



WET WEATHER REPORT AND UPDATE

Members, to keep you best informed I have produced this report on current course conditions. In short, some areas remain too wet for play or even to be mown and others are affected by disease. The cool temperatures and continued rain are hampering recovery but thankfully our greens aren't affected too badly and are a shining light during this period.

So far this weekend, a total of 89mm has fallen (to 7am this morning) and as we know, rain has continued to fall all day. Our yearly total to date is now in excess of 2500mm, with 528mm (until 7am this morning) falling for the month of May.

A few points of interest:

- 🚩 The BOM forecast is for showers for the next week with up to 50mm of rain.
- 🚩 Last year's long-range forecasts predicted the rain we've been suffering.
- 🚩 Those same forecasts predict a wet winter ahead.
- 🚩 Our existing drainage infrastructure hasn't coped for some time as evidenced by the bunkers and the men's 18th tee.
- 🚩 Many other SEQ courses are closed or have restricted play due to the ongoing weather event.
- 🚩 Our course is that wet that even 10mm of rain has a significant impact.
- 🚩 Many fairways remain too wet for machinery, and some haven't been cut since 5 May.
- 🚩 Cut heights have been raised and mowing frequency reduced to limit stress on the grass and enhance recovery.
- 🚩 Fairways and tees now cut at 14mm rather than 12mm and greens at 4mm up from 3.5mm.
- 🚩 Greens will be spiked to alleviate moisture in the soil profile and allow oxygen to penetrate.
- 🚩 Greens affected by disease will be groomed lightly to encourage regrowth into affected areas.

🏌️ Tees will be oversewn with rye grass to help alleviate stress from the wet weather and shade.

🏌️ Weather permitting greens will be cut every day, tees twice a week.

🏌️ We think that holes 8,2,10 are about a week away from being in play, even without further rain.

🏌️ I acknowledge the ongoing great work by our greens staff, they've performed admirably through a very wet 6 months.

It is very important that in bringing the course back into play and in good condition that our cultural practices don't add to the stress turf grasses are suffering from the prolonged wet weather.

In the lead up to both Cooroy Opens, **I invite any member who can spare an hour or two to come on down and lend a hand mulching, general tidy up, whipper snipping, path maintenance, etc.** If you are available, please speak to *Peter Piggott*, Volunteer Co-ordinator on 0414526214 or by email at peterjpiggott@gmail.com

The timeframe for the course to fully reopen remains in the hands of the weather.

Regards

Warren Smith
Superintendent Cooroy Golf Club

22nd May 2022