

ARMY WORM AND WEATHER NOTICE



Dear Members,

Below are excerpts from the HK Observatory on April and May's weather with general rainfall summary clearly indicating that we have had well above normal rainfall since January this year, particularly bad during April and May. The very low light levels has resulted in very slow recovery of the Bermuda grasses.

"April 2013 was marked by gloomy and unstable weather. The month was more thundery than usual with 8 thunderstorm days, about 4 days more than normal. The sun only shone for 53.6 hours in the month, about 53 percent of the normal total duration of bright sunshine. The total rainfall in the month was 253.8 millimeters, 79.1 millimeters above the normal amount. April was also cooler than usual. The mean temperature of the month was 21.5 degrees, 1.1 degrees below the normal figure of 22.6 degrees"

"May 2013 was much wetter and gloomier than usual due to the prolonged rainy weather associated with troughs of low pressure and active southwesterly airstream over the South China coastal areas. The total bright sunshine duration in the month was 90.7 hours, only about 65 percent of the normal. The total rainfall of May 2013 was 509.3 millimeters, about 67 percent above the normal figure of 304.7 millimeters. The accumulated rainfall since 1 January was 898.5 millimeters, about 40 percent above the normal figure of 640.7 millimeters. While temperatures were significantly below normal during the first week of May 2013, the anomaly was offset by warmer-than-usual weather in the second half of the month."

Regular players will have noticed the sudden and dramatic decline on the fairway conditions due to the on-going rain and the severe incidence of "army worms". While we are equipped with chemicals to deal with this, we have been unable to spray the fairways due to the on-going rain and very wet fairway conditions. We have finally started spraying against army worms and hope to have the situation under control within a few weeks. In the meantime, may we suggest that all members play **preferred lie**. Local competition rules will be in force as well.

The lack of sunlight has also delayed the recovery of tee boxes and additional fertilization is being carried out to boost turf grass growth and health in general. Generally speaking all our maintenance practices have been put back or we simply have been unable to carry them out due to the above factors. Course projects are being held off to get the course back to a reasonable playing condition as soon as we can.

Thank you for your attention and patience during these testing conditions.

The Management

Posting date: 17 Jun 2013
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Table 1.2 Rainstorm Warning Signals

Colour	Beginning Time		Ending Time	
	Day/Month	HKT	Day/Month	HKT
Amber	5 / 4	0840	5 / 4	1030
Amber	6 / 4	0000	6 / 4	0230
Amber	25 / 4	1930	25 / 4	2100
Amber	30 / 4	1420	30 / 4	1615
Colour	Beginning Time		Ending Time	
	Day/Month	HKT	Day/Month	HKT
Amber	8 / 5	2145	9 / 5	0130
Amber	16 / 5	1335	16 / 5	1520
Amber	20 / 5	2010	20 / 5	2120
Amber	21 / 5	1110	21 / 5	1230
Amber	22 / 5	0130	22 / 5	0320
Red	22 / 5	0320	22 / 5	0410
Black	22 / 5	0410	22 / 5	0945
Amber	22 / 5	0945	22 / 5	1030
Amber	25 / 5	1005	25 / 5	1225

