

South Yorkshire Area

Newly established 9 hole course with 30 bay driving range, planning permission being sought for further 9 holes.

Require:

WORKING HEAD GREENKEEPER

Must be suitably qualified and possess the necessary supervisory skills to organise and manage a small dedicated team.

Appropriate greenkeeping qualifications and thorough knowledge of the use and maintenance of modern machinery essential.

A greenkeeper's house will be available.

**Please apply in writing with full CV to Box R5,
Greenkeeper International,
Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aine, York YO6 2NF**

Full confidentiality guaranteed.

Bentley Golf & Country Club

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

This privately owned club requires an experienced person to maintain and continue improving an already interesting and challenging parkland course.

Applicants must possess appropriate qualifications as well as having a proven track record in course management, machinery maintenance and irrigation systems. The ability to motivate and direct staff is essential.

Salary is negotiable. No accommodation available.

**Apply in writing with CV to:
The Secretary, Bentley Golf & Country Club Ltd,
Ongar Road, Brentwood, Essex CM15 9SS**



Scarthingwell Golf Course

require:

HEAD GREENKEEPER

An experienced and capable Head Greenkeeper is needed to maintain and help develop the new course at Scarthingwell.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate a responsible and innovative approach to work and be capable of adapting to new ideas and concepts as this club progresses.

Salary negotiable.

Applications should be made with a full CV and references to:

**Ian Webster, The President, Scarthingwell Golf Course,
Scarthingwell, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire
no later than 1st March 1995**

For an informal chat or to view the existing facilities, please telephone 01937 557248

Richings Park Golf Club

Invites applications for the position of:

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

and

TWO EXPERIENCED GREENKEEPERS

Please apply in writing with CVs to:

**Head Greenkeeper,
Richings Park GC, 56 Leas Drive, Iver, Bucks SLO 9RD**



Scotts Europe B.V. is the independent Dutch subsidiary of The Scotts Company, Ohio, USA.

Scotts Europe produces and markets high quality fertilizers for professional use in horticulture, public green, sports fields and golf courses and for the consumer market. Export takes place to a great number of countries in Europe, Africa and Middle East. The marketing and sales office is established in De Meern, The Netherlands. Recently the product range of fertilizers has been extended with slow release fertilizers, produced by Scotts USA, which are used mainly in the public green, sports fields and golf courses.

For technical support of our sales people in Europe, Middle East and Africa, the following position in the

Technical Department is vacant:

Technical Manager Slow Release Fertilizers

In this position you are responsible for:

- collecting and completing technical data for product use;
- realisation and evaluation of trials for sales supporting arguments;
- connections with trial stations and public relation people in your field;
- technical training of Scotts employees;
- technical training of our international distributors.

As SRF specialist in the Technical Department you work in a team with three other specialists in the field of Water Soluble Fertilizers, Controlled Release Fertilizers and Crop Protection Products. You are reporting to the co-ordinator of the Technical Department.

For this independent position in a fast growing organisation we are looking for an energetic person who meets the following profile:

- Horticultural college or university education, preferably in the field of soil science with fertilizer knowledge;
- affinity with horticultural practice in general and public green and/or sports fields and golf courses in particular;
- some years experience as fertilizer consultant in the field of amenity and maintenance of sports fields and golf courses;
- good knowledge of English, German, French and preferably Dutch;
- willingness to travel.

The candidate will work from the De Meern - The Netherlands office and must be willing to relocate in that area.

We offer a good salary and fringe benefits including a company car.

Please send your application for attention of
mr. A. van Peer, Co-ordinator Technical Department.

Scotts Europe B.V., Rijnzathe 6, 3454 PV De Meern,
The Netherlands. Tel. +31 (3406) 63114.

End of term report: why I did what I did

COURSE REPORT 1994-1995

Since my last report in April 1994, there have been quite a few changes designed for the good of Ely City Golf Club. The following report will explain why certain tasks have been carried out:

1. Topdressing greens
2. Scarification of the greens
3. Cutting greens on a more regular basis
4. Putting a fertiliser programme into practice
5. Introducing white lining
6. Using water only when necessary
7. Hollow-coring greens

1. Topdressing greens

This is done for a number of reasons. From a golfer's point of view it is obvious that when topdressing is applied there are certain changes to the green. This is generally not popular with golfers as it makes the green appear dirty and in wet conditions balls pick up particles of dirt, but in the greenkeeper's calendar it is very important for a number of reasons:

- a. It improves the rootzone
 - b. It encourages the right grasses, ie bents and fescues
 - c. It helps to reduce the surface pH (percentage of Hydrogen)
 - d. It helps to create a true putting surface.
- Our greens are very high in pH being on

Communicating with members and committees is a big problem for some head greenkeepers. But not for Kevin Garfitt, head greenkeeper at the Henry Cotton-designed Ely City Golf Club near Cambridge. Here is a copy of his latest report. We hope it gives you some ideas. It took him a month to compile!

average 7.4-7.9% whereas an ideal figure should be in the region of 5.55-5.8%. Applying a good quality topdressing of sand, loam and peat mix over a number of years will help to reduce the pH levels and thereby encourage a healthy sward.

