

SECRET VALLEY GOLF RESORT

MONTHLY COURSE UPDATE – FEBRUARY 2025



Course Maintenance Recap

Dear member, I hope this update finds you well. Please see below information on some of the works carried out throughout the month and upcoming works for March.

It has been a cold month throughout February especially towards the last week with the overall average temperature for the month being 10.17c. These temperatures really knock the Bermuda grass resulting in discoloration, slower recovery from traffic, wear and tear and minimal to no growth as the Bermuda grass is still in a dormant state.



As the temperatures increase throughout March we should start to see some growth in the Bermuda grass, especially the rough and then we can work on bringing back the definition between fairways and roughs etc.. We have had minimal rainfall throughout the month with only 19mm of rainfall as of today. (27th February)

Due to the limited rainfall so far and the low capacity of the Asprekremnos dam, irrigation will be conservative to prepare for potential water cuts. While this may temporarily impact on the course's visual appearance, it is essential for long-term sustainability. Let's hope we get a lot of rain throughout March.

On the 17th February I had planned to apply our pre-emergent herbicide however with the drop in temperatures I decided to postpone this application and will now look to apply it throughout March – an update will be sent out to inform you all ahead of it being applied.

We have now completed our annual aeration works of all fairways and roughs. This was a significant task, taking over six weeks and 300 man-hours to complete

Why is de-compaction necessary?

- To improve the natural drainage
- To allow water particularly in the summer to get down to the roots
- To improve the overall drought tolerance of the native soil
- To improve the uniformity of some fairways and roughs

When will the fairways recover?

Aeration lines will remain visible for a while, but they will gradually recover as temperatures rise in March

Aeration works were also completed as planned to the greens, tees, approach & collars.



Elsewhere on the course tree works are ongoing down the left side of the 3rd hole / back of 5th tees. We are thinning the eucalyptus canopy to allow more early morning sunlight to reach the 4th green, improving its overall health and surrounding turf.

Works will continue here throughout March.



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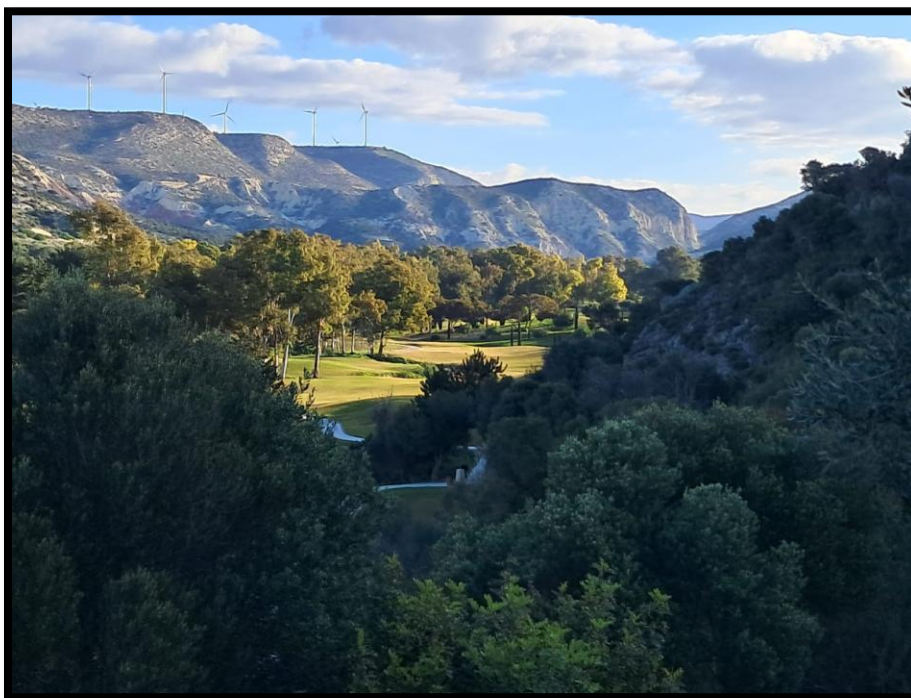
Upcoming Works for March:

Some noticeable works to be carried out in March are as followed

- Aerate Greens – Week of 3rd March (Minimal Disruption)
- Verti-cut Tees – Week of 17th March (Slight Disruption)
- Verti-cut Approaches – Week of 24th March (Slight Disruption)
- Herbicide Application to all turf areas – Date to be finalized

Member Notice

For any early morning golfers, the first tee time is 07:00. Please ensure you do not tee off before your allotted time, allowing our maintenance team to prepare the course ahead of play.



Contact

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