



MAINTAINING PALMER AND PLAYER AT THEIR BEST

Greeting! By and large, the golfing members of The Orchard, critics included, **have expressed their satisfaction, in varying degrees of course, on the playing conditions of our Palmer and Player courses.** It is no small wonder that we have one of the highest monthly number of rounds played, **an average of 9,090 rounds in 2023.**

Because of this, our maintenance group faces a **huge challenge: TO RESTORE AND MAINTAIN THE PRISTINE CONDITION OF THE PALMER AND PLAYER COURSES.**

Specifically, the challenge involves and revolves around the following areas:

GREENS: REMOVAL OF CONTAMINATION

The Palmer greens were constructed in 2001-2002 using TifEagle but THROUGH THE YEARS HAVE BEEN contaminated with zoysia, paspalum and bermuda varieties. The Player greens were constructed in 2005 using Sea Isle 2000 Paspalum but are also showing some contamination.

TEES: EXPANSION OF TEE MOUNDS (ESPECIALLY THE SILVER TEES) AND LEVEL MOUNDS AS NEEDED

Some tee mounds need to be enlarged due to high volume of play. In some, unevenness is due to years of ride-on mowers and frequent tamping of sand for divot repairs.

FAIRWAYS:

Our fairways were constructed in 1991 using bermuda 419, but are now contaminated with weeds such as carabao grass, torpedo, goose grass and sedges. As well as zoysia and paspalum. Incidentally, zoysia is a local turf that is expected to be the dominant species and is less susceptible to contamination. However, the battle against the other varieties mentioned above is one that is never ending and we try our best to realistically contain it in our rough areas.



Our maintenance group have adopted the following **continuing maintenance strategies**:

ESTABLISH AND NURTURE NURSERIES TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF TURF FOR SODDING WHEN NEEDED

- **TifEagle** – combined 2,500 sqm for greens in Palmer 15 and Player 10. Sprigged in June 2023. 1,700 sqm for collars in Palmer 17. Sprigged in July 2022
- **Paspalum** – 1,000 sqm in Player 15. Planted in December 2022
- **Zoysia** – 8,000 sqm at the back portion of the practice range. Planted in May 2021. 1,500 sqm in Player 18. Sprigged in October 2020

HERBICIDE APPLICATION, EDGING PRACTICES, AND THE INSTALLATION OF LINERS AT THE COLLARS TO PROTECT OUR GREENS.

OUR PROGRAM TO RESTORE AND REPAIR BUNKERS PROPERLY USING SUSTAINABLE METHODS.

PROGRAMMED IMPLEMENTATION

- **Greens** – Sodding of Palmer greens using harvested sods from the nurseries began January 2024. 5 greens are now contamination-free: 1, 2, 4, 6, and 18. Sodding on-going on Palmer 5, 7, 8, 9, 15, and 16.
- **Tees** – To date, completed tee mound expansions are the following: Palmer 1 Red and Palmer 3 Silver. Palmer 5 White is ongoing.
- **Fairways** – Sodding the transition between fairways and roughs with Zoysia Matrella of Palmer 1 - 4 was completed last year, Palmer 5-7 will be completed this year while Palmer 8 sodding is for continuation.

Be rest assured that the **President, the GM, the Management Team and the Board of Directors are committed to ensure that the pristine conditions of our celebrated and renowned courses, Palmer and Player, are continuously restored and maintained.** At the Orchard, your management strives for **CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT!**

Happy golfing!