minimum of 65% sand particle size between 0.25mm and 1.0mm.
2. Ideally 100% between this range.
3. Sharp angular sand preferred to round particle shape.
4. Light coloured, not white sand.
5. Minimal amount of silt and clay, determined through soil testing laboratory analysis.
6. Silica sand rather than calcareous sand.

entering the bunker.

Golf clubs that are constantly faced with windy situations should consider a sand with a particle size diameter maximum of 1.5mm, although it must be borne in mind that sand with more than 1mm particle size diameter may well cause mower damage and blade blunting.

A further point to consider concerns the type of sand used in the construction of the green. Ideally the bunker sand should equate with this material so that it will integrate with the green's surface rather than forming a different layer on that part of the green which is adjacent to the bunker.

STUDENTS AWARDS AT PLUMPTON COLLEGE

Plumpton College recently held its annual prizegiving ceremony to award all its students with their certificates and trophies. Below, Michael Kirkham and Andrew Paynter are receiving their prizes from John Austen of the NFU and the Principal, John Wilson at the ceremony.

Michael was the best Phase III Enterprise Management student and was awarded the cup sponsored by the Sussex Golf Union. He attended the college on a block release course being released from his position as Head Greenkeeper at the West Surrey Golf Club.

Andrew Paynter was the best Phase II

Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management student and won the cup sponsored by the Southern Section of the British and International Golf Greenkeeping Association. He attended the college on a day release basis, the rest of his week being spent as Head Greenkeeper at East Brighton Golf Club.



John Wilson college principal presenting Michael Kirkham with his award.



Andrew Paynter receives his from John Wilson with John Austen of the NFU looking on.