

The Early Riser

Blue Ocean Greenkeeping Report

FROST & FROZEN GROUND

As winter begins here on the sunshine coast, we are experiencing many delays to tee times due to frost and frozen ground. In this column we will attempt to provide some information on the different ways the cold weather affects the turfgrass plant.

There are multiple ways turfgrass can be damaged or killed from cold temperatures; in the turf world we generically refer to this type of damage as winter kill.

The first method of injury we'll go over is traffic damage on frosty grass. As frost sets in ice crystals form inside of the plant; when you then walk, drive or put some type of pressure on the plant these crystals can puncture cell walls & organs resulting in tissue death. If the frost has set in heavy enough that the crown of the plant (located at base of the plant) forms ice crystals, there is possibility of complete plant death.

This year we've created a 6-hole loop with temp greens for those who want to play in these conditions.



HAZARD

COURSE CARE

Ball Marks – Please Fix Them!

During the winter months the grass is not growing (or so slow as to be immeasurable); as such ball marks left unfixed will remain that way until the spring. To help us maintain the conditions of the greens please fix your ball mark, maybe even fix two.

Bunkers:

Due to persistent rains and low staff the bunkers will not be raked often by the maintenance team through the winter. If you happen to land in a bunker (through no fault of your own), please lift your ball, rake the area and re-place the ball before proceeding to hit your shot.

Par 3 Tees:

Please use mats provided as grass will not grow during the winter months to repair divots taken from the grass tees.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Dormancy

The grass has for the most part gone dormant across the course. The greens will maintain their yellowish complexion until the spring when they begin to grow again in earnest.

Saturated Soils

Due to heavy clay content through the majority of our rootzones you will encounter a vast assortment of wet areas on the course through the winter; please feel free to take relief from these areas with no penalty.



HAZEL

Humour

Golf balls are like eggs
White, sold by the dozen
And a week later you need to buy more

Meet our newest team member

“DIVOT”

Loves snacks, pats and attention

