

Tee It Up

Q. How should I look after greens?

A. The condition of greens can have a major impact on players' scores, so careful attention should be given to the putting surface. Take special note of the following:

- Be careful not to drag your shoes across the surface or walk on the intended line of a fellow competitor's putt.
- Try not to lean on your putter or the flagstick.
- Do not drop or throw the flagstick on the ground - place it lightly on the green, well away from the hole.
- Be careful not to damage the hole when removing or replacing the flagstick.
- Remember not to leave your golf bag on the green or wheel your buggy across the green (unless specifically allowed to by the club).
- After all players in your group have holed out, the player replacing the flagstick should quickly check that the area around the hole is not damaged.

Q. What about pitch marks on greens?

A. This is the most important aspect of greens care. The longer a mark stays unrepaired, the longer it takes to mend.

Using the manner below repair any pitch marks made by your ball or other balls on a putting green or green surrounds.



1. An unrepaired pitch mark.



2. Commence at the back of the pitch mark and push forward with a pitch mark fork or tee.



3. Attend to each side of the pitch mark, easing the turf forward to replace the damaged area. When undertaking the repair, turn the pitch mark fork towards the damaged area.



4. Do not lift the pitch mark fork or tee upward bringing soil to the surface.



5. Complete the repair by tapping down with a putter.



6. A correctly repaired pitch mark is important to the health of greens and for smooth-rolling putts.



7. Incorrectly repaired pitch marks can take twice as long to heal.



8. Repair any other damage such as spike marks at the completion of the hole.