

# Turf Advisory Service ON-SITE VISIT REPORT



## Kayak Point Golf Course Stanwood, Washington

Visit Date: July 15, 2013

Present: Mr. Russ Bosanko, Division Manager, Snohomish County Parks & Rec  
Mr. Brian Patton, President, Access Golf  
Mr. Paul Peterson, Superintendent  
Mr. Steve Stensland, General Manager  
Mr. James Yap, Principle Park Planner, Snohomish County Parks & Rec  
Mr. Larry Gilhuly, USGA Green Section

### United States Golf Association

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*USGA Green Section Mission: The USGA Green Section are leaders in developing and disseminating agronomically, environmentally, and economically sustainable management practices. We help golf facilities maintain better playing conditions for better golf through science-based and practical solutions.*

It was a pleasure to visit the Kayak Point Golf Course on July 15, 2013 on behalf of the USGA Green Section. This was the first visit to Kayak Point with the main emphasis on both short and long range improvements needed on the golf course. In addition to needed capital improvements considerable time was spent viewing selective tree removal, playing conditions throughout the course and several agronomic topics. Should you have any questions concerning this visit or report, please do not hesitate contacting our office.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The following brief summary provides a non-explanatory list of topics that were discussed that can be found within the main framework of this report in the same order. Each topic is discussed in greater detail including observations and recommendations.

- Short range capital needs**
- Tees require major improvements in levelness and size.
  - Complete reconstruction/expansion needed on Nos. 3, 6, 12 and 13.
  - Leveling of tees needed on Nos. 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 back, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18.
  - Fairway leveling needed on No. 11 and other holes.
- Long-range capital needs**
- Irrigation system upgrade is the major capital need.
  - Maintenance facility repairs needed on building.
- Tree removal needs**
- Tree removal is key to reducing disease and fungicide use.
  - Past tree removal noted on east and south of many greens.
  - Observe sun angles this fall to start removal process.
  - Expect tree removal on Nos. 2-8, 10-15 and 17 for greens.
  - Remove trees in/along fairways on Nos. 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 18.
- Playing conditions**
- Pace of play is a major issue in the game and at Kayak Pt.
  - Excellent improvements have been made with trees/brush.
  - Greens and hole locations are tied together.
  - Greens and approaches need to be similar in firmness.
  - Collar dams were noted on most greens.
  - English daisy - remove around greens and areas in play.
  - Bunkers need edge reestablishment and drainage.
  - Tees not leveled can be improved using this method.
  - Square tees are not needed at Kayak Point.
  - Expand natural rough around tees as much as possible.
  - Add signage on holes to assist players through the course.
- Agronomic topics**
- Greens need a light and frequent topdressing program but not without adding a spin topdressing unit.
  - Approaches should be treated like the greens.
  - Minimize collar dams using these techniques.
  - Add this tool to assist in water management on greens.
  - Good recovery from winter damage noted on all greens.

## SHORT RANGE CAPITAL NEEDS

**Observations and recommendations.** The main purpose for the visit to Kayak Point was to assist in the many improvements that are needed on the golf course. There have been little, if any, changes to the infrastructure of the golf course since the time of construction. In that same near 40 year time frame a few trees have been removed, many limbed up to make the course playable and massive organic decomposition of material buried under the fairways. This has resulted in the most unlevel fairways viewed in the past 30 years of doing visits to golf courses on behalf of the USGA. In addition, tees commonly become "crowned" due to regular play in the centers from divot filling. Over years of use the crowning can become severe, however nothing prepared me for viewing the most crowned tees seen on any golf course in the past 30 years!



The photo above shows one of the minor slopes (No. 16) with the digital level showing a 5% slope. Players avoid slopes of 3% or more, thus over the years of filling divots on this par 3 tee the players keep gravitating more to the center. This has resulted in very small usable areas and complete turf loss of the level areas on many tees.

These two areas (tees and fairways) of the golf course demand the greatest attention and it is hoped that funds will be available to correct these flaws. When corrected there will likely be an increase in play (weather provided) as word will get out that Kayak Point is finally fixing these major flaws. With this in mind, the following was recommended for your short-range capital improvements:

- **Tees require major improvements in levelness and size.** While many tees will need some form of renovation to create level starting points for each hole, it is also important to realize that the size of the teeing surfaces is also critical. The standard size for tees has always been determined based on rounds of play, iron vs wood usage and the starting holes on each nine. For example, if Kayak Point normally has 35,000 annual rounds the par 4 and 5 tees should be approximately 3,500 sq. ft. with the majority of the size on the heaviest use area which is usually the white or middle tees. Par 3 tees along with Nos. 1/10 have double the amount of traffic, thus 200 sq. ft./1000 rounds is often used. This equates to 7,000 sq. ft. needed on these holes with a major emphasis on the middle tees. While these are general guidelines, Kayak Point should take a very close look at the reprint [Tailor Made](#). This type of specific size calculation will be needed on most holes starting with the following.
- **Complete reconstruction/expansion needed on Nos. 3, 6, 12 and 13.** Two types of reconstruction are needed for the tees at Kayak Point. The first type is the most effective and will produce the best combination of drainage, turf health and levelness. It was recommended to completely rebuild Nos. 3, 6, 12 and 13. Specific reasons for each tee reconstruction included the following:
  - **No. 3.** This par 3 tee is severely crowned and in need of a major increase in size. Fortunately there is ample room for a large middle tee by expanding the tee forward and to the right.

