Understanding Sustainable Management
Sustainable Turfgrass Management in Asia 2011
14 – 16 March 2011
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The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews

- Founded in 1754
- Granted royal patronage by King William IV in 1834
- Responsible for The Rules of Golf since 1897 & The Open Championship 1920-2003
- 2,400 global members
The R&A

- Formed in 2004 to take on governance role and commercial activities

Based in St Andrews, The R&A is golf’s governing body and the organiser of The Open Championship. The R&A is committed to working for golf and operates with the consent of 141 organisations, from the amateur and professional game, and on behalf of over 30 million golfers in 126 countries.
Governance
Golf Heritage & Museum
Championships

The Open
Amateur Championship
Junior Open Championship
The Senior Open Championship
Walker Cup
Boys Home Internationals

St Andrews Trophy
Boys Amateur Championship
Jacques Leglise Trophy

Seniors Open Amateur Championship
World Amateur Team Championships
Eisenhower Trophy & Espirito Santo Trophy
- Jin Jeong of Korea
- The Leading Amateur and winner of the Silver Medal
- Ended the week joint 14th
Golf Development

- £143,000 in coaching grants to Asia Pacific in 2010
- £83,053 in Greenkeeping machinery

- Total R&A spend in Asia Pacific to support Golf Development in 2010 was over £1 million
- 22% of Total Golf Development Budget
- Moriya Jutanugarn of Thailand
- The Junior Open 2008
- Hesketh Golf Club, England
• Kenta Konishi of Japan
• The Junior Open 2010
• Lundin Golf Club, Scotland
The R&A Golf Course Committee

To conserve, enhance and improve the management and development of the game’s most valuable asset; the golf course
Looking to the future of the game
The growing pressures facing golf course management

1) Economic

- Global recession
- Demand for ‘value for money’ and accessible golf
- Increasing costs of resources, materials and operating machinery
- Tighter profit margins
The growing pressures facing golf course management

2) The golfer

- Golfers are demanding high quality golf at a more affordable price
- Demand for year-round availability of play on well prepared courses in attractive natural settings
- Customer attainment and retention
The growing pressures facing golf course management

3) Environmental

- Increasing local, national and international emphasis on good environmental management from businesses
- Increasing protective legislation
- Tightening controls on the use of chemicals and water
- Growing penalties for causing damage to ecosystems and wildlife
- Benefits for business from good environmental practice
- Consumers are becoming more aware of the importance of environmental issues
- Global climate change and future unpredictability
The growing pressures facing golf course management

4) The community

- Increasing requirements to manage waste and pollution effectively
- Energy efficiency
- Nature conservation and enhancement
- Benefits to the local community
- These issues can become factors in purchasing decisions
Successful and prosperous golf courses must:

- Be economically sound
- Offer high levels of playing performance
- Be environmentally compatible
- Contribute positively to the wider, non-golfing community

Operate ‘sustainably’
Sustainability

“Optimising the playing quality of the golf course in harmony with the conservation of its natural environment under economically sound and socially responsible management.”
Sustainability

Four parameters:

- Economic performance
- Playing performance
- Environmental stewardship
- Social responsibility
Economic performance

- Secure and successful financial operation
- Profit for shareholders
- Enough surplus to cover necessary investment in the course
Playing performance

- The requirements of the golfer
- Value for money
- The golf experience
Environmental stewardship

- Conservation of resources
- Minimising impacts
- Player experience
- Adapting to climate change
Social responsibility

- Employment
- Recreational green space
- Ecosystem services
Sustainability

Sustainable management = long-term resilience, security and success in business operations

Securing the future of your golf course
Case studies

Banyan Golf Club
Hua Hin
Thailand
Case studies – Banyan GC, Thailand

Grass species:

- Zoysia matrella through the green
- Greens - hybrid Tifeagle Bermudagrass
- Tee surfaces - seashore paspalum

Excellent playability at minimum management costs

Well managed Zoysia:

- Up to 50% less pesticide than seashore paspalum or Bermudagrass
- Resistant to many insects and weeds, virtually free of diseases
- 30% less water than seashore paspalum
- Excellent drought tolerance
- 30% less nitrogen requirements than Bermudagrass or seashore paspalum
- 25% less frequent mowing than Bermudagrass or seashore paspalum
Case studies

Wack Wack Golf & Country Club
Mandaluyong City
the Philippines
Case studies – Wack Wack G&CC, the Philippines

Grass species:
- Fairways and roughs – broadleaf carpetgrass
- Greens - Zoysia
- Tees - Zoysia

Among the three most prestigious clubs in the Philippines. Wack Wack is to host the Philippine Open in May 2011.

Selection of native grass species – broadleaf carpetgrass and Zoysia:
- Require less that half the fertiliser needed by Bermudagrass or seashore paspalum
- Generally free of diseases and insect pests
- Tees, fairways and roughs have required no pesticide application for the past three years
- Effluent water from the city of Manila used for irrigation
- Healthy sward with minimal maintenance requirements other than mowing
- 30% less nitrogen requirements than Bermudagrass or seashore paspalum
- A course with local character for appearance and playability
Further information, support and advice

The Golf Course

http://www.randa.org

- To provide a data capture service
- To provide worked examples
- To promote best practice
The R&A Golf Course Committee

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Sustainability Commitment

Environmental Stewardship

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Summary

Golf courses are facing an increasing number of pressures from:

- Economics
- Golfers
- The environment
- Society

To become secure, successful and prosperous businesses, golf courses must adopt the principles of sustainable management and development, which means achieving a balance between:

- Economic performance
- Playing performance
- Environmental stewardship
- Social responsibility

Sustainability is the future of the game
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