



GEO Certified® Report

Golf Club Crans-sur-Sierre

Prepared by independent verifier David Bily

Certified by GEO Foundation: 2025
Recertification due: 2030

“The Golf Club Crans-sur-Sierre continues to provide a world-class layout while keeping inputs to a minimum and focusing on important cultural practices. The club is supported by an experienced biologist who has undertaken detailed flora and fauna surveys and is helping guide numerous habitat and biodiversity projects over the long term. The club is also supported by a sustainability consultant who has been a key player in managing the sustainability vision for the club, coordinating with the club management and the biologist as well as developing other projects to improve energy and resource efficiency for both the facility and the Omega Masters tournament. I look forward to following their ongoing sustainability projects in the coming years, to continually improve the nature, resource and community aspects of this flagship golf club in Switzerland.”

David Bily

(GEO accredited independent verifier)



Introduction

GEO Foundation is pleased to confirm that Golf Club Crans-sur-Sierre has successfully achieved GEO Certified® status for its outstanding work to foster nature, conserve resources and support the community.

GEO Certified® is the most respected certification for golf, based on a credibly and transparently developed modern sustainability Standard of best practice.

Golf Club Crans-sur-Sierre has:

1. Met the required certification criteria for sustainable golf operations
2. Successfully completed the official third-party verification process
3. Successfully passed the final evaluation by GEO Certification Ltd. (autonomous subsidiary of GEO Foundation)

GEO agreed with the conclusions of the official verification report, that, having achieved all mandatory criteria; and with specific Continual Improvement Points (CIP) set for the future and Critical CIP's (CCIPs) to be reviewed at recertification, Golf Club Crans-sur-Sierre should be awarded GEO Certified® status.

For the certification period stated above, Golf Club Crans-sur-Sierre can therefore claim a position as a leader in advancing sustainability in golf – making important contributions in protecting nature, conserving resources and strengthening communities.

The GEO Certified® Report that follows comments on the actions undertaken against the criteria, as observed by the independent verifier during the assurance process.

Certification is nearly always the result of a dedicated team effort resulting in many practical and valuable social and environmental results around the golf course, maintenance facility and clubhouse. These dedication and leadership qualities are an important part of ensuring the resilience of the golf facility and the golf industry into the future and also as part of society's wider effort to pull together for people and planet.

We congratulate all involved.

Jonathan Smith
Founder and Executive Director, GEO Foundation
GEO Certification Ltd. Board Member

Kelli Jerome
Executive Director, GEO Foundation

Carole Kerrey
Director, Certification and Credibility,
GEO Certification Ltd.



Verification and Certification

Verification

The official third-party audit was carried out by an independent verifier, accredited by GEO to undertake verifications of golf facilities applying for certification.

Verification involves reviewing practices and data, using the International Voluntary Standard for Sustainable Golf Operations as the guide to ensure comprehensive and consistent evaluation of performance. A detailed verification report is submitted for evaluation by GEO Certification Ltd, a subsidiary of GEO Foundation.

Certification

GEO Certification Ltd, an autonomous subsidiary of GEO Foundation [both not-for-profit entities], undertook a full review of all content submitted through the OnCourse® online platform and the report submitted by the verifier, ensuring:

- Comprehensiveness – activities undertaken touched on all elements of the Standard
- Consistency – that the verification approach was balanced, well weighted and with consistent depth of evaluation across each theme
- Accuracy - matching the verification report with evidence submitted by the golf facility to ensure statements and claims were accurate

GEO Foundation is an international not-for-profit founded to advocate, support and reward sustainability in and through golf. Over more than ten years, the group has worked collaboratively with dozens of golf industry associations and government and non-government organisations around the world, to help golf become a sustainability leader, striving for a net positive social and environmental impact. In addition to managing and assuring GEO Certified®, GEO Foundation also provides a suite of credible, practical programmes for golf facility management, new golf developments and golf tournaments called OnCourse®, often delivered in partnership with national golf bodies. Find out more at www.sustainable.golf

Credibility

GEO Certified® is part of the ISEAL Alliance, a group of the world's foremost credible certification systems including Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, Forest Stewardship Council, Marine Stewardship Council and many others. GEO Foundation earned and retains full membership of the ISEAL Alliance global association following a rigorous evaluation against the ISEAL Codes of Credibility in Sustainability Standards and Certification. The ISEAL Codes cover standard-setting, assurance, and monitoring and evaluation. Find out more at www.isealliance.org



Verifier's Report

The Sustainability Agenda for golf covers the following themes and action areas:

THEMES	ACTION AREAS
Nature	• Habitats & Biodiversity • Turfgrass management • Pollution prevention
Resources	• Water • Energy • Materials
Community	• Partnerships & Outreach • Golfing & Employment • Advocacy & Communications

Included below are the observations made by the Independent Verifier against each item in the Standard.

