



1832

NORTH BERWICK  
WEST LINKS

# Course Enhancement Projects

## Winter 2024/2025



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# Summary

As part of our vision and ongoing objective to provide all West Links Members with a first-class links experience, this winter's Course Enhancement Project work focuses on a tee complex, bunker restoration, irrigation/worn areas, ecological management and the revetting work of many bunkers across the links. I've mentioned previously that communication is key in much of what we do, so we have created this short presentation to help ensure everyone is aware of how we plan to improve and enhance your course this winter.

After reviewing and taking learnings from last winter's work, we are focusing on a smaller project plan that still allows our Team to be progressive whilst ensuring that all works can be completed efficiently, helping these enhancements to establish and be introduced into play as soon as possible.

The following pages provide an overview of the planned and budgeted work on the project areas whilst highlighting the key elements, including estimated dates, work details and temporary teeing areas to be used. The majority of the bunker reshaping and revetting work will begin in October, whilst the main project is planned to start towards the end of November. The majority of the bunker work will be conducted by our talented Team of Greenkeepers using some of the skills they learned and developed during previous enhancement work and projects.

At each step in this plan, we have kept the Members at the forefront of our minds and tried to minimise the impact on everyone's experience whilst the work takes place. At the end of November, the work will begin on the bunker at the front of the 6th green. Due to the position of this bunker, it is not possible to provide our Team with a safe working environment whilst play continues, so we plan to close the 6th hole and play 17 holes only for a short period. This period is planned for 5 weekdays (Monday-Friday) and we will add an element of flexibility and contingencies for any poor weather, and any delays or alternations will be communicated.

The plan also highlights the continued Ecologic Management work with support from Consultant Ecologist, Bob Taylor. The work planned includes removing non-native invasive weeds and the return areas back to coastal hedgerows and species rich grasslands, supporting better conditions for nesting birds and wildflower interest.

We have once again engaged Chris Haspell and Clyde Johnson, independent industry experts in agronomy, course architecture and shaping, to work extremely closely with our Team on the projects.

To ensure that the course is presented in a manner that provides a fair and enjoyable challenge, we will continue to use the Huxley Premier Tee Turf synthetic winter mats on the Par 3 tees. These all-weather moveable teeing areas will provide a quality surface that looks, plays and feels like natural turf. These mats will allow tee complexes to rest and recover after a busy season, helping to ensure that they are in the best possible condition for the start of the 2025 season.

Thank you for your patience whilst we work to ensure we present you your beloved West Links in the best possible condition for years to come...



Stuart Bayne, General Manager

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# Hole 5 and Hole 6 Bunker

Starting from 25th November – 6th hole closed Monday – Friday (open Sat/Sun).  
The hole closure will allow the Team to finish quickly and efficiently, whilst doing so safely.

## Project 1

Estimated 25th-29th November (6th Hole Closed)

Removal of Japanese Rose, a non-native invasive weed species. Hawthorn planted to compensate for the loss of the invasive Japanese Rose.

The forward section of the 6th tee to be leveled and returned to rectify the movement in the tee and provide more teeing ground

Bunker to be reshaped and surround landscaped. This restoration work will use historical images as a guide, helping to reengage the bunker with the green complex

The front of the main tee to be used when laying the 6th throughout the winter off the premier tee turf matt

Bunker to be rebuilt and surround landscaped



Area to be landscaped whilst rebuilding the bunker to soften the sharp slope, providing playable area that can be maintained efficiently with our machinery



# Hole 2 and Hole 17 Irrigation and Turfing

Work is planned to improve two of the heavy worn parts of this area. Irrigation is to be added to help ensure that turf condition can be maintained through the year

Heavy footfall and wear area. This narrow walkway will have the old grow through matting removed and new turf laid. The area will be roped off allowing the new turf to establish and whilst the Team are working a forward tee will be used for a very limited period. Irrigation will also be updated in this area to help ensure the turf condition can be maintained throughout the playing season



Heavy footfall area, which will be roped off whilst new turf added to this area to help ensure the turf condition can be maintained through the playing season



# Hole 4 Ecological Management Area

As part of our recommended Environmental Management work, scrub (sea buckthorn) has been removed in this area exposing the natural rock features. The second phase continues this winter to help reinstate coastal grasses and wildflowers.



Management and the removal of selected self seeding sycamores across the estate, helping to improve light conditions and retain coastal grassland interest. Working together with the local countryside ranger and to plant several appropriate trees away from our boundary at Yellowcraigs

Area to be cleared to expose the native sand underneath. Helping to reinstate coastal wildflower interest and return area to a species-rich grassland.

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**Thank you**

**We appreciate your patience whilst the  
course enhancement works take place**

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