# Greens

### Current Issues

On the surface, Members will have appreciated the significant improvement in the golf course condition and presentation. Nevertheless, the golf course is actually in a state of slow but steady decline.

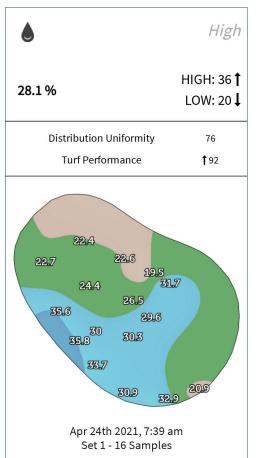
While the course staff continue to provide Members and their guests with a positive experience, there are many underlying issues that will need to be addressed in the near future to ensure the Club continues to deliver the standard expected by current and future Members and be considered a preeminent golfing facility and best in our market.

While the putting surfaces may appear to be in good condition, the construction methods of these vary significantly, leading to inconsistencies in moisture content (drainage and irrigation), plant health and playability. The West Course greens have been built using the USGA specifications while the East Course have not. The Course Manager is required to regularly monitor moisture content and plant health in our greens to ensure consistency, playability and effective use of resources. The current 328 couch greens battle encroachment from other species such as plateau couch impacting playability and presentation.



#### **Member Satisfaction Survey 2020**





 Above: Regular testing of moisture levels and soil temperature highlights the inconsistency and challenges with the greens.

Left: Example of poor turf health - 8 Gold green.

## **Proposed Solutions**

The new greens will be more varied in size, slope and orientation than those on the existing course. This variety will be a feature in the presentation of the golf course. Constructing the greens according to USGA methodology will create a firmer and more consistent putting surface.

- Improved drainage providing increased playability
- 61% increase in total area allowing greater flexibility with hole placement

Course comparison			
	Current	Proposed	Difference
Stage 1 Greens (Green Loop)	3,199	5,725	79% incresase
Greens	17,307	27,965	61% increase



Above: USGA specification model for green construction.

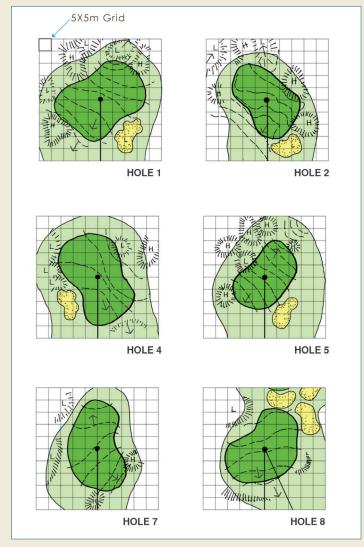
# Greens Construction & Specifications

The USGA Greens Specification, used internationally since the 1960's consists of a gravel base (complete with drainage pipes), and a course sand layer, upon which is laid the growing medium. The specification sets out parameters against which to measure each component in order to ensure that the quality of the products used during construction can be assured. The USGA specification is considered industry best practice and will help achieve consistency across all putting surfaces.

#### **Grass Species**

The current greens are 328 couch whereas the preferred species for the new greens is TifEagle. Following industry research and consultation between the Course Manager and Perrett Webb it was agreed that TifEagle is the most suitable grass for producing smooth true putting surfaces. Its density, tolerance of warm weather and ability to cope with high volumes of traffic makes it stand out from other warm season species.

TifEagle is the species used on The Palms at Sanctuary Cove greens. It has performed beyond expectations and Sanctuary Cove have since converted The Pines greens to TifEagle from 328 Couch. TifEagle is the preferred warm season species for a number of championship courses across the USA including TPC Sawgrass, Harbour Town and Bay Hill.



 Above: Example sketches of green typology and design for some of the Green Loop.