

*August 22, 2023*

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When I was growing up, my dad would always tell me that "perseverance will prevail." That was true with school, sports, and now well into a career. The driving range, which in the big picture wasn't a huge renovation, was still a challenge to complete. I mentioned last week that we had battled a fair amount of rain after starting the project, and that held true last week. We were hoping to seed last Thursday or Friday, but the wet soils didn't allow that to happen. Instead, we worked throughout the weekend to dial in the surface in preparation for seed.

On Monday of this week, after the outing started, we were able to get our pre-plant fertilizers down, and seed as well. While I wanted to be seeded by August 15th, considering the rains and equipment challenges, I'm still very happy with the timing and end product. We still have some sod work to finish around the edges, and that will be completed in the next few weeks once we get this extreme heat out of here. Now our focus is to keep the surface moist to keep the seed germinating, and help with establishment. This means that sprinkler heads will be running periodically throughout the day on both ends of the range. We have the afternoon end roped off as we have already had cart tracks through the tee surface. Please don't drive on the newly seeded areas. It will only prolong the grow in of the seed. Also, we are apologizing in advance, because at some point, the sprinklers will probably get someone wet by the west end. On Thursday when the temperatures are in the mid-90's with heat indices around 105, maybe it'll feel pretty good to get hit with a shot of water.

Tee aerification will begin this coming Monday. With good weather, we will be complete that night, and fairly recovered within a week. And yes, the grass is still growing at a pace consistent with early spring. I anticipate the rough to slow down with this heat, and green speeds to slow as we weather the week of high heat and humidity. The long-range forecast looks pretty good after Friday. See you on the course, Go Bucks!