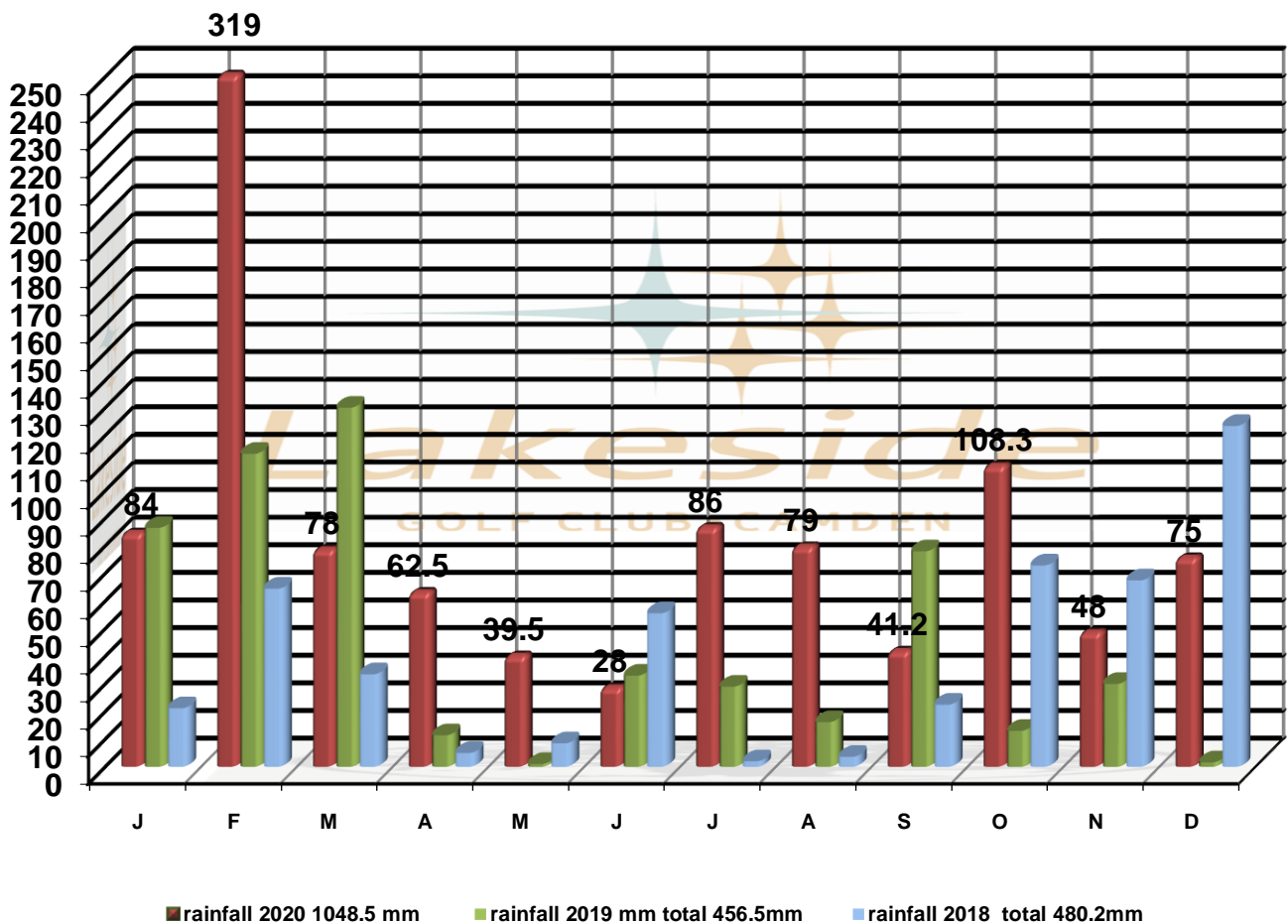


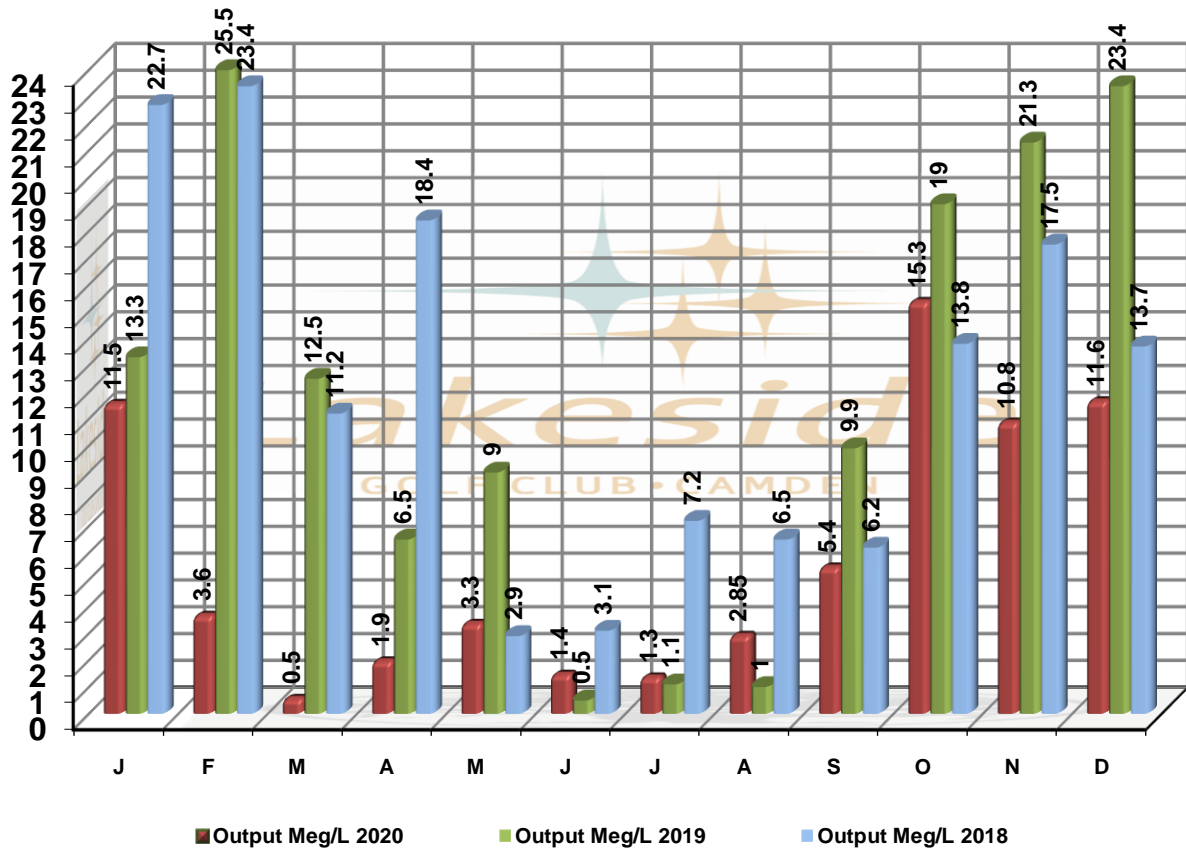
COURSE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT



15th DEC 2020 – 19th JAN 2021

DECEMBER RAINFALL	75mm
Number of rain days in NOVEMBER	12
RAINFALL YTD 2020	1048.5
DECEMBER IRRIGATION	11.6 Meg
IRRIGATION YTD 2020	70.2 Meg





GREENS

Cutting height 3.3 mm

Greens were spot sprayed for Pythium on the edges and mounds only of the new greens. These areas tend to receive more hand watering and therefore can create a breeding ground for this disease to develop.

A fungicide was also applied for Dollar spot on greens. Although not common in our new bent, given the wet December and high humidity with storm activity, this was necessary. Some light scarring from the disease has resulted but will grow out in time. All programs continued over the break period with a growth regulator applied to maintain low leaf growth. With such short weeks it was important that we only had to cut minimal leaf off when we were in.

Turf areas on certain greens has been carried out and this is on areas that have always shown some wear and tear. Due to the low cutting heights, demand for speed and hot weather, it is only pointing to stressed bent grass and as a result some areas struggle more than others.

The current 12th hole is taking a beating from Corella's and plugging has resulted.



THE DAMAGE CAUSED DAILY BY THE CORELLAS

GREENS COLLARS

Collars 8mm

Collars are cut twice a week.

Some hand weeding of paspalum occurred on certain collars.

GREEN SURROUNDS

Cutting height 12mm

Green surrounds were cut 3 times a week over the holiday period and we opted not to use a growth regulator on them to encourage a great smooth and consistent growing surface.

The area on the 8th RHS of the green (old 7th) was drained as best we could. As you can see in the pictures, the reasons for areas like this to hold water are from the shale shelf that the turf sits on. We managed to dig out a well around the pit adding much more gravel, and we then added some fresh growing medium and removed the stale thatch layer that the turf has been placed over. We continued an 8 m drain all the way up the gully to help with drainage in that area.



