

## Why We Aerate Our Greens

Please note that as part of our preventative maintenance program, grounds crew will be hollow tine aerating and topdressing our greens starting the evening of June 9<sup>th</sup>. This process could take up to several days to complete.

Preventative maintenance such as aerating and topdressing are short-term disruptions that have long-term benefits for the greens. When you see them, remember that without those little holes, the greens would eventually die.

Aerification achieves three important objectives which all promote deeper root growth contributing to a healthier plant.

1. It relieves soil compaction, therefore providing increased air exchange to the root.
2. It allows fertilizers and water to infiltrate the ground and reduces runoff of both.
3. It prevents the accumulation of thatch. Thatch is the tightly intermingled layer of living and dead stems, leaves, and roots which accumulates between the layer of actively growing grass and the soil underneath. If thatch is allowed to flourish it will take over the green.

With good weather we should be in great shape within 7 days. This small inconvenience will provide long term benefits throughout the rest of the season as we do not expect to hollow tine aerate again till mid or late October.