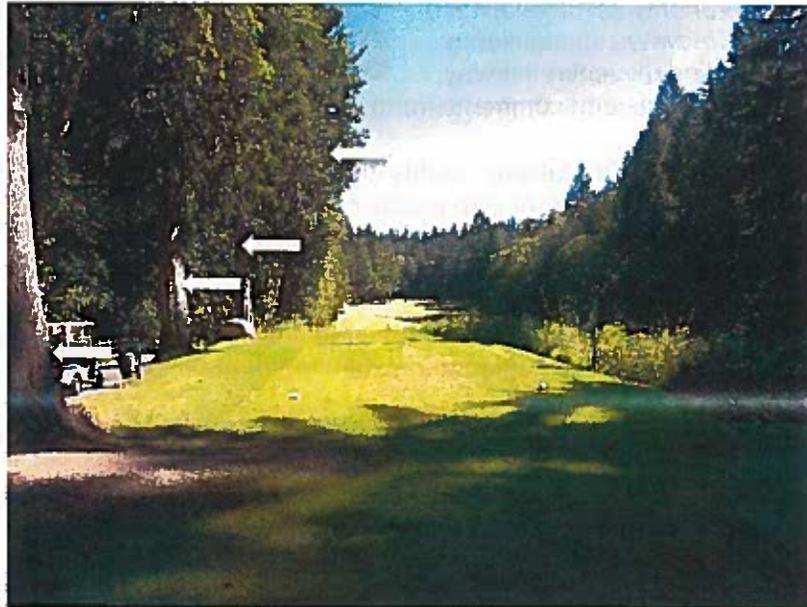
- **No. 6.** This severe dogleg right was difficult when the trees were small, but it now is too extreme with most players playing the tee as far left as possible. The photos to the right and below show the tee from three distinct angles. The right photo is from the right side of the current tee and is not recommended. The lower left photo is from the left side of the current tee and the bottom right photo is taken from directly behind the existing forward tee. The existing tee should either be expanded to the left with tree removal



or be extended behind the current forward tee with less tree removal near the tee, but tree removal on the left side of the dogleg as shown with the arrow in the photo. Either way, complete tee reconstruction is needed.

- **No. 12.** The tees for this par 3 are some of the smallest and most crowned ever viewed. The current back tee has a slope on the left side of 9.1% with the right side at 7.7%. At the same time there is truly not enough width to take a stance that is basically level on this tee! This tee (along with all of the other tees) needs to be rebuilt or renovated by someone with experience in the field of golf course construction. In addition to the person that has already provided an estimate, make sure to also contact Kip Kalbrenner of Ridgetop Construction (253 686 5477 or [kip@ridgetopgolf.com](mailto:kip@ridgetopgolf.com)) and George Travis (cell – 206 427 2546 or [georgetravisgolf@gmail.com](mailto:georgetravisgolf@gmail.com)). Also, the two tees on No. 12 on the right side could be combined to make one larger tee with the left middle tee lowered to capture more teeing space.

- **No. 13.** Mr. Peterson mentioned that the forward tee on the left side for this hole was leveled, however the entire size of the tee needs to be increased. In addition to combining the two forward tees and expanding these tees to the rear, 4 large trees need to be removed on the left side to encourage players to use the entire tee rather than only the right side.



- **Leveling of tees needed on Nos. 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 back, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18.** While the preceding 4 tees require either major expansion or complete reconstruction, a second method of tee renovation can also be used for several tees. Mr. Peterson mentioned that the tees drain well and those with adequate sunlight do have good turf coverage. The problem is they are simply too crowned, thus leveling is all that is needed. The tees listed above can be stripped (save good sod on the sloped portions), material moved to both sides and a sand/organic material added to recapture the original size tees. If the existing sod can be saved, place it on the smaller forward and back tees with perennial ryegrass sod used for the heavily used middle tees. Make sure to keep the middle tees large based on the previous article on tee sizing.
- **Fairway leveling needed on No. 11 and other holes.** Over the past three decades golf courses with expandable clay soils have been visited where severe movement occurs and very unlevel surfaces are created. Also, golf courses have been visited where it is obvious that less than adequate effort was taken to make sure the fairways were leveled or had rocks removed. However, none compare to some of the severely pot-holed fairways at

Kayak Point! This is primarily due to the suspected burying of organic material (tree stumps) with nearly four decades of organic decomposition. Fortunately, not every hole was completed in this manner, however from the start of the fairway to near the end No. 11 is perhaps the worst example of a smooth fairway ever viewed. While the tees need to be addressed, this fairway stands at the top of the priority list for leveling of the fairways. In addition to leveling this entire fairway, other holes and comments for this process included:



- **No. 14.** The fairway on this unique hole needs leveling on both sides, but not the entire fairway. The right side needs complete leveling from the start of the fairway to the 150 yard post. The left fairway needs leveling 20-30 yards in front of the 150 yard post and then again from the 100 yard post to the toe of the slope.
- **No. 15.** This is another very large fairway that needs extensive leveling. Leveling can start near the dogleg and extend up to the right side bunker near the green.
- **No. 17.** Leveling is needed from the 150 yard post to the green.
- **No. 9.** A relatively small area at the top of the ridge requires complete leveling.
- **Nos. 16, 6, 1, 2 and 10.** All of these fairways have smaller areas where potholes exist, however it was suggested to address these in a manner that is more focused on individual areas rather than the entire fairway.
- **How should this be completed? When should it be completed? How long will each hole be out-of-play? What can be expected?** While contractors with experience in golf course construction will have the tools needed to level these areas, it will not be an easy task. To truly get the best results all of the sod should be removed, the soil rototilled in multiple directions, rocks removed, soil compacted and the entire area reseeded. However, removing the sod will be nearly impossible due to the unlevel nature of the areas. This means this step would be removed and this additional organic material will be moved into some of the low areas as part of the leveling process. This will then be another organic source of material that will decompose over time as the fairways can be expected to become unlevel over a period of 5-10 years. This returning unlevelness is not expected to be as bad, however going into this process without this expectation is not realistic.

