

Please find the summary of the report presented in the las Board of Directors Meeting

Greens speed

In the last weeks we have received comments on the green speed being slower than usual. That is why we would like to clarify the following:

- Las Brisas has always been known for their fast and consistent greens, the ball rolling true. The objective speed since many years ago were from 10 to 11 feed in the Stimpmeter. However, the green health will always be our priority over the speed.
- Green speed depends on a great number of factors. Many cultural practices we carry on to achieve a long-term speed cause a temporary reduction in the green speed the following days. Among others, brooming, verticuting, sand topdressing, tinning... even though they are considered essential to promote a true and fast green overtime, could leave unsatisfied players thinking this state is ordinary.
- After Covid lockdown, with the course close for several months, and under a low maintenance policy to protect our staff, our regular maintenance program was affected. The two maintenance weeks programmed for May and July were cancelled, so the last time greens were aerified and heavy sand topdressed was April 29th. This year has been unusual, and that is why greens got more thatch, needing a progressive correction.
- Even so, greens speed has always been over 9,5 feet in the Stimpmeter, with a regular value over 10. These figures are usual in July and August, when our priority it to keep our greens healthy in the harsh summer.
- At the moment we remain within our objective, presenting the greens over 10, but more important, with the ball rolling true and homogeneously.



Weeds on tees

We have also received comments on members worried about weeds present on tees and collars.

Every year, as Spring arrives, some summer weeds can be spotted in areas of the course. While Poa (*Poa annua*) is the most common cool season weed, Crab Grass (*Digitaria sanguinalis*) and Goose Grass (*Eleusine indica*) are the predominant warm season species. They are well known all over the globe since they will adapt to a great number of climates and conditions.

Even though we got some weapons to control them in the majority of the areas of the course in RCG Las Brisas, it is on tees, and in a les extent on the collars where the case got more difficult.



The main strategy relies in the use of preemergent herbicides, called this way because they prevent emergence or germination of the weed. However, these herbicides also control the germination of the grass seed, so they can't be used on tees where seeding is needed to recover from divots.

We could be more aggressive in our maintenance program, but our grass will also be affected. The use of other herbicides is not recommended once weeds have matured due to their phytotoxicity.

Moreover, these weeds, as they are annuals, will naturally die once the Winter arrives without any other method of control. That is why we accept some degree of contamination once we failed for any reason to control those weeds, particularly as season becomes well advanced.

This is the reason why we could assure this is a slight and temporary problem. Nonetheless, at this point, we are hand picking most affected tees, particularly those at 1st, 4th, 7th and 8th holes.



We welcome your feedback, that always rise our standards. Thanks for your understanding.