NATURE			
N1 Habitats and Biodiversity			
Objectives	Requirements	Mandatory Practices	Verifier Notes
N1.1 Understand the site and surroundings	N1.1.1 Sound understanding of the nature and landscape value of the site	General knowledge of the wildlife and habitats on the site	The management team is keenly aware of this mountain landscape and the natural value that the golf course provides within the municipality of Crans-Montana. The club has developed a plan of the different vegetation types and habitats on the site. The golf club has been working with an external specialist for many years, who has undertaken regular biodiversity surveys (Antoine Sierro, Naturarks) noting the presence of the varied flora and fauna present throughout the site. A major survey was done in 2022 and another one done in 2025. He is very knowledgeable and passionate about the local flora and fauna of Valais and is committed to helping the golf club manage and improve the quality of the various landscape types and habitats over the long term.
	N1.1.2 Knowledge of legal designations for protected areas, habitats and species	Identify rare, protected or endangered species found on the golf course; Understand legal responsibilities for landscape protection and special area designations, if applicable	There are no known legal designations on the site. There are no protected species found on the site. However, there are a couple of rare species, including a rare species of crayfish found in one of the ponds on the 9-hole Nicklaus course.
	N1.1.3 Sound understanding and respect for cultural heritage	Protect any archaeological, historical or cultural designations on the site, if applicable	There are a number of small chalets throughout the course which are not protected but which have some historical interest. The clubhouse has a long history connected with the Omega European Masters and the club would keep it and renovate as necessary. However, it does not belong to the golf club. It could be taken down and replaced by a new clubhouse more practical for the needs of the daily business and the Omega Masters event.
N1.2 Opportunities to naturalise the golf course	N1.2.1 Measures taken to identify and minimise the required area of managed turfgrass	Monitor patterns of play to identify underutilised areas of turfgrass	The club tries to keep the area of managed turfgrass to a minimum for play on this tight golf course wherever possible. In the last 3 years, the greenkeeper, in collaboration with the ecologist Antoine Sierro, has converted a number of surfaces from maintained rough to extensive rough, cut once or twice per year. One area in

			particular along the right side of hole 15 is of considerable size and will help to reduce time and energy in mowing while increasing biodiversity with fescue grasses and some wildflowers. There is also a large prairie area in the middle of the Nicklaus course which has a very interesting biodiversity, however it is presently not on the golf course property. The golf club is trying to encourage the owner to maintain this triangle as a natural corner and not develop it into housing.
N1.3 Actively create and manage habitats for wildlife	N1.3.1 Projects to create and manage habitats in the best way for wildlife and golf	Prioritise native species of varying size and structure when planting Prioritise native trees and shrubs when planting Prioritise native aquatic species of varying size and structure when planting Establish mowing buffer zones next to water bodies and wetlands	Due to a relatively small area (60ha), the club is limited to where they can increase eco areas, especially between holes, as it would make the course unplayable. However, over the last 3 years, Naturarks, together with the greenkeeper, has been implementing a number of habitat and biodiversity projects throughout the golf course. They have looked for opportunities to replace managed rough areas with wildflower meadows with the goal of reducing time and resources in maintenance while at the same time increasing biodiversity for insects, birds and small mammals. Various hard rough meadows have been created including a humid grassland along the south side of the pond on fairway 10. The dry prairie slopes surrounding the 13th green are very successful with a nice diversity of flora interesting for many insect species. This has evolved over the last 3 years and continues to show interesting diversity of flowers, grasses and other small shrubs. The existing trees throughout the course were planted over the last 100 years or so and consist of native species such as Larch, Fir, Spruce, Pine, Birch and Willow. Together with the encouragement of BloomUp and Naturarks, the club has tried to improve the vegetalisation of some of the water bodies, notably with some “anses” within the perimeter of the ponds. This is an interesting solution which does provide some small surfaces of wetland vegetation and habitat. The ecologist also has a project to thin out some areas of trees to bring in more dappled light for shrubs and groundcovers and increase the richness of the undergrowth. This thinning of trees will also help to increase light and air for a number of turfgrass surfaces and open up some views to the distant views of the Alps and the valley below. CIP: Some of the annual flowerbeds near the clubhouse and around some tee boxes could still be replaced with more drought-resistant,

			indigenous plantings. These would reduce time and inputs as well as shift the image of the golf course to a more sustainable landscape. CIP: Please make further efforts to naturalise the edges of the ponds.
N1.4 Conserve key species	N1.4.1 Practical conservation measures for priority species	Follow local best practice to protect or attract endangered, protected or rare species found on site	Together with Naturarks the club has created a number of microhabitats including brush piles, stone heaps, bird boxes and bee/insect hotels. A total of 34 new bird boxes were built in the past 3 years in collaboration with local school children. These have been installed at appropriate places throughout the course with the guidance of Naturarks. Over 80% of these bird boxes are occupied. Together with Naturarks and Swiss Golf, these projects will be the focus of a sustainability tour during the Omega European Masters. An invasive species of goldfish has also been removed from the ponds together with a specialist.
N2 Turfgrass			
N2.1 Maintain optimum turfgrass and soil health	N2.1.1 Appropriate turfgrass varieties adapted to climatic and other geomorphological factors	Select appropriate grass species for the climate	The turfgrass varieties vary somewhat throughout the course. The greens are slowly being rebuilt at a rate of about 2 per year and still present a mix of a few different construction profiles. They are still increasing the percentage of bent grass on all greens, which purposely include a high percentage of poa annua. This is intended and manageable for the greenkeeper. Initially this bent/poa mix was imported from Ireland and England but now the greenkeeper has developed his own turf nursery with this mix for use in the renovation work. The greenkeeper also continues to overseed with bent grass to slowly increase this variety in the turf. As a mountain course with a short growing season it is a challenge to maintain these greens in good playing condition, especially with the pressure of having to prepare for one of the DP World Tour's main events. Fairways and tees are a typical mix of poa pratensis and ryegrass, which do well in this climate.
	N2.1.2 Practices to maintain good soil structure and condition	No specific international requirement, however, identify course management and agronomic activities and look for continual	The greenkeeper still maintains the turf surfaces with a largely cultural practice maintenance regime. Regular decompaction and weekly addition