The next question is when should it be completed? From a turf growth standpoint there is no question that during the growing season when warmer temperatures occur is the best time and will provide the fastest recovery. However, this is also the same time as peak play, thus the "shoulder" seasons are often when this work is done. The key will be having the soil in a condition that can be moved without being too wet. Also, the seed must have the proper temperatures to germinate with enough water available to keep the seed growing. Again, this encroaches on the month of September with the last possible seeding date in mid-October. While it may not produce the best short term results, the best compromise position to assure success would be next spring when natural rainfall will enhance establishment and play is not at or near its peak.

The next question is how long will the areas be out-of-play? In reality, all 18 holes can remain in play, however work completed on Nos. 11 and 15 will require shortening the holes to par 3's with an artificial mat next to the cart paths. Once the seed germinates and plants can handle foot traffic, play can occur on every area with one minor change that must be followed. During the first 8-10 weeks of turf establishment a local rule that allows players to tee the ball up must be added. If this is not followed, all play should remain off the seeded areas for a period of at least 10-12 weeks to allow the grass to form a small amount of thatch before regular play.

The final question is what can be expected? As mentioned earlier, the fairways will slowly begin to sink again, but not at the level noted during this visit. Also, a significant amount of rocks can be expected to be unearthed in the rototilling process. This will be a major job for removal, however if it is not completed your players will report damage to their clubs and possible injury if you decide to open to early or do not allow players to use a tee on the renovated areas.

## **LONG-RANGE CAPITAL NEEDS**

**Observations and recommendations.** While the main purpose for this visit was to discuss needed capital improvements for the tees and fairways, there is a major "white elephant" in the room with the irrigation system. The current irrigation system remains the original installation and now approaching 40 years old. In addition to parts no longer being available, the hydraulic abilities of this system are very antiquated and it shows on the golf course as water cannot be placed where it is needed, when it is needed and at the proper amount. For this reason the golf course is very underwatered while playing very firm and fast during the summer months. Unfortunately the irrigation system will require between 1-2 million dollars for a proper upgrade and is not possible at this time. However, an irrigation audit is possible and recommended as the starting point for this critical portion of the golf course operation. It was suggested to contact and hire one of the following three individuals as all are very well versed in irrigation system design related to golf courses:

Bob Bryant – [bob.bryant@waterlinks.com](mailto:bob.bryant@waterlinks.com)

Harry Yates – [harry@harryyates.com](mailto:harry@harryyates.com)

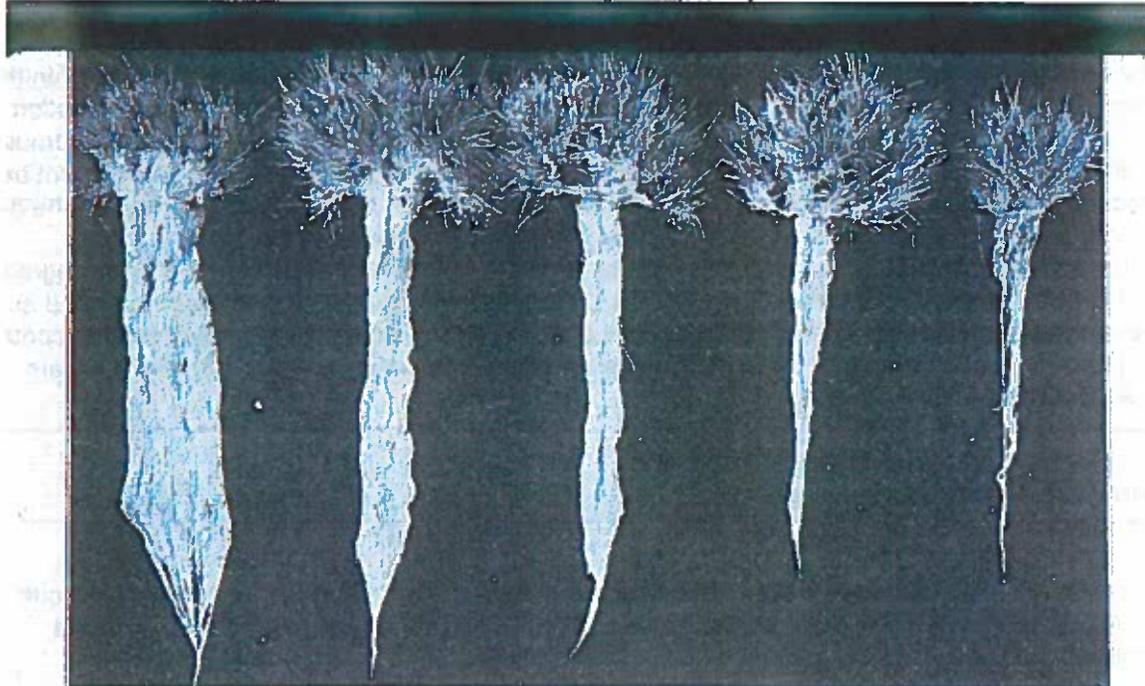
Mike Huck Irrigation and Turfgrass Services – [mhuck@cox.net](mailto:mhuck@cox.net)

In addition to the major renovation of the irrigation system, the maintenance facility is also in need of roof repair, a separate pesticide/fertilizer building and a wash area that minimizes chemical runoff.

