



An Interesting Demo

A group of 20 greenkeepers were invited to Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club by Course Manager, Paul Johnson, to view a Linear Aeration and sand injection operation on the club's 18th green.

In addition to the Linear Aeration Machine, which was hired from Graden, Paul was also supported by Turfmech, who provided a CAT 800 machine to work in conjunction with the Linear Aeration operation, to make light work of this otherwise often highly labour-intensive task.

Including those who attended were South Wales BIGGA Section Secretary, Steve Chappell; BIGGA Vice-Chairman,

Paul Worster, and Laurence Pithie MG, of Turfmaster1.

The 18th green was taken out of play at 12.29pm, the Linear Aeration set at 25mm spacings and to a depth of 20mm with the slots immediately filled with kiln dried sand, then took around 25 minutes utilising a chain of five greenstaff with buckets filling the sand hopper," explained Paul Worster.

"The clean-up job, so often the Achilles Heel of this operation, took just 10 minutes with one operator on the CAT 800. three tonnes of material was removed, which was tipped into a nearby trailer. With only the barest of hand-switching required,

the green was rolled with the Club's Toro fitted with Greentech rollers, the hole trimmed, and the green put back in play by 1.05pm," he said, adding that the acid test was passed when the Chairman of Green turned up unexpectedly and started putting on it – after an expectant hush, the green was pronounced as fit for play!

Turfmech also later used the smaller pedestrian version CAT 300 on the 17th green which proved to be just as effective..

Everyone present agreed the collection machinery took the hard work out of this task.

Paul Worster