



Superintendent Schroder to Liverpool's rescue

Mark Schroder left Liverpool Golf Club some 13 years ago as Course Superintendent of arguably one of Sydney's best golf course layouts. He and his family moved to Melbourne where he continued his successful career as Course Superintendent at Waverley Golf Club.

Thirteen years later he's back and with a huge job to reinstate the course to its former glory. Schroder returned as Golf Course Superintendent at this premier Sydney Golf Club on June 1, and quickly realized that after just 2mm of rain, water started puddling on the surface of his greens and that his turf was in desperate need of major renovation. It turns out that there has been no significant thatch removal for almost six years. Schroder looked around for someone with the ability to remove a maximum number of serious, deep cores from his greens. In his previous stint at Liverpool, Schroder regularly turned to Greencare Industries for help with renovations, and he was delighted to find that Greencare has a brand new coring machine (the CoreMaster Xtreme 12) with the capacity of operating up to 1 1/4" hollow-core tynes to a depth of 9" without ripping, tearing or heaving his turf and on a very close hole pattern.

Former Wagga Wagga City Golf Club Course Superintendent, Quentin Green now runs the Field Services division of Greencare Industries. Green was called on to operate the new aerator. He found that on the high traffic practice green the root system was so poor that the surface could not stand up to this amount of up aeration, so, in a few minutes he changed the tynes down to 5/8" hollows. Moving out onto the golf course proper he was able to then use the full 1" tine size to the maximum depth on all 18 greens with maximum efficiency and effectiveness.

Schroder commented "I was thrilled with the amount of matter that the new CoreMaster removed without disturbing the putting surface." He added "Because of the unique vertical action of this new generation corer, Greencare have been able to perfect and minimize the thickness of their tynes, resulting in a true 1" diameter being removed with our cores."

The one hectare of open greens was top-dressed using 90 tonnes of river sand with 5% by volume organic carbon. After a few days to allow this to settle, Green returned to Liverpool Golf Club with another Greencare invention, The Shattermaster. Between the two professionals they quickly realized that the Shattermaster fitted with Bullet Blades to a depth of 12" was working very efficiently, further opening up the compacted greens and allowing the top-dressing material to further move down through the profile. "The two machines together offered us great synergy, giving much more than either could do on its own."

Schroder told us: "Three frosts post renovation slowed down our recovery from this 'major surgery', but now after a few warmer days and nights the roots are progressing well and the greens look 100% from where they were and now they drain perfectly! In one day we had 1" of rain with no ponding"

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