## TREE REMOVAL NEEDS

**Observations and recommendations.** Trees are a critical part of every golf course in regard to safety for players, separation of holes, shot strategy and the visual splendor they offer. All of these points are very important at Kayak Point due to the immense size of some of the Douglas firs and their position on the golf course related to safety and shot strategy. However, at the same time, there is one major negative associated with trees that often requires their removal. Due to their size and location they rob needed sunlight, air flow, water and fertilizer with both their above ground and below ground portions. This can result in far more disease and the use of fungicides on turf that is prone to be less healthy. With this in mind, the following was recommended concerning many holes at Kayak Point:

- **Philosophy of tree removal – three easy steps are needed.** When removing trees on a golf course, the following three criteria need to be considered before pulling the rope on a chain saw:
  - **Are the trees causing turf growth issues providing safety for the players?**
  - **Are the trees causing turf growth issues strategically important to the play of any hole?**
  - **Are the trees causing turf growth issues important from a visual standpoint?**
- **Past tree removal noted on east and south of many greens.** Kayak Point was built nearly 4 decades ago when all of the trees on the golf course were much smaller and producing far less shade. However, it was obvious that many trees have been removed over the years from the east and south side of several greens. To show the impact of sunlight on turf growth, please note the photo below showing root development of the same type of turf with full sunlight on the far left, PM sunlight blocked, extended PM sunlight blocked, AM sunlight blocked and full shade on the far right. The importance of morning sunlight cannot be overstated and needs to be addressed as the highest priority for tree removal at this time.

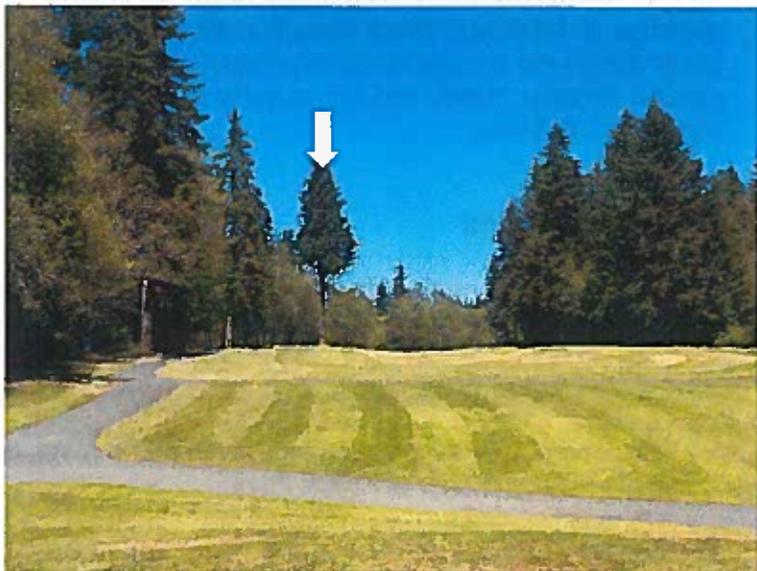


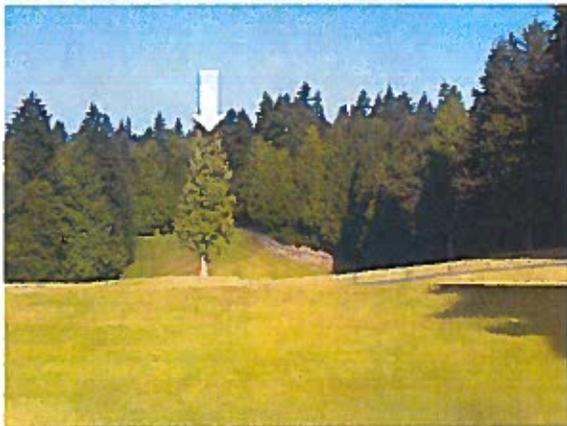
- **Observe sun angles this fall to start removal process.** If you have the capability a very good app is available (Sunseeker) that can predict the angle the current trees have on the green for the entire year. If not, wait until this fall and simply observe which trees are causing the most morning shade (and frost) starting in October through mid-December. This will give you the corresponding shade patterns after the winter solstice into February. The following holes should be addressed to improve turf growth and minimize the use of fungicides during the shoulder season in the spring and fall.

- **Expect tree removal on Nos. 2-8, 10-15 and 17 for greens.** As can be noted, 14 of the 18 greens can be expected to have some amount of tree removal. This does not mean areas will need “clear-cutting” however it is critical that wide avenues of 100% light are needed to grow healthy turf. The photo to the right shows a perfect example of expected tree removal on the right side of No. 3. At least 3-4 large trees can be removed that do not impact play, are not providing safety for players and are not important to the visual aspect of this hole.



- **Remove trees in and along fairways on Nos. 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 18.** In addition to removing extensive trees to the east and south of the preceding holes, one-third of the golf course has trees directly in the line of players. More precisely, all of these trees greatly impact the pace of play and hinder the less skilled players. As a general rule, regular male and female players do not have the length of PGA players and usually hit the ball to the right. With this as a general ball flight, which players are finding it extremely difficult to avoid individual trees to the left of No. 4? Where will most of their shots end up by avoiding this tree on this dogleg right hole? The answer is in the brush and trees on the right side. Removal of this tree is recommended for this reason. The same applies for the large tree on No. 7, the cluster of trees in the middle of No. 9, the tree on No.





