

Leyland Golf Club

Pathway Renovations and Drainage Improvements

Design: Duncan Ross Ltd

Project Brief:

Carry out surveys to existing access routes across the golf course and provide solutions to remediate general deterioration, improve underfoot conditions and enhance ease of access around the course, ensuring that the solution had only a subtle visual impact on the appearance of the course.



Project Overview

One of the main drivers for this project was the club's desire to avoid discriminating against mobility impaired club members during prolonged wet periods that would otherwise necessitate the introduction of a trolley and buggy ban. Other wet weather related problems to be addressed by the project included maintenance vehicle access, fairway damage and speed of play.

Heavy trafficking of the access paths by both pedestrian and vehicular traffic (i.e. golf buggies and maintenance machinery) throughout the seasons and over a number of years had resulted in poor underfoot conditions in a number of areas of the course as subsoil compaction compounded water logging issues created by a lack of adequate drainage and poor soil conditions. In order to remediate deterioration of underfoot conditions and provide a hard wearing and easily maintained infrastructure of pathways the following work was undertaken:

- Construction of 3,650m² of reinforced natural grass pathways, 2.5m wide to provide access for pedestrians and their trolleys, golf buggies and course maintenance machinery.
- Improvements in line and level of pathways where necessary to better define access routes and mitigate difficulties in the pushing and pulling of golf trolleys.
- Installation of 2,904m of piped pathway drainage, with this new drainage outfalling to existing collector drains and water features.
- Application of some 164 tonnes of sand topdressing to reinforce the surface, improve soil structure and prevent surface capping/smearing during use.
- Prior to the final topdressing application the pathways were fertilised and overseeded with hard wearing Ryegrass, with the specific seed blend chosen to achieve the desired sward density, maintenance of winter cover and provide the toughest and most wearable natural turf surface.
- Replacement of failed drains and installation of new drains to 7th and 16th fairways, including cleaning out and reforming open drainage ditches.