



BIG NEW FLEET FOR RIO REAL

Rio Real Golf & Wellness Resort, east of Marbella on Spain's Costa del Sol has recently purchased a fleet of 54 petrol E-Z-GO RXV golf cars from local distributor, Green Mowers of Estepona.

"We have purchased these new buggies for numerous reasons; their economy, quality of build and the fact that they are

a new generation of golf cars and have many innovative features. Golf on the Costa del Sol is very competitive and last year we achieved 38,000 rounds; however, this year we are targeting a further 2,000 rounds, which puts an added pressure on the course," said Course Director, Antonio Ortiz Rufino.

"In all of our dealings with Green Mowers they have been very professional and the service levels have been excellent. It helps that they are close by at Estepona, so if we have any issues they can be with us quickly. However, I must say that the buggies have performed very well and we are delighted with them."



Mowers Prove their Worth

Ellesmere College in rural north Shropshire, with a strong commitment to sport and other extra-curricular activities has just purchased its first ever John Deere machines for the extensive grounds and nine-hole golf course.

Ian Morris, the school's Head Groundsman for the past 30 years, chose a John Deere 500 triple cylinder mower and 220C walk-behind greens mower after a lengthy review of machines on the market, and bought them from dealer Charlies Groundcare at Newtown in Powys.

The school has recently bought another 75 acres and hopes to establish a bigger golf course and an extra 17 acres of sports fields in due course. In addition to the existing golf course, there are three cricket squares, 14 grass cricket nets, up to seven rugby or football pitches and two grass hockey pitches, as well as six hard tennis courts.

"We needed to replace another triple mower that was nine years old, so I spent several months looking at half a dozen or so different machines," says Ian Morris.

"This is used primarily on the golf course surrounds and all the college lawns. We cut pretty regularly so we don't bother boxing off, the grass clippings all go back into the ground, but the mower still leaves a nice clean finish.

Belfry Chosen for New RT Launch



Rigby Taylor conference delegates gather in front of the 10th tee.

The Belfry was the venue when Rigby Taylor launched a new range of products for greenkeepers, groundsmen and landscapers.

Over 60 staff and guests attended to hear all about the innovative turf fungicide Eland, a new liquid seed coating and a new and improved range of linemarking paint formulations.

RENEWED AGREEMENT

European Golf Design will be continuing its patronage of the Golf Environment Organisation with the signing of a new three-year partnership agreement. This financial and in-kind commitment will help GEO to continue advancing golf's sustainability drive.

Over the last three years, EGD's support for GEO has enabled considerable progress in enhancing golf's social and environmental role around the world. Patron support fuels core initiatives and projects such as GEO Certification, an innovative on-line programme that helps golf clubs improve their performance, profile and profitability: www.golfenvironment.org

Jonathan Smith, Chief Executive of GEO said: "European Golf Design's continued support is a great boost to GEO. To have the backing of one of the world's premier golf design companies is important to us. It reinforces the fact that GEO's approach is credible, comprehensive, and very relevant to developers, club owners, managers and greenkeepers as well as golf's governing bodies. EGD has recognised the fundamental business value in designing courses and supporting masterplans which generate valued social, economic and environmental outcomes".

Jeremy Slessor, Managing Director of EGD added: "At EGD we take this partnership very seriously. We have already established an environmental policy for the practice, and have begun to footprint and offset our unavoidable carbon emissions. We have been screening projects for their environmental sustainability and training staff in advanced technical disciplines to enable them to make the most informed design decisions."



First Rescue Delivery Arrives in St Andrews

The world's first commercial delivery of Syngenta's herbicide, Rescue, has arrived in the UK, with the first bottles delivered straight to St Andrews Links. The new selective herbicide has been brought in to help remove invasive weed Ryegrass and enhance the desirable fine Fescue grasses that were sown on the Castle Course.

St Andrews Links Trust was actively involved with the successful registration trials for Rescue, which received full approval for use on greens, tees, fairways and rough areas of golf courses in July this year.

Gordon Moir, Director of Greenkeeping at the Trust, said that invasive Ryegrass spoils the visual appearance and the playing quality of Fescue turf surfaces on many links golf courses.

"Our experience from the trials is that we now have an opportunity effectively to remove Ryegrass and other coarse grasses faster and more cost effectively than traditional cultural practices, without any disruption in play," said Gordon.