10 and several trees on the right side of No. 18 in the second shot area for players with less distance. In addition to these trees that directly impact play on several holes, the upper left photo shows the amount of damage that can also be caused when trees are too close to greens, irrigation heads and where traffic flows. This fir absolutely should be removed to the right of No. 6 green.

## PLAYING CONDITIONS

**Observations and recommendations.** The renovation of the tees, leveling of selective fairways and removal of trees will greatly improve the pace of play and enjoyment when playing Kayak Point. In regard to playing quality and the pace of play, another portion of this visit included a brief review of how the golf course is playing at this time. The attached template outlines a different type of visit that the USGA will be providing next year with a focus on playing quality with pace of play as a centerpiece. With this in mind, the following was noted on this day regarding the playing quality at Kayak Point:

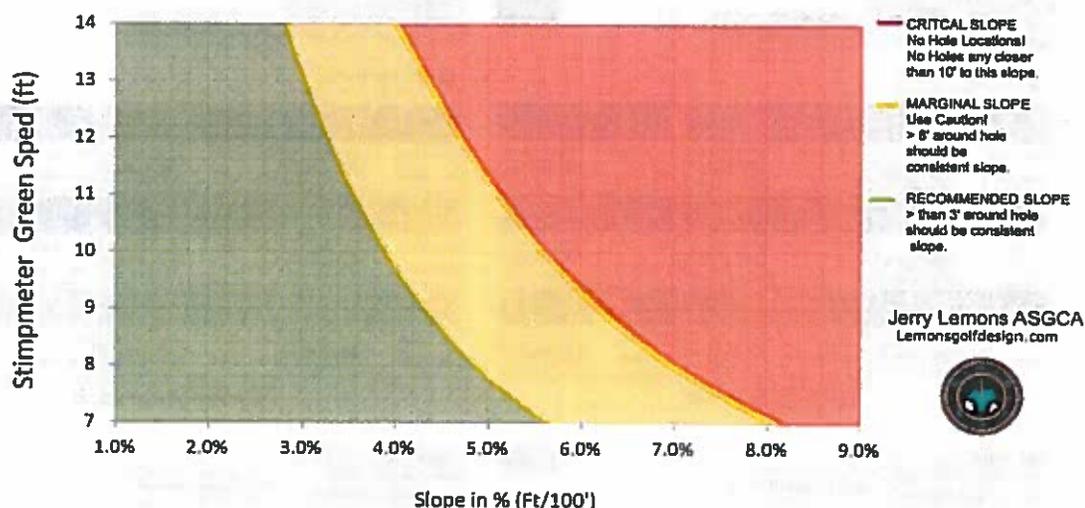
- **Pace of play is a major issue in the game and at Kayak Pt.** The USGA has taken a strong stand on trying to improve one of the great weaknesses of golf – the pace of play. In this regard, it was good to view the many efforts that have already been made at Kayak Point with the removal of lower hanging limbs and brush near play. This has helped considerably, however there are other minor areas affected by the maintenance department

that can continue to improve overall speed of play on the golf course. The attached template covers those areas discussed along with the quality of the playing conditions on the day of this visit.

- **Greens and hole locations are tied together.** Perhaps the single most significant way to impact the speed of play on a golf course is the combination of fast greens with hole locations on slopes. For example, it is estimated that an extra shot for one player may take up to 30 seconds based on their preparation and understanding of the game. If all four players in a group take one extra shot due to fast green speeds and hole locations on severe slopes, an additional 2 minutes is added per hole. Over 18 holes this adds up to 36 minutes, thus great care must be taken when determining hole locations combined with green speed.

The first column in the template normally includes the green speed for every hole when a USGA playing quality visit is completed starting next year. Since green speed was not taken, it was mentioned by those responsible that the greens are generally in the 9'-9'6" range when using the USGA stimpmeter. This would allow holes to be set on a slope at or near 4% with 3 feet of consistent slope around the hole. An increase in green speed or slope requires 8' of consistent slope to not severely impact play. To assure hole locations are matched with the green speed that day, it was recommended to always have a digital