THE SHALE ROCK SHELF THAT SITS ALL THROUGH THE SURROUNDS



FINISHED PRODUCT AFTER GRAVEL AND SAND IS PLACED IN TRENCH

TEES

Cutting height 8mm

Tees are growing nicely and we have not sprayed them also with growth regulator. They are growing consistently and devoting due to the high golfing numbers is a regular weekly job.

FAIRWAYS

Cutting height 12mm

Fairways did receive a growth regulator and have responded great. They are fully covered, tight and smooth. An iron application was applied to add colour to them and green them up.

ROUGHS

Cutting height 40mm

Spot spraying is continuing on paspalum in roughs.

THE GREENS

Issues are still worked through and we are in a very basic maintenance of the facility. On average we still spend about 18-25 hrs of manpower up there a week which is manageable at this stage.

CONSTRUCTION

The 9th green is awaiting compaction testing and as most are away on holidays over the break, will be completed as well as the 17th green in the 2nd/3rd week of January. We are hoping to seed greens the last week of January and have turf around the 9th green by the end of this month. Flemmings are a little behind in programming of works and hopefully can get this back on track. The mainline irrigation is getting installed around the place as well as the 16th and 18th tee complexes, the 17th green as well. In the coming week the 18th fairway extension will take place and some comp days of playing the tee at the fairway edge might result and reduce the hole distance while works are under way. This will only affect mid-week competitions. We have hit quite a fair bit of shale rock as well which is slowing down a few things like drainage and irrigation.



Laser levelling of tee platforms

Dean Hopper
Course Superintendent