



July 27, 2015

From the Superintendents desk:

Greetings to all,

Wow, what a busy two months! Things around the golf course certainly have not been normal this summer. I am very excited to say that the renovations around the course have gone really good.

The greens have grown in very well with only a few thin spots on maybe three different holes. The weather has been great for the grow-in and I am sure not so good for playing over the past six weeks. We are working on adjusting the height of cut, controlling the growth and topdressing to smooth the surface out now. The new grass is similar to a new born child, in that at seven weeks old it is maturing and so is the way we are parenting it. The speed and smoothness is not where we want it but it is improving each week. Under normal conditions, TifEagle greens require six to eight pounds of nitrogen each year. We have fed them this much in six weeks, so needless to say they are growing very fast. This will change now that they have filled in. In my opinion, they are beautiful!

The bunkers behind number nine green have been rebuilt with new sand and sod where the old oak tree was. This has allowed much better sunlight onto the left side of the green. It is a big change to the hole, but it looks as if it has been this way forever.

The tee boxes on holes number seven and thirteen have been reshaped, enlarged and have new sod on them. This grass is only a few weeks old and will mature over the next month or so.

We have done a lot of tree trimming on holes number seven, eleven, sixteen and eighteen. This will allow improved shot making to the greens and much better sunlight to the tees and greens.

New mounds have been built where trees were removed behind the green on number sixteen. This was put in to add definition to the greens complex.

The fairway and rough area on number fourteen has been reshaped and sodded where the sewer line went across the area. This area is only a week old and we will ask that you not take carts on it until the grass has taken root. New mounds have been added to this area also to give the fairway and new green complex better definition. Although fourteen is not a long par five, I feel it has become one of the best holes on the course.

New cart paths are being paved on numerous holes around the course. This work should be completed over the next week or so.

We still have a few projects that we are looking to get to before fall gets here. If time allows we will get to these as soon as possible. This will mainly be drainage work in some fairways.

As you can tell it has been very busy around here! The sewer line project is not complete yet, but the work should not impact the golf course from this point forward. I hope you will enjoy and appreciate the changes and work that has been done to the club. I am certainly proud of what has taken place and look forward to maintaining one of the best courses in the midlands as it continues to mature.

Thanks again for your patience and commitment to Golden Hills. I look forward to seeing each of you again over the next few weeks.

Sincerely,
Chad Berry
Golden Hills Golf & C. C.
Superintendent, GCSAA