

BACKGROUND

- Fast greens are sometimes perceived to be good greens but this is not necessarily the case.
- Trueness and consistency across all greens are more important than speed.
- Average mowing heights in the summer months are between 3-5mm and slightly higher in the winter months.
- Cutting the greens lower or rolling can increase green speed. However, in the long-term these practices can encourage undesirable coarse grass species such as Poa annua, moss and algae.
- Green Speed is measured with a device known as a Stimpmeter.

APPROACH

1. Greens can be managed to produce firm, true putting surfaces without the need to cut them down to excessively low heights. Treatments include: light/frequent top dressing, regular verti-cutting treatments, balanced nutrient input.
2. Occasional light rolling can help to increase green speed without the need to lower cutting heights (treatments should be used in conjunction with an appropriate aeration program).
3. Use low nitrogen inputs to harden turf growth.
4. Slow release nutrients will not give surge growth and will therefore improve green speed consistency between mowing.
5. Calcium fertilizers strengthen cell walls and improve green speed.
6. Use Plant Growth Regulars to increase green speed and improvement consistency during the day.
7. Double mowing especially prior to tournaments.
8. Irrigation should be kept to minimum required for healthy turf growth.
9. Remove surface dew.



i-TURF SOLUTIONS

Product type	Why	Scotts solution
Slow release fertilizer	No flush of growth, low nutrients inputs and good balance between shoot and root growth.	Sierraform GT range
Liquid fertilizer	Spoon feeding low nutrient inputs creates harder turf growth and faster greens.	Greenmaster Liquid range
Plant Growth Regulator	Minimise top growth and improve consistency between mowing will increase green speed.	Primo MAXX
Wetting agent (penetrant)	Product will move water away from surface ensuring it is firm and dry.	H2Pro Maximise
Calcium fertilizer	Calcium enhances cell strength and makes plant more rigid.	Greenmaster Liquid; Ca-Booster (9%CaO)