Overwatering causes brown spots

RCSC General Manager Jan Ek was reported to have opened the facilities to outsiders. As an RCSC member and property owner, I have learned that it is better for my guests to call in for their own tee times than for me to do it since they get a better deal. I was in line at the pro shop and witnessed a member with his two guests pay $95 for golf and a cart while two outsiders after him paid $60. That isn't right.

Lakes West brown spots

In the article Mrs. Ek was reported to have closed Lakes West for 6 weeks because of "horrible" fairway conditions. If it was caused by brown spots, they can re-seed the area but if the brown spot soil and the green area soil are not compared in laboratory analysis, it will be guessing and the brown spots will reappear wasting the money spent to re-seed.

Although without the analysis it is difficult, I can venture a guess at the cause:

1. THEY WATERED TOO MUCH (When you water too much during the day, the sun shines on it, magnifying and baking the grass and killing it.)

2. THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COOLING GRASS AND DROWNING IT DURING THE DAY. (If you water during the day the sprinkler heads should only go around once.)

3. THEY DON'T LET THE BERMUDA OVERSEED ITSELF. (This has to be thought about in the spring. And that would cure a lot of their problems without

Lakes West muddy tire tracks

spending a lot of money. Bermuda is a fine grass if taken care of properly -- let it re-seed itself. You want to cool the greens down but you don't want to drown them, and you get a lot of dead spots when you drown them.) Remember, Bermuda grass treated properly will re-seed itself so you shouldn't have to re-seed.

I hope these tips will help the golf operations improve. Also, see my Golf Operations Proposal on http://www.annereport.com that would cut the budget drastically.

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Lakes West mushroom fungus