

The bunker at the 10th hole.

1. As part of the bunker refurbishment programme this bunker was identified as in need of urgent improvement before the spring.
2. This bunker was only added around 1976. It was not part of the original course design.
3. There were two options - full refurbishment or removal. Considerable discussion took place and all committee members declared their choice with a significant majority being in favour of removal. The Greens staff were completely neutral with no recommendation.
4. However it was also noted that by removal it was not totally irrevocable should experience over time suggest it was desirable to do otherwise.
5. This bunker is the only one directly in front of a green. Any shot to the left of it hit with a suitable strength to reach the middle or back of the green is likely to catch one of the left hand bunkers. Since we promote fescue greens as a positive factor for our course then typically in dry summer conditions only the best hit high shots can hold the green especially in the prevailing wind. In all fairness in these conditions a tee shot has to be landed short of the green for most club golfers to allow it to run onto the putting surface. This bunker was then seen as an unfair hazard for the majority of our members.
6. By filling it with the profile that has been achieved, running shots are possible but the degree of difficulty has been partially maintained in that shots can be deviated up over the mound and still land in the next bunker on the right.
7. Information provided also taken into account concerned the relative SI and the guidance was that it would not change.
8. Experience will now emerge over the forthcoming playing seasons and the matter could be reviewed at a later date. The financial implications of this current change would be mostly cost neutral should reinstatement be considered in a few years time.

Ivor Matheson. Greens Convenor.