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Saturday, May 04, 2024



## The club

Dear Member,

### Firethorn Greens

We are as disappointed as you are about the appearance of our Firethorn greens. There are brown patches and apparent damage to the grass and there are understandably questions as to how this happened.

So, how did this happen? In preparation for the Joburg Open, we started our usual regime of fertilising the greens and managing weeds on the course. In particular, we sprayed Mancozeb on Tuesday, 9 November to combat the “fairy rings” on the greens. The first greens sprayed were the chipping and putting green. By Thursday afternoon the greens started showing stress which progressively got worse over the weekend. Watering them and cooling them down had no effect.

We often use Mancozeb as part of our spraying programme to take care of disease and would have used it regardless of whether we had a tournament or not. We have never experienced any damage using this product and had complete confidence that it would not cause damage. We even used the product when we redid the Firethorn greens in 2015. We sprayed it on seedlings with no adverse effect. Unfortunately, this time recovery has been slow.

Once the tournament is over, Management and the General Committee will investigate in detail how this happened, who is responsible and, most importantly, how do we prevent a recurrence.

There are however a lot of questions as to what needs to be done to restore the greens. An early assessment of the greens indicates that we will have to firstly hollowtine the greens, which we do in December every year in any case. In areas where the grass will not recover by itself in the near future, we will then have to seed and plug so that the new grass may be encouraged to take root again. This will be done as soon as possible after the tournament, so that we may take advantage of the lower traffic in the holiday season. It is difficult to predict how long this may take, as it depends on weather and soil conditions. We believe that the greens will have made significant progress in the next two months, and we will be monitoring the situation closely to ensure that we get back to normal playing conditions as soon as possible.

In addition to the above, we have a bag of the product that will be sent for testing. Soil samples will also be done to pick up any residue, and hopefully point us to the root cause of the problem.

We will be communicating regularly to you on the progress that we are making, and in the meantime we will appreciate your patience and understanding.

Gerrit Sandrock

Randpark Club President

## Club & Golf Operations, Sunday 28 November

### Bushwillow

- Will open for social play from 07.30
- Pitch and play
- One-tee start with 9-minute intervals
- Check-ins will be next to the kiddies room (same procedure as before the tournament)
- Carts will be on a first-come-first-served basis

### Firethorn

- Will be closed for breakdown

### Neighbouring Clubs

- If you have made a booking at one of our neighbouring clubs, please honour your tee time

### Driving Range

- Will open at 06.30

### Halfway House

- Will open from 06.00

### Terrace Bar & Baobab Terrace

- Will open from 08.00

### Food & Beverage

- There will be a limited offering available

### Locker Rooms

- Will open as normal

Play it Like a Pro

- The competition will go ahead as scheduled on Monday, 29 November.

Covid protocols must be observed at all times.

There will still be a lot of contractors moving around the course and clubhouse. We thank you for your co-operation and understanding.



26 November 2021

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A lot has happened in the last 24 hours ... here is your update

Due to the threat of lightning on Thursday evening, Round 2 could only start once Round 1 was finished.

Round 2 was also not running according to plan and we had a lengthy weather delay. Play was finally suspended at 18h35 due to fading light.

When there is another weather delay...



Was there a silver lining?



Unfortunately not ...

The Sunshine Tour, DP World Tour and City of Johannesburg have decided to reduce the Joburg Open to 54 holes to help non-South African resident players, caddies and tournament support staff return to their home countries. The decision was taken to help facilitate their safe return and give them an extra day to make travel arrangements.

The move follows international travel restrictions imposed on South Africa on Friday due to the emergence of a new COVID-19 variant in the country.

PLEASE NOTE : If you are holding general access tickets for Sunday you will be given access today.

... but everybody kept doing what they do best, and that is to play golf!











Tito Thimba equalled the lowest round of the day



Have a peek at the leaderboard below. You can also view today's draw under SELECT REPORT.

[View the leaderboard](#)

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## Broadcast times

Join us on SuperSport Channel 213 for live coverage of the final round from 12.00 to 17.00 today

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## Tour Stop Challenge

Round 2 of the Tour Stop Challenge has been concluded – Good luck for Round 3!

Please click on the link below to give us your feedback.

[Have your say](#)



Have a great weekend  
Stay Safe, Healthy & Happy!  
The Randpark Team



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