

# COURSE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

## September - October 2023

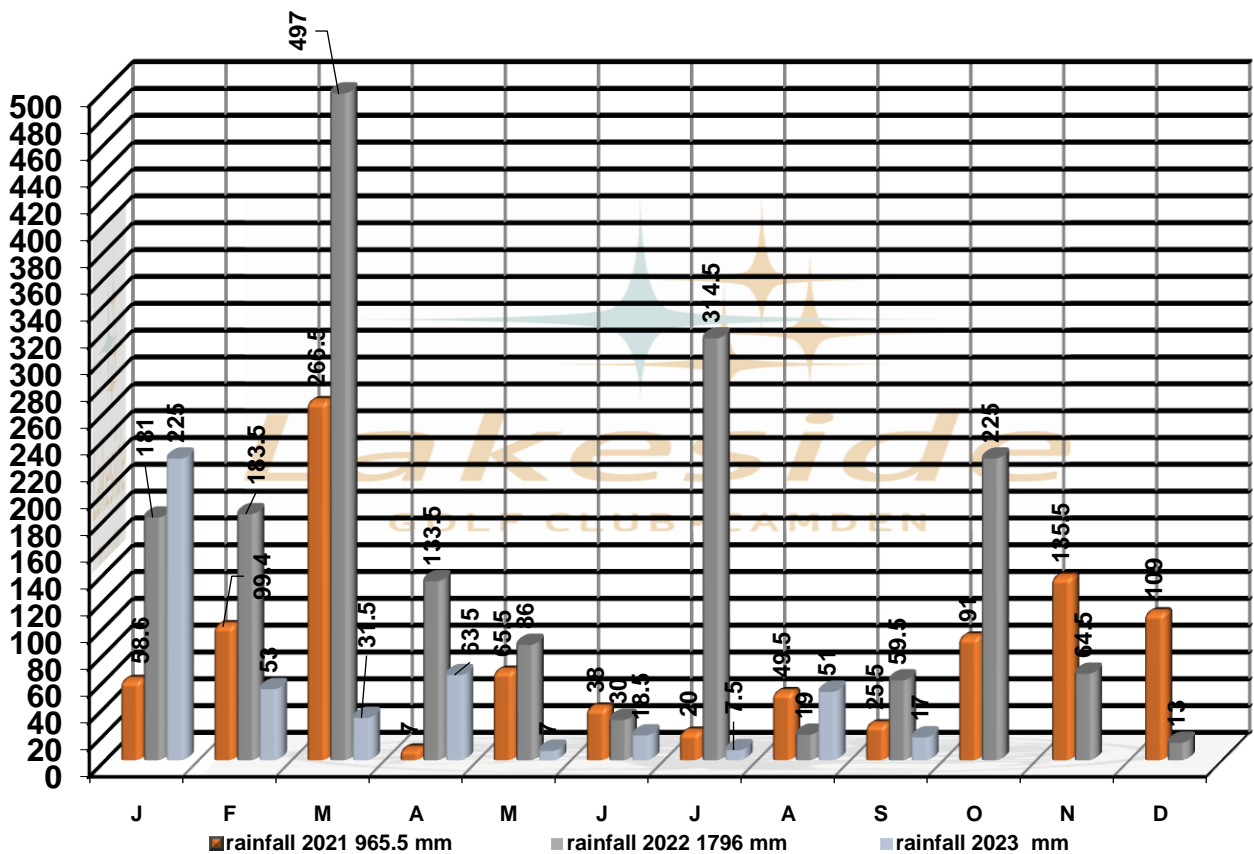
SEPTEMBER RAINFALL 17.0mm

Number of rain days- SEPTEMBER 2

2023 RAINFALL TOTAL 468mm

SEPTEMBER IRRIGATION 10.5Meg

IRRIGATION TOTAL 2023 55.9Meg



## GREENS

Cutting height 3 mm

Greens were groomed and dusted as we start our frequent dusting program with sand. Dusting will be carried out fortnightly around golf play. This allows smoothing of surfaces, reduced thatch and more consistent true ball roll.

## **GREENS COLLARS**

Collars 8mm

Greens collars were edged to limit the couch encroachment onto the surface.

It also allows staff to differentiate between bent grass green and couch collar when cutting and spraying.

## **GREEN SURROUNDS**

Cutting height 14mm

Certain worn areas from winter have been turfed out with fairway turf from the 9<sup>th</sup>. This will be grown in quickly and in play.

## **TEES**

Cutting height 8mm

Tees have come out of winter in bad shape this year and we are not happy with the cover of grass on them. Wear and bare areas probably the worst I have seen them in recent years. A holistic approach to finding solutions to this is being sought and worked through and will help us better understand what will help get a better result next winter season.

Last winter we had record rainfall for the year and high in those months, limited play due to rainfall and course closures, and a rather mild winter. This year we had low rainfall, colder winter with high frosts, and high playability and golfing numbers.



Our worst worn tee platforms, mainly targeting the blue plates were re turfed to have coverage of these areas by week one of the men's club championships. Turf that was already at a similar height was used off the 9<sup>th</sup> fairway as it can be quickly grown in rather than new turf rolls. As a result of the new turf, blue tees have been rotated between platforms to aid in reducing anymore wear on these platforms.

A look at the wear on the 18<sup>th</sup> tee and the section that new turf has been laid. As in most instances the wear didn't just concentrate around the blue plate, but the entire platform.

## **FAIRWAYS**

Cutting height 14mm

## **ROUGHS**

Cutting height 50mm

Roughs are showing signs of slow growth. Parramatta grass has been hand weeded out of certain areas.

## **IRRIGATION**

We are increasing irrigation during October and into November for club championships on most surfaces. An average night irrigation program can put out somewhere near 700000 litres of water.

Mainline irrigation work is needed around the 9<sup>th</sup> tees in the coming weeks as we must redirect some irrigation around residential precincts.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL**

3<sup>rd</sup> tee area- Boxthorn and African olive was removed along the lhs of the 3<sup>rd</sup> tee area as well as a branch and suckling gums to open the native grassy area. This now has allowed better use of the teeing ground.

18<sup>th</sup> rough LHS- African olive was also removed from this area. Eucalyptus trees have room to grow, and the native grasses also now are not choked out by the olive.