2. Scarification

This operation is very important for a number of reasons:

- a. To assist the removal of dead and diseased material to a depth of 3/16 of an inch.
- b. To assist with reducing alien grass species, ie annual meadow grass, (*Poa annua*), Yorkshire fog, and, in the 9th green particularly, ryegrass.
- c. It helps create a fast and true putting surface.

This operation should be carried out on a weekly basis when the greens have sufficient moisture, throughout the growing season, (April-September) and I feel that this task has not been incorporated in the work programme as it should have been over the past years.

3. Cutting greens

It may well appear to the average golfer that all greenkeepers do is "cut grass and get in the way". It may not always occur to them to consider why certain operations are taking place. The reasons why we cut greens seven days a week from May until the middle of October (at first light on Saturdays and Sundays) are as follows:

- a. Vast amounts of grass are not removed with each cut so no matter when a member plays during the week, the greens are kept at the same pace on average.
- b. It helps to encourage the spread of the finer grass species (bents and fescues) and discourages the coarser varieties.
- c. It helps to reduce fungal attack thereby reducing the need for chemicals (fungicides).

Again, I feel the greens were not cut as often as was warranted, in the past.

4. Fertiliser programme

Fertiliser is applied for a number of reasons. From a golfer's point of view it thickens the sward and puts colour into the greens. The greenkeeper applies fertiliser to improve the general quality of the turf. Knowing what balance of fertiliser to apply and at what time of the year can only come with experience. In this respect I consider the programme adopted last season was correct. A good coverage was obtained during the whole of the main playing season and this has been maintained throughout the winter with very little evidence of the common fungal diseases (*fusarium* and red thread) which are often prevalent at this time of the year.

5. White lining

I introduced white lining when I arrived. It was received with mixed feelings by the members but most could see the benefits from keeping trolleys and buggies away from the greens and thus reducing wear in these important areas.

6. Water

Watering grass areas such as greens should only be carried out when necessary and then only in sufficient quantities to maintain adequate and even growth. Excess watering will encourage disease such as *fusarium* patch and will encourage the growth of the more shallow rooting species such as annual meadow grass, Yorkshire fog etc. It is often thought that water is used mainly to soften greens and to improve the holding characteristic of the green but in fact it is used to keep the grass alive during drought conditions. Water is for the greenkeeper's use, not the golfer's.

7. Hollow coring (tining) greens

In the past, the greens have been Verti-drained and topdressed with a sand-based

mixture and this has caused a number of problems with surface compaction and in a number of greens severe "dry patch" problems. I have addressed this problem by hollow-tining the greens and leaving the holes open during the winter. This is to try to break the crust layer and to help alleviate the dry patch problem. I shall topdress the greens in the spring and repeat the hollow-tining programme next autumn. Leaving the holes open has helped to keep the greens free from standing water during this winter.

8. Additional work - winter programme

Drainage - The course drainage is in very poor condition due to roots blocking pipes and lack of annual maintenance of ditches. This was brought to the attention of the Green Committee, the members of which, I think, were not aware of the scale of the problem. A plan was formulated under the guidance of course architect Howard Swan of Golf Landscapes Ltd., the first phase of which was to clean out all the internal ditches to help the water off the land. This seems to be working very well as water is now moving freely whereas before it was completely stagnant.

9. New tees

New tees have now been constructed on the 3rd, 4th and 13th. We have made them as level as possible and to give them individual character by putting in steps on the 4th and shaping round the water on the 3rd and 13th. We tried to get all the tee tops turfed before Christmas and we have laid over 2,000 square yards of turf since the end of October to the New Year. All these areas are establishing themselves well and should be back in play around Easter.

10. Conclusion

This winter, there has been a lot of disruption due to the heavy workload we have been under and quite a lot of pressure from members regarding the banning of trolleys and buggies and the mess caused by the contractors. The damage is now mainly confined to the areas across the 14th and 16th fairways. The larger areas of damage will be either turfed or seeded as soon as we consider weather conditions to be suitable. The remainder of the course is standing up well to the winter. Once growth commences, the greens will get away to a very good start provided the present grass cover can be maintained and by protecting the important areas, ie. the tees, greens, surrounds and approaches, it will ensure the course will commence the new season in very good condition.

Finally, on behalf of the greenstaff, may I wish the Captains, Committee and all the Members a very Happy and Prosperous New Year and a good golfing season.

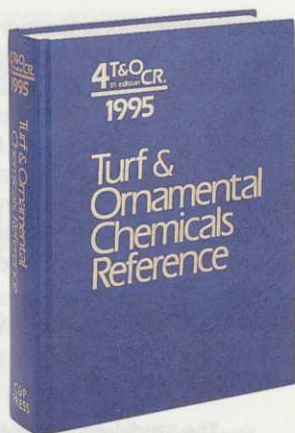
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