

NSW COURSE RATING UPDATE

24 July 2012

The current USGA Course Rating process is still being undertaken by NSW trained course raters across the state. With 393 courses to rate under the USGA System it has proved to be a monumental task however great progress has been made and the completion of this rating process is only a number of months away.

Within the Sydney Metropolitan region only 7 courses unrated. These courses are Parramatta, Fox Hills, Castle Hill, Sefton, Cromer, Stonecutters Ridge (Ashlar) and The Australian. These remaining courses within the metropolitan region have either already had an upcoming date locked away for the rating or will be contacted very shortly to arrange an appropriate date for the USGA Course Rating to be carried out.

The country districts have proved to be a greater challenge to complete mainly due to the sheer distance needed to be covered to complete the ratings. Whilst a large number of districts have had individuals accredited as course raters there has still proved to be a shortage of personnel within particular areas.

Approximately 60 courses are still to be rated in the country districts with a large proportion of these being sand green courses.

Clubs are being issued their revised course ratings determined from the USGA Course Rating System with clubs encouraged to adopt this new rating as soon as possible until such a time all courses have had their ratings completed and Golf Australia gives approval to release and then implement the 'Slope System' which at this stage is still not likely to occur before June 2013.

Recently Golf Australia held a Course Rating Audit and Calibration meeting between all the state associations at Moonah Links Golf Club, Victoria. Adam Dransfield and Jann Pearson were the Golf NSW representatives at this two day seminar and saw each achieve their Golf Australia National Course Rating Accreditation.

Whilst Golf NSW, Golf Queensland and Golf Victoria are still in the midst of completing the initial USGA Course Ratings state representatives were educated on the changes to the system for 2012-2015 which will be incorporated into the mandatory re-rating process of all golf courses within a 5 year period.