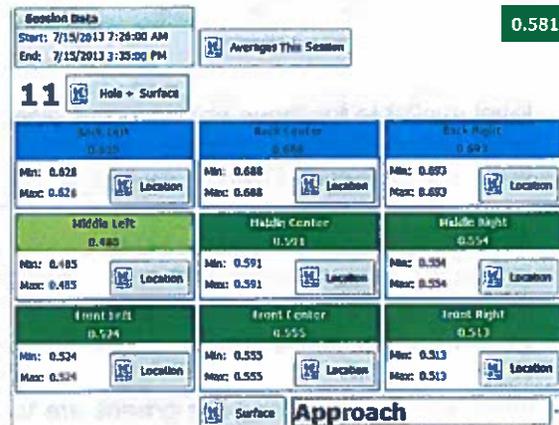
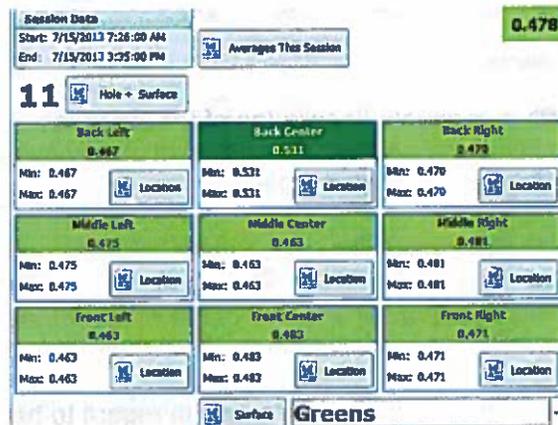
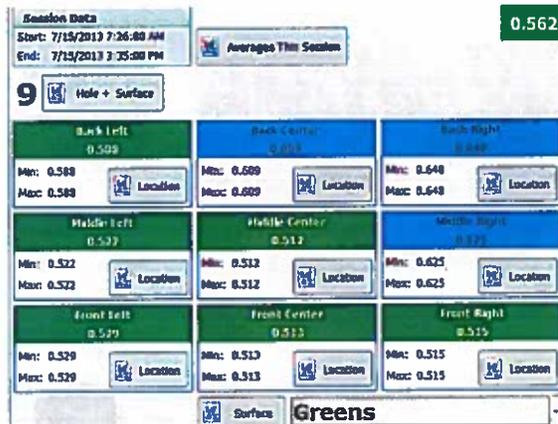
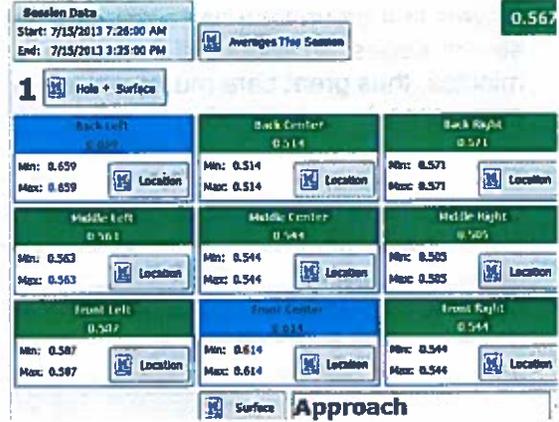
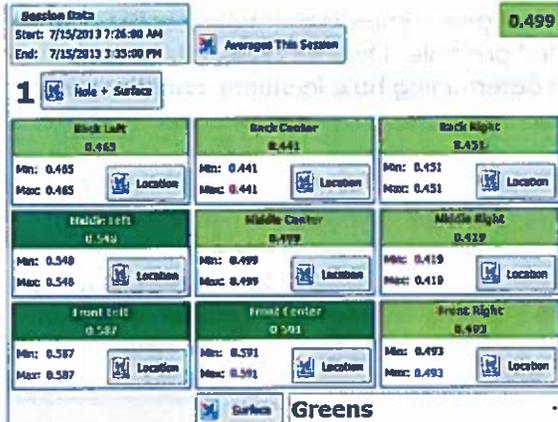
### Maximum Slope for Green Speeds



level available for those setting holes along with a complete knowledge of this chart to provide fun playing conditions without slowing down the course. The entire article explaining this issue is [Putting Greens, Slopes and Non-Conforming Hole Locations](#).

- **Greens and approaches need to be similar in firmness.** The next column in the template shows the overall firmness of each green tested (Nos. 1, 9 and 11). The charts below show the firmness of the greens when taking 9 different readings on the day of this visit with the USGA Trufirm ([Affirming Firmness](#)). This value will change based on the time of the year the visit is made, recent weather patterns, irrigation practices and other factors. Regardless, the main reasons for testing the greens are to determine if they are consistent in regard to ball reaction and if their approaches are similar. Both of these conditions factor into the pace of play as being too soft or too firm is undesirable.

The greens tested at Kayak Point show the same type of patterns seen at most golf courses in regard to traffic flow (on and off greens and hole locations), green size and shade patterns. As you view these charts it is important to understand that values as small as .02" are considered statistically different. Also, the higher the number the softer the green. This can easily be noted with blue values being very soft, dark green values being the next softest (.50" and higher) and green next (.40"-.499") the firmest.



While the charts of the three greens and their approaches are colorful and the values may be slightly confusing, you can be assured that all six of these charts show major playing weaknesses due to two factors. First, with warm weather coming Mr. Peterson was forced to overwater to make sure the greens do not have issues with localized dry spots. Localized dry spots are always associated with excess thatch near the surface. This is the case at Kayak Point where the lack of light topdressing combined with extra water turns the upper profile into a sponge that holds too much water. Specific programs to address this situation will be discussed in the next section of this report.

- **Collar dams were noted on most greens.** The next column shows a very common problem viewed at virtually every golf course in the past 30 years. Collar dams are created by years of sand topdressing and circular dragging to fill aeration holes. This action invariably puts extra sand on the collar next to the green. Over time this extra sand begins changing the slope of the collar immediately next to the green resulting in a block for surface drainage and a negative impact on ball reaction. The severity of the collar dams is noted in white, yellow or red in the template. The program to improve this situation will be described in the next section of this report.

- **English daisy - remove around greens and areas in play.** While a significant amount of clover was noted on every hole, this weed is generally not a major issue from a pace of play standpoint. However, the existence of large stands of English daisy can have a very detrimental impact on both the playing quality and pace of play when found near greens or fairway landing areas. Nos. 8 (green shown in right photo) and 9 (landing zone left side) need to have an application of an appropriate herbicide (quinclorac works very well) this early fall to remove this tenacious weed.



- **Bunkers need edge reestablishment, drainage and removal.** The bunkers at Kayak Point are very contaminated and can lead players to believe they are devoid of sand. While this may be the case in some bunkers, others are simply contaminated at the surface and are in need of at least one annual light rototilling. However, if you truly wish to improve the bunkers, reestablish their edges and minimize soil/rock



contamination, the idea detailed in [It's In the Bag](#) would be worth trying on the green side bunker for No. 7 shown in the photo at the bottom of the previous page.



