

### **COURSE MAINTENANCE**

Greenkeepers will again be concentrating on the normal seasonal maintenance during these months which includes:-

- Grass cutting, greens, tees, fairways and rough.
- Bunker Raking
- Hole changing
- Driving range maintenance

The greens will be given a fertiliser and nutrient application in early July and again in mid August.

The greens will be scarified, tined and top dressed in both July and August.

### **New Machinery**

Greenkeepers have been demonstrating and evaluating some new semi-rough and rough cutting machinery. The cost of a machine to carry out this task is £45,000 so great care must be taken to make sure the right machine is chosen for the task and to ensure the continued investment made by Dacorum Sports Trust is being spent wisely.

### **LEATHERJACKETS (Daddy Long Legs)**

Some greens are suffering from leatherjacket activity at the moment and the active population this year is exceptionally high. The average population in certain areas of the country is as high as 1.25 million per hectare.

Leatherjackets is the name given to the grubs of the crane fly or as we all know them the daddy longlegs. The severe Winter weather experienced this year did not have any impact on reducing numbers. Leatherjackets are very resilient to cold and frost and all they do under such conditions is reduce the feeding until the weather warms up again.

Leatherjacket grubs or larvae are about 2.5 cm. Long greyish black in colour, legless and with no distinct head. The daddy long legs lay their eggs in late August and they hatch within 2 weeks. The young will start to feed immediately and will continue to feed all through the Winter, ready to gorge on the grass roots in the Spring and early Summer.

### **WATER RESTRICTIONS.**

Due to the dry weather the first water restriction request has been applied for. In the past even though our water authority have imposed hose pipe bans for gardens they have not been imposed on golf courses.

## **CATERING**

The catering team are still providing an excellent service in the temporary facility and Karen has also taken a booking for a Hollywood party in August which will require a marquee to be erected in the top end of the car park by the portakabins. We have also taken a few Christmas party bookings for the new clubhouse already.

We can also now offer outside catering (Buffetspace) to enhance your personal and business entertaining. Large events or small, we will be pleased to arrange buffets to suit your occasion. Pick up a leaflet at Little Hay or contact Karen on 01442 831378.

## **CLUBHOUSE**

The good weather continues to ensure excellent progress is being made on the clubhouse. Weekly photographic progress can be seen on the Little Hay Golf Club website and the building is still on schedule to be handed over in September. We will then need approximately 2 weeks to 'fit out' the building before opening. It is a very exciting time for all of us involved in the building development and I'm sure the next 3 months will go very quickly indeed.

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