



Driving Range Update

After some much need renovations to the driving range, the range opened as scheduled on October 1st. Estimated cost of total public tee & driving range is \$400,000. New practice tee coupled with 5 new target greens make for a much more enjoyable and efficient practice experience. Come on out and grab a range rewards card today: buy 4 - get one free!



November/December Course Update

September and October have largely been on the warm side. This warmth, coupled with fall fertilizer and several soaking rains have put our turf in very good health heading into dormancy. The lone exception to this warmth was a frost on the morning of October 22nd which has led to some of the lower lying areas losing their color. As this is written, the long range forecast shows weather favorable for the slowed growth of Bermudagrass which is the first sign for our crews shift to Winter “project” type work.

September/October Status

- The height of cut on greens was raised to promote as much root growth as possible prior to dormancy. This increase in height will be offset by the slower growth due to the cooler weather so greens speeds should remain the same or increase slightly. The height of cut on tees, fairways, and collars was also raised.
- The sand and drainage in the bunker left of #10 green was replaced.
- Fall fertilization in all close mowed turf, and weak areas of the rough, was performed.
- The pre-emergent application for Winter weeds was completed course-wide and the first application for the control of the disease Spring Dead Spot was applied to all fairways, tees, and collars.
- Thanks to the cooperation of the weather, we were able to “vent” the greens with ¼ inch solid tines on October 30th. This late season ability to punch a hole is a tremendous help to the increase of air and gas exchange in the root zone.
- During the second week of October all par 3 tees, the range tee, and the practice area were scalped and overseeded. The ryegrass seems to be off to an excellent start and the “shagginess” of the overseeded turf will continue until the plants are mature enough to mow at a lower height of cut, which will occur during the first few days of November. Thank you for your patience as we try to transition these areas for cool season play.
- The weaker fescue areas on the course were overseeded to create a healthier stand of natural areas next summer.

November/December Goals

- Daily mulching and blowing of leaves to keep the playing surfaces as clean as possible.
- Like last fall, the crew will plant 1,000 additional daffodils.
- Removal of several trees around the green complexes on three and eleven. While we hate to remove large and/or seemingly healthy trees, the shade issues created is detrimental to the health of the turf, especially on the greens surface. Great care has been taken to select the least healthy trees with the largest negative impact on the greens for removal.
- Greens will be painted once they lose more of their growing season color and are closer to dormancy.
- Tarps will be tacked down behind greens during the second week of December unless weather dictates we need to do so earlier. As a reminder, we cover greens as an absolute necessity during periods of extreme cold (extended time where the temperature never rises above 32 degrees and/or when the nighttime temperature dips below 20 degrees) as the TifEagle Bermuda on our greens is very sensitive to harsh freezes.
- The artificial turf mat will be re-installed on the new driving range tee.
- As a reminder, please fill your divots and repair your ball mark plus another as the growth of our greens will be slowing to the point at which they are unable to recover from marks, scuffs, divots, etc. As is typical in February and March, the quality of the putting surface is tremendously reduced as the number of improperly repaired ball marks accumulates during the Winter. The following is a photo of number 8

green from February 7th this past year. Each golf ball represents an improperly repaired (or not repaired at all) ball mark. As you can imagine, these imperfections over time lead to a poor putting surface. Please help us keep our greens at the high level of playability we expect at the Ole Miss Golf Course.



The Proper Way to Repair a Ball Mark

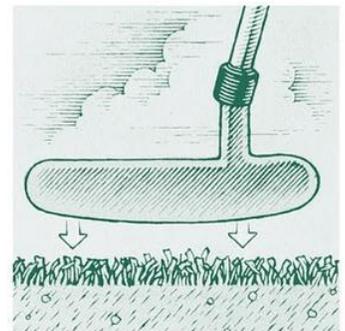
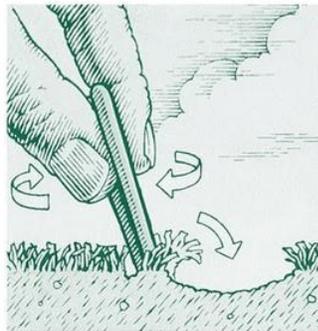
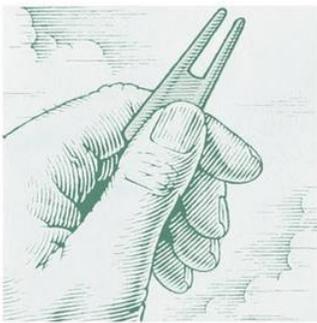


1 Use a prolonged ball mark repair tool (preferably), knife, key or tee.

2 Insert at the edges of the mark—not the middle of the depression.

3 Bring the edges together with a gentle twisting motion, but don't lift the center. Try not to tear the grass.

4 Smooth the surface with a club or foot. You're done when it's a surface that you would putt over.



Source: Golf Course Superintendents Association of America