

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

W.P. Greens Standing Committee

THE MERADO

It has finally been decided to house the Merado Corer at Meadowridge Bowling Club where Bill McCarthy and Terry Drew will be able to oversee the necessary maintenance of this machine. Our thanks to Pinelands B C who had originally offered to accommodate us. Please contact Bill McCarthy (0837117380) or Terry Drew (0837634007) if and when you need to use the machine. In addition to it being used during the annual renovation of greens, some Clubs use it mid-year to combat compaction.

LEVEL 1 GREENKEEPING COURSE

As WPBA has notified you, this course will take place at Oakdale B C on Monday 24 February at 0900. Please contact Bill McCarthy (0837117380) if you would like to be added to the list. Copies of the updated booklet "Better Greens" will be available for purchase at R50.

GROOMER BLADES

A full set of 304-2B stainless steel groomer blades, for use in the Protea BG760 Turf Mower, is available at R2750 including Vat and delivery (in the Cape Town area). For further details, contact Collyn de Witt of Durbanville B C at 0829204315.

LAWNTYL

A number of us are switching to Lawntyl for our pre- and post winter grass applications. Suppliers of the product have endorsed its use on bowling greens provided one does not intend to overseed the greens within six months of application. As there have been mixed results from some Clubs, we will be testing the most effective solution strengths over the next week and will give feedback to Clubs prior to the pre-emergent applications.

MACHINERY WORKSHOPS

We will be notifying you shortly of a series of local workshops which we intend holding for GKPs and their Greens Assistants. As we all know, the care and correct use of greens equipment is critical to the provision of good greens. Most of us should benefit from an opportunity to share ideas about working with expensive, but vitally necessary, greens machinery.

GREENS MAINTENANCE WARNING

Grass growth is beginning to slow down, but the heat and wind persists. So it is important that we take care to protect our turf. Some greens are already showing signs of wear which can only deteriorate as the growing season ends. Avoid cutting too low, avoid playing over the stressed areas if possible, fork and feed them, and make sure that rink and direction changes are implemented weekly.

SELF EVALUATION

We continue to encourage Clubs to carry out their own evaluations of their greens, using the BSA - approved scoring form. Much value can come from this exercise.