

## MORE IMPROVEMENTS COMING AT BAY HILL

## Greens to undergo comprehensive re-grassing following Arnold Palmer Invitational Presented by MasterCard

ORLANDO, FL. (March 17, 2015) – <u>Bay Hill Club & Lodge</u>, one of the top golf resort destinations in America, is planning a comprehensive re-grassing project on the putting surfaces of its Championship Course following this week's Arnold Palmer Invitational Presented by MasterCard.

Acknowledging a 2009 upgrade of the greens did not meet an anticipated level of excellence, club officials have announced their intentions to install TifEagle Bermuda grass, a project that is consistent with several other upgrades that have occurred this past year. The decision was made after the club found that portions of some greens on the Championship Course were not 100% healthy after a harsh winter. However, tournament officials of the <u>Arnold Palmer Invitational Presented by MasterCard</u> anticipate that though some areas are aesthetically weak, the greens will be in tournament shape and will not adversely affect playability.

The re-grassing process to be undertaken is called the "no-till method," which will ensure that all of the topographical features and contours will be preserved. The project will commence in May and should be completed by early August.

Chris Flynn, Director of Grounds at Bay Hill, will be working closely next week with Bland Cooper, Competitions Agronomist for the PGA TOUR, to ensure that the greens remain in the best possible condition during the 37th edition of the prestigious invitational tournament hosted by Arnold Palmer.

An upgrade of the greens is just the latest improvement to the Palmer-designed Championship Course. In the months leading up to this year's tournament, Flynn has overseen a number of upgrades that dramatically improve the overall golf experience for both daily play as well as the professionals.

Those measures include the infusion of new "G-Angle" bunker sand that is approved by the PGA TOUR spread over all 84 bunkers. The G-Angle sand is a more angular sand that holds up the ball better and makes it more difficult for balls to bury. Additionally, five more acres of fairway are available after Flynn expanded the fairways to reflect the original course design. The approach areas and bailout areas around the greens also were expanded, and an aggressive tree-trimming program has improved the visual presentation of the course, restoring shot values.

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