

Links Report – June 19, 2026

Overview

The golf course maintenance team has continued to focus on improving course conditions, playability, and long-term turf health through a combination of cultural practices, bunker improvements, and targeted maintenance programs. Recent work has focused on enhancing bunker presentation, improving putting green consistency, optimizing turf moisture management, and maintaining high-quality playing surfaces throughout the course.

Bunker Maintenance & Renovations

Introduction of Aussie-Style Bunker Raking Technique

The maintenance team has implemented a new “Aussie-style” bunker raking technique to improve bunker consistency, playability, and overall presentation. This method focuses on maintaining firmer bunker faces and edges, more consistent sand conditions in the bases of bunkers (where ideally most of the bunker play will take place) while reducing excessive disturbance to bunker faces and edges.

The technique involves:

- Pulling sand back toward the center of the bunker to maintain proper sand distribution
- Leaving a smoother, more consistent playing surface
- Reducing excessive ridging and buildup along bunker edges
- Improving drainage and reducing areas of compacted sand
- Creating a more natural, professional appearance similar to practices used on many high-quality courses in Australia

This approach will help provide golfers with a more predictable bunker experience while also improving efficiency for the maintenance team.



Bunker Renovations

Ongoing bunker renovation work has continued to improve the overall quality and function of bunker areas across the course. Projects have included reshaping and repairing bunker areas, washing sand to remove silt and other contamination, addressing sand distribution issues, installing bunker drainage, and restoring areas affected by erosion and play.

These improvements are aimed at:

- Enhancing aesthetics and definition
- Improving drainage and consistency
- Reducing maintenance challenges



- Providing a better playing experience for members and guests

Greens Maintenance Practices

Verti-Cutting and Top Dressing of Greens

The greens team recently completed verti-cutting and top dressing applications on putting greens as part of the ongoing turf management program.

Verti-cutting helps:

- Remove excess organic material and thatch buildup
- Promote upright leaf growth
- Improve turf density and smoothness
- Enhance ball roll consistency

Following verti-cutting, top dressing was applied to help:

- Smooth the putting surface
- Improve soil structure
- Improve drainage and infiltration
- Dilute organic matter accumulation
- Support healthier root development



These practices are essential components of maintaining consistent, high-quality putting surfaces throughout the season.

Wetting Agent Applications – Greens and Fairways

A targeted wetting agent program has been applied to greens and fairways to improve moisture management and overall turf performance.

Wetting agents assist by:

- Improving water infiltration into the soil profile
- Reducing localized dry spots
- Promoting more uniform moisture distribution
- Improving irrigation efficiency
- Helping turf withstand heat and drought stress



Continued applications will support consistent turf quality and improve water-use efficiency during challenging weather conditions.

Irrigation & Water Management

River Pump Maintenance and Irrigation System Care

The maintenance team has completed ongoing servicing and maintenance of the river pump system to ensure reliable irrigation performance throughout the season. The river pump is a critical component of the course irrigation system, and maintaining proper operation is essential for delivering consistent water coverage across the property.

Maintenance efforts have included:

- Inspecting pump components and system performance
- Monitoring operation and water delivery
- Addressing potential issues before they impact irrigation reliability
- Flushing irrigation lines to remove accumulated debris and sediment

Flushing irrigation lines is an important maintenance practice that helps remove debris, sand, and other materials that can build up over time and impact irrigation efficiency.

Keeping the system clean helps:

- Improve sprinkler performance
- Maintain consistent water distribution
- Reduce nozzle and valve issues

- Extend the life of irrigation components
- Support more accurate watering across playing surfaces

Regular river pump maintenance and irrigation system care will continue to be a priority to ensure dependable water delivery and support overall turf health.



Detail Work & Course Presentation

String Trimming Bunker Edges

The maintenance team has completed string trimming & fly-mowing (bunker edging) around bunker edges to improve definition and presentation. This detail work creates cleaner transitions between turf and sand while reducing encroachment from surrounding grasses.

Benefits include:

- Improved bunker visibility and definition
 - Cleaner course aesthetics
 - Easier bunker maintenance
 - Enhanced overall playing experience
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Hand-Watering of Greens

Hand-watering of greens continues to be an important component of the daily maintenance program. This allows the crew to address specific areas requiring additional moisture without applying excess irrigation across the entire putting surface.

Hand-watering helps:

- Manage localized dry areas and high-stress zones
- Maintain consistent green firmness
- Improve turf health during periods of heat stress
- Reduce unnecessary water use
- Maintain consistent putting conditions

This precision approach allows the team to respond quickly to changing weather and turf conditions.

Summary

The maintenance team continues to focus on proactive agronomic practices, irrigation reliability, and detail-oriented improvements that support long-term course quality. Through improved bunker maintenance techniques, renovation projects, turf cultural practices, water management strategies, and daily attention to detail, the goal remains to provide consistent, healthy playing surfaces and an enjoyable experience for all golfers.

The continued support of the greens committee allows the maintenance team to implement these programs and continue making meaningful improvements to the golf course.

Friendly Reminders

Golf Cart Travel in Non-permitted Areas

Golf carts are not permitted to drive in or around any of our greens complexes. There are cart traffic arrows near the end of every fairway, where it is expected that our golfers are not to pass. Golfers are expected to leave their carts parked before these cart arrow signs, or on the cart paths with all four tires remaining on the cart path.

Golf carts are not permitted to drive up right next to tee boxes. Golfers are expected to park their golf carts on cart paths adjacent to tee boxes with all four tires remaining on the cart path.

Golf carts are not permitted to drive through “native grass”/fescue

areas. This is clearly outlined both on your scorecard and on the Rivershore golf carts. These areas receive no irrigation or fertilizer and are composed of grass types not designed to handle any form of golf cart traffic.

Treat the golf course with respect, or you may be asked to leave the property & forfeit your greens fee. Any member caught behaving this way can expect to receive a disciplinary letter from bylaws enforcement.



Practicing off the new driving range tee mats

It is not a permitted practice for golfers to hit anywhere off the new synthetic range mat tee surface. This area has been designed to be a “low-maintenance” area for our Links Crew, so that they can better allocate their resources out on the actual golf course. Taking divots out of the freshly laid sod is not acceptable or appropriate behaviour. Anyone caught doing this will be dealt with accordingly.