In addition to using the previous technique to reestablish the bunker on No. 7, several bunkers were suggested for removal. These included the bunker in front of No. 5 green (shown above), half of the large bunker near No. 14 green (right photo), the far left bunker to the front left of No. 17 and the left portion of the left bunker on No. 18. Finally the high maintenance bunker in front of No. 9 needs renovation by the same person that renovates the tees and fairways.



- **Tees not leveled can be improved using this method.** While the more severely crowned tees will be addressed with reconstruction, some can be addressed using the technique in [A Simple Method for Smoothing Tees](#). In addition, the application of sand on the perimeters of the tees helps keep this area raised as divots are filled.
- **Square tees are not needed at Kayak Point.** While square tees are often viewed at higher budget golf courses, the amount of extra time it takes to mow this pattern could be used in other portions of the operation. This type of mowing pattern is not recommended for the tees as they are rebuilt.
- **Expand natural rough around tees as much as possible.** Several holes have a natural rough near the tees to minimize mowing requirements. This should be expanded as much as possible as all available labor should be focused on “down-the-middle” portions of the golf course.

- **Add signage on holes to assist players through the course.** While the use of a large natural stone may not work at Kayak Point, the idea of adding small signs to help players with club selection was recommended to improve the pace of play on the course.



## AGRONOMIC TOPICS

**Observations and recommendations.** While this visit focused on needed capital improvements, several basic maintenance programs were discussed to make the golf course more playable and enjoyable while keeping the budget in mind. Specific agronomic recommendations included the following:

- **Greens need a light and frequent topdressing program but not without adding a spin topdressing unit.** The use of the Trufirm showed how soft the greens were on the day of this visit. Please note the photo to the right showing very distinct lines of organic material between darker lines of sand. This represents the amount of growth between spring and fall aerations in the summer and winter/early spring. If you truly wish to make the greens firmer and more consistent (smooth greens always bring back players!), the addition of a spin topdresser will have a major positive impact when used every month during the growing season. Without the addition of this unit, the maintenance staff simply cannot complete this operation with a machine that drops sand every 5-6' rather than one that goes 25' or more.



- **Approaches should be treated like the greens.** The approaches at Kayak Point are very similar in firmness to the greens. However, this is due to the lack of sand topdressing on both of these areas resulting in both being too soft on the day of this visit. As you add a light and frequent topdressing program to the greens make sure to extend this same program at least 10 yards in front of the greens. Allowing all players to hit "bump-and-run" shots is truly appreciated by the many players that hit lower trajectory shots.
- **Minimize collar dams and tee crowning using these techniques.** For the collars, make sure to always blow off excess sand from the collar edges and use the same technique described in the above reprint regarding leveling of tees.

- **Add this tool to assist in water management on greens.** The Fieldscout TDR 300 moisture sensing device from Spectrum Industries has become one of the most popular tools used by numerous golf course superintendents in the Pacific Northwest during the past two years. This device provides base line data for irrigation requirements before visual signs of moisture stress occur. Overall water use on greens has reported to be reduced as much as 20%. The purchase of one or two of these units was highly recommended for Kayak Point with the cost at slightly over \$1000. It is estimated the tool will easily pay for itself within one year and will be very helpful in water management with localized dry spots.
- **Good recovery from winter damage noted on all the greens.** As a final comment it was good to view complete recovery from a normal application of a fungicide that can sometimes cause damage if not watered in. An unfortunate series of weather events occurred after this application resulting in severe damage, however complete recovery has been achieved. For the future it would be best to simply "bite-the-bullet" and use the large practice green as a nursery for more rapid recovery.

Thank you for the opportunity to visit your golf course and for your support of the USGA Green Section. While this onsite visit took only a few hours, please look upon the USGA Green Section as a tool that can be used for the entire year. We hope to complete a follow up visit next year as improvements are implemented. To that end, should you have any further questions regarding this visit or report, please do not hesitate contacting our office.

