

## **Missoula Country Club**

### **Maintenance Guidelines**

**For Year 2008**

The March, 1998 Maintenance Philosophy for the Missoula Country Club is incorporated into these Maintenance Guidelines as written.

**Introduction:** As the game of golf is played on turf, our priority is to maintain our turf in as healthy a condition as possible, consistent with its purpose as a premier golf course. Healthy turf is firm, moderately fast and does not exhibit unhealthy effects due to over-watering.

#### **Cutting heights and mowing frequencies**

**Rough:** Rough will be mowed to a nominal height of 1.75". For tournament play, rough height will be dictated by the tournament committee.

**Fairways, Tees, Collars and Approaches:** Fairways, tees, collars and approaches will be mowed to a height of .375" to .450" depending on time of year and weather conditions.

**Driving Range tees:** Driving Range tees will be top dressed to maximize time for growth.

**Tees:** All tees will be policed of discarded and broken tees when mowed. Par 3 tees will be top dressed when tees are moved.

**Greens:** The top priority for greens care is health of the green, followed by maintaining a consistent and smooth surface. These desired characteristics are highly dependent on season and weather.

Greens will be maintained to have a nominal speed of 10'6" to 11'. Green speed will be posted daily on the bulletin board outside the bag room.

When rolling is needed, it is preferred to roll on Thursday.

#### **Cultivation Programs**

**Greens:** To maintain healthy greens with desirable playing conditions we will implement a program of frequent light top dressing with dry sand. Aeration will be scheduled to help eliminate thatch and improve drainage. Aeration will be a combination of quad tine, deep tine and Hydroject.

**Fairways:** Aeration of fairways as necessary to eliminate layering and compaction. This will be assessed on a hole by hole basis.

#### **Bunker Maintenance**

Bunkers are defined as a hazard to be avoided. Our goal for bunker maintenance is for all bunkers to be consistent in playability and attractive in appearance. Bunkers will be managed as follows: All bunkers will be weeded, cleaned and edged and thoroughly raked weekly, and cosmetically raked daily to repair footprints and other surface irregularities.

### **Course setup**

Pin placements for daily play are the responsibility of the Superintendent, who will try to have six easy, six medium and six difficult pin placements each day. For tournaments, green speed will be managed to the extent feasible to meet the specs as defined by Rules and Games. Tournament pin placements are the responsibility of the Golf Professional.

Tees will be moved daily and on those holes where we have multiple tee boxes the markers will be moved to new tee boxes weekly and bi-weekly where sufficient tee boxes are available.

### **Tree Maintenance**

The Long Range Tree Plan defines and identifies Designated Trees, which require Green Committee and Board of Directors approval before any alteration beyond minor pruning may be undertaken, with the exception of a safety hazard which will be treated immediately.

Trees are an aesthetic and an architectural part of our golf course. That said, the ultimate priority of our golf course is the playability of our greens, and any tree interfering with the playability and health of our greens will be removed. Tree bases will be maintained weed free.

### **Pond Maintenance**

While algae in our ponds is undesirable, we recognize the need to avoid contamination of the river and aquifer with harmful algae-control substances. We will use a combination of hand skimming, non-chemical controls and safe chemical controls to minimize algae growth.