

## MESSAGE FROM THE COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

From all of the golf course maintenance colleagues here at Al Badia Golf Club we hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and would like to wish you all a prosperous and healthy 2012.

The coming months of January and February are our coolest and turf grass growth and resilience to wear will reduce as the golf course falls dormant. With this in mind we have implemented a number of traffic management initiatives in December and would ask our valued members and guests to take the time and assist with the following:



Example of fairway roping across hole 16 fairway to rotate exit point traffic wear

### Stick to the cart paths when ever possible.

Through the month of December a number of additional traffic management ropes were erected. Many of the ropes are taken down for weekend play to ensure pace-of-play is not affected greatly. However, we would strongly urge everyone to take note of the roping over the winter months. The increased roping has been installed so we can rotate wear on entry and exit points on the fairways and prevent wear on greens surrounds.



Example of divots that are currently being observed on fairways.

### Repair of divots and pitch marks around the course

Over the winter months our golf course does not recover from wear quickly. This is most obvious with fairway and tee divots and green pitch marks. We would like to take this opportunity to remind all golfers that it is very important to follow basic golf course etiquette and please carry out the following after every golf shot:

- Repair all divots with sand. Your buggy is supplied with a bucket of sand and a trowel. Please use this. A divot which has been filled with sand will recover much faster and will prevent unfair ball lie on the fairways.
- Repair pitch marks on the greens. Many of our Par 3 and Par 5 greens have extensive pitch mark damage. The faster these ball marks are repaired, the more likely the turf will survive the damage. Old pitch marks generally don't survive as the new plant roots are ripped off when the turf is 'levered back up'.



Example of pitch marks that are currently being observed on greens.

### Tee marker management

To ensure our tees areas are in the best possible condition, we have implemented a tee marker rotation policy at Al Badia Golf Club. Over the coming weeks we will rotate tee marker positions for our weekend and competition play. Our blue tee markers will be positioned on a

variety of tee boxes (black, blue and white) depending on prevailing wind, hole length and tee wear. We hope you will support this excellent initiative and enjoy playing holes from different tees.

As always, we appreciate your ongoing support with these types of initiatives. If you have any questions about the maintenance of the golf course please contact me.