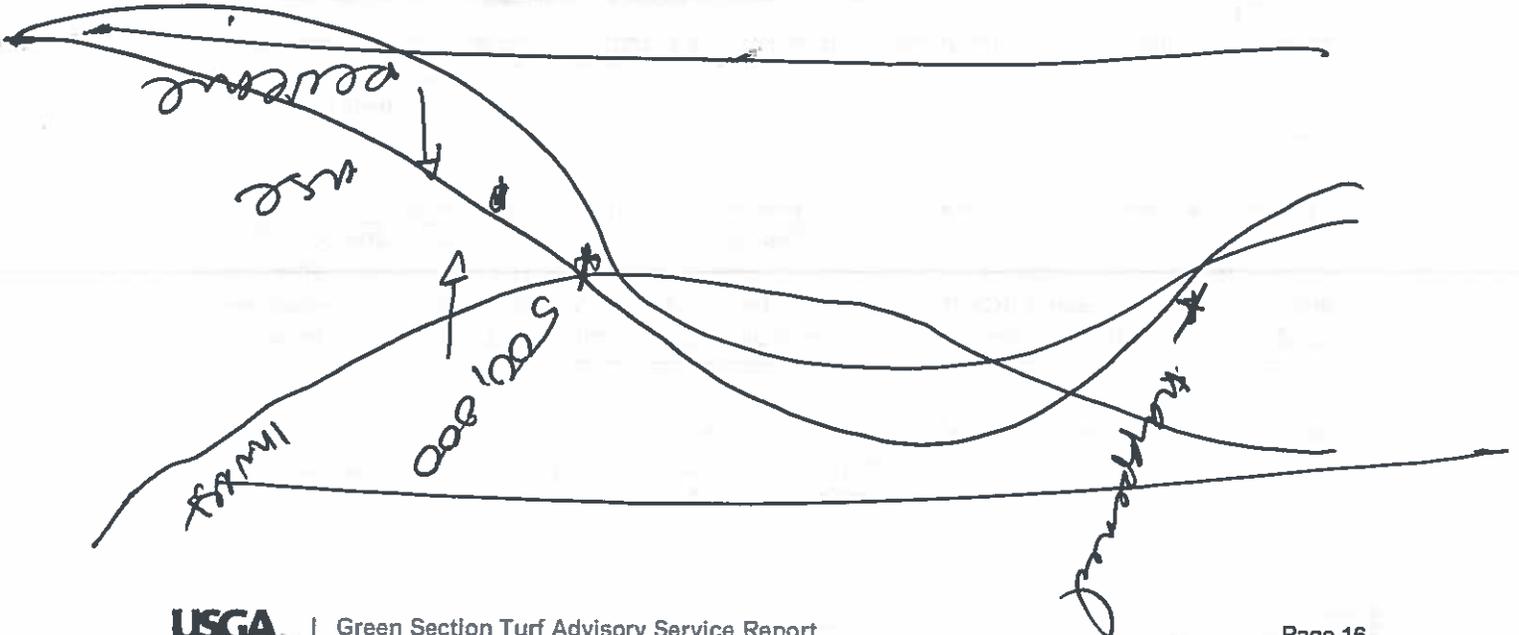
Respectfully submitted;

*Larry Gilhuly*

Larry Gilhuly, Northwest Director  
USGA Green Section

**Distribution:**

- O: Mr. Steve Stensland, General Manager
- cc: Mr. James Yap, Snohomish County Parks & Recreation





GREEN SECTION TAS  
PLAYING QUALITY VISIT  
Kayak Point Golf Course

15-Jul-13

Hole	Green Speed	Hole Loc Slope	TruFirm PG	TruFirm Approach	Collar slope %	PG Rough	Green Bunkers	Fairway Bunkers	Fways	Tees	Rough	Nat Rough	Trees
1			.50"	.57"	Up 1.8% down 8.4%								
2					Up 7.8% down 2.0%								
3					Up 2.7% down 8.4%								
4													
5													
6													
7													
8						daisy							
9			.56"	.56"	Up 4.1% down 8.1%						daisy		
10													
11			.48"	.58"									
12													
13													
14													
15					Up 7.7% down .2%								
16													
17													
18													

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**Green speed and hole locations** are intertwined in relation to difficulty and pace-of-play. When the combination of green speed and slope are excessive, the boxes in the hole location column will be marked red showing these two factors are impacting the pace-of-play on your course. When the box is yellow it may impact pace of play and when white the pace of play should not be impacted.

**Green and approach firmness** values indicate how a ball will react when landing. The firmer the greens (lower value) the smoother the surface. Green and approach values within .05" are highly desirable and improve pace of play. The boxes in approach firmness will be marked with white if the values between greens and approaches are less than .05", yellow if it is between .05- .10" and red if over .1". Approaches that are excessively soft will impact pace of play and severely impact playing conditions with firm greens.

**Collars** have two values found within the box. The first is the slope found in front of the green on the outside of the collar and the second is the slope found immediately next to the green. White, yellow and red indicate slope severity and need to address collar dam.

**Greens roughs** indicate mowing heights, collar widths, the existence of expanded chipping areas and drainage needs. Those green surroundings that are a hindrance to pace of play and playing conditions are marked with a red box, those with potential issues with yellow and those that are providing playing conditions that enhance the pace of play are marked with a white box.

**Green bunkers** are observed for sand depth, firmness, rocks, perimeter definition, drainage, raking technique, architecture and ample rakes. All of these factors combined provide a white, yellow or red box.

**Fairway bunkers** are observed for firmness, sand depth, rocks, perimeter definition, drainage, raking technique, architecture and rakes. All of these factors combined provide a white, yellow or red box.

**Tees** are observed for levelness, tee marker alignment, distance to the fairway, variety of length, existence of "family tees" and the use of "Tee it Forward" to enhance pace of play and playing conditions. All of these factors combined provide a white, yellow or red box.

**Fairways** are observed for width, firmness, stand density, ball lie, wet areas and drainage related to playing conditions. Fairways with red boxes indicate the need for drainage, yellow one or several of the other factors and white indicates no playing condition issues.

**Roughs** are observed for mowing height, stand density next to the fairways, specific weeds that would hinder finding golf balls, fertility levels, and perimeter maintenance for playing conditions and pace of play. A red box indicates one or more of the preceding needs to be addressed, yellow indicates one or more is a potential issue and white indicates no playing condition or pace of play issues.

**Native or Natural Roughs** are observed for proximity to landing area and density related to difficulty in finding balls. Red, yellow and white indicate impact on pace of play and playing conditions.

**Trees** are observed for limb height, narrowing of playing corridors, amount, base mowing and location for pace of play and playing condition impact. Red, yellow and white indicate impact on pace of play and playing conditions.

**Golfer Movement** refers to a variety of items including traffic flow, traffic flow directional aids, easy access to next tee, guidance on parking carts