WP Bowls Standing Committee for GreensCare

August 2026 Newsletter

Winter Weeds
At this time of year, the Greenkeeper needs to be aware of the increased incidence of weeds and winter grass on **the greens, banks and surrounds**. It is therefore essential that all three areas are treated at the same time, to prevent cross contamination.

The recommended treatment for **most varieties of weeds** is the application of 250 ml of **Versus**, mixed with 50 litres of water per green. It is suggested that a mixture of 50 ml Versus mixed with 10 litres of water is sprayed onto all four banks of the green, and that a similar mixture is used for each side of the greens surrounds.

Treatment for winter grass is normally done in two phases, preventative and corrective. To prevent the emergence of winter grass, the Greenkeeper can spay each green between mid-February and mid-April with either a mixture of 450 ml of **Kerb** mixed with 50 litres of water, or 150 ml of **Lawntyl** mixed with 50 litres of water. If winter grass appears (normally between mid-May and the end September, a mixture of 150 ml of Lawntyl mixed with 50 litres of water can be applied evenly to each green affected. Further applications at least two weeks apart of a similar strength mix can be applied if the winter grass persists.

Remember to wait for the greens to dry, before applying any chemical, since excess water on the greens will dilute the chemicals being applied.

Preparing for Renovation
Prior to renovations, you are advised to **take your soil samples and have them analysed**. Whilst you are taking your samples, check the depth of root growth. You are looking for a minimum of 75 mm. If you are not using municipal water, you are strongly advised to have a **sample of the water you are using analysed** at the same time. Both sets of results should be sent to whomever you choose to provide you with your upcoming seasons fertilizer regime.

Winter Watering
Despite July 2026 having unusually low rainfall, due the incidence of dew and mists, the greens are still very wet. Remember that 1 mm of dewfall is the equivalent of applying 1350 litres of water to the average green. Heavy mists or fog can triple this amount.

In wet conditions heavy foot traffic will **compact the greens**, particularly around the two metre areas, and the grass can become very stressed.

Care should therefore be taken to **manage the greens use**, to mitigate as much damage as possible. You are therefore recommended, to move your rinks regularly, at least once a week, but preferably after each time the green is played on. Also consider reducing the number of players using each rink, by playing pairs or trips rather than fours.