



LAKESSIDE GOLF CLUB CAMDEN

COURSE UPDATE 9.3.22 – FLOODING AND RAIN



16th fairway

RAINFALL

Over the past 2 weeks here at Lakeside we have received 543.5mm of rainfall. YTD so far we are at 746.5mm, old school we sit at just short of 30 inches so far this year. To give some idea of where that sits overall on comparison years, we had almost more rain in 2 weeks then re received in the entire year of 2014(581mm), 2017(523mm), 2018(480mm) and 2019(457mm). It is also over half the yearly rainfall received in 2015(715mm), 2016(895mm), 2020(1048mm) and 2021(965mm).

HOW BAD IS IT OUT THERE?

We haven't got through with no damage but our course has come through pretty well considering. Low lying areas that have held puddles for 2 weeks will no doubt show signs of disease and damaged turf. These we are anticipating will bounce back with favorable weather in the coming week.

Black Helminthosporium (Helmo) is a common black leaf spot disease which is actually caused by Drechslera, Curvulari, Bipolaris and Exserohilum species of fungi. The disease cycle is generally short, as it requires extended periods of leaf wetness to develop and survive. All fairways have this disease through and we are confident this will disappear over time and better growing conditions. Tees and greens thankfully were cut in between the worst days, and don't show signs of this disease to the same extent.

The heights on all surfaces of the course except greens will be raised to minimize damage. Some grass we could not cut for 2 weeks. Scalping will occur and turf will look yellow in parts for some time to come. We will endeavor to get the heights back down to a normal over a period of time.



11th fairway damage from constant water



18th bunkers



10th hole

Bunkers have silt in some of them from surrounding areas, with some having little sand in them. The good news is the newly constructed holes have very little damage at all and will be back in play straight away. We will need to pump, de silt, fix matting and liners in some and add more sand in many of them and this will take time.

Silt and mud from water coming onto the course from external developments will be cleaned as much as possible and has already commenced with priority to the most important surfaces first. This will be a time consuming effort and thankfully we don't have many areas at all that require this.



9th green and surrounds

Tree branches are down and the place has leaves and bark all over it. The vac will go out as soon as it can get out without causing too much damage, and all is easy enough to clean up.

WHEN CAN WE BE OPEN AGAIN?

Our aim is simple. Get the course playable as soon as possible. Mowing has commenced with greens. Tees, fairways and roughs need much longer drying as limited drainage. Will it still be wet under foot for re-opening, yes it will. It would take at least 5-7 days of sunshine, wind and high temperatures to be able to say we can get carts back out. At this stage with no rain we are looking at Tuesday 15th for carts. We are hoping to get walkers out there as soon as safe to do so and that could possibly be Friday or Saturday this week weather depending. Staff are slipping around the place today just trying to get limited access, and it will take some time to get those areas good under foot.



Rear 13th green tree branch down



1st fairway and 2nd dams

Thoughts are with our membership that have faced hard times from these floods also. To both our members and our other golfing community that also have faced far worse than us, we wish everyone a speedy recovery with the clean-up.

COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

DEAN HOPPER