		improvements	of sand help to maintain a healthy soil structure and help to limit chemical treatments. Newly turfed areas are done with very thin turf to minimise initial thatch. Compost teas and other biostimulants are used to strengthen soil activity. There has been an increase in the use of biologicals in the last few years.
	N2.1.3 Careful and responsible fertiliser application throughout the year to avoid over-fertilisation	Test and monitor soil pH; Follow legal requirements when timing fertiliser applications Ensure staff are fully qualified to use fertilisers Ensure staff use appropriate protective equipment Regularly calibrate and test applicators	The surfaces are given minimal fertilizer throughout the short growing season. Only one main addition of nutrients is given a few weeks before the European Masters. Otherwise, small liquid feeds are added through the season. The greenkeeper tests the nitrogen level in the clippings to optimise fertilizer inputs. Some more organic fertilizer has been used on fairways the last few years.
	N2.2 Prioritise mechanical maintenance	N2.2.1 Non-chemical pest, disease and weed management	Sharpen mowing blades; Remove surface moisture; Change hole locations frequently Non-chemical pest management is practiced as much as possible. Blades are sharpened regularly with the in-house grinders. Hand-weeding is occasionally done on fairways and tees as through the season. Regular sanding helps to maintain well-drained surfaces with less pressure from disease. Some trees are being thinned out in collaboration with Naturarks, especially around greens or tees to bring in more light and air and keep turf healthier and more resistant.
	N2.3 Use chemicals responsibly	N2.3.1 Application of chemicals only when necessary to prevent or cure defined / identified turf health issues	Identify and track pest and disease hotspots, including sensitive areas Scout the course daily for early signs and symptoms Accurately diagnose to determine the cause of weeds, pests and diseases Chemical applications is done only as necessary, mostly against yearly disease outbreaks. The greenkeeper regularly scouts the course for signs of pests or disease in order to quickly react in case of an outbreak. CIP: There are still quite a number of fungicide treatments on greens and herbicide treatments on fairways. Please explore if these treatments could be reduced, despite the pressure from producing a course with exemplary conditions for the Omega Masters.

	N2.3.2 Application of chemicals with full safety precautions	Use legally registered and approved products; Prefer products for the specific weed, pest or disease; Follow legal requirements; Ensure staff are fully qualified to use pesticides; Ensure staff use appropriate protective equipment; Regularly calibrate and test applicators; Dilute and dispose of leftover product on untreated areas of amenity turfgrass	The club only uses legally registered products which are aimed at specific diseases. Staff are qualified to use pesticides. Sprayers have shrouds to avoid wind drift. Containers are rinsed and the leftover product disposed of on turf areas.
N3 Pollution Prevention			
N3.1 Prevent pollution across the entire site	N3.1.1 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from golf course operations	Document procedures for emergency spill responses ; Retain no-spray/no-spread buffer areas next to water bodies and wetlands; Retain no-spray/no-spread buffer zones in and around ecologically sensitive areas	Materials/procedures are in place for emergency spills. CIP: In some cases, some turfgrass is maintained up to the edge of a number of water features, without a significant buffer zone. This was an issue identified 3 years ago and should continue to be studied to see what can be done to create/maintain acceptable buffer zones around all water and “potentially” ecologically sensitive areas. Some edges have been buffered with a humid meadow, but many edges still see maintained turfgrass to the edge of water. Despite the fact that these water features in question are not found on the Cantonal map as official water and therefore do not require a legal water buffer, they still have significant ecological value as habitat for different insects and amphibians. The water features are nevertheless part of a closed loop within the golf course property and do not pose any pollution risk to other waterbodies outside the golf course property. In collaboration with a local school, a very interesting water testing study was undertaken. The report is quite detailed and includes testing of many different variables in relation to the water quality entering and leaving the golf course property.

			CIP: Please continue this water testing study and try to do yearly water testing to map any trends or potential risks.
	N3.1.2 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from clubhouse operations	Formal wastewater discharge agreement, if applicable	There are essentially no hazardous materials in the clubhouse area. The clubhouse is owned by a third party and the club only has a couple of small offices in this building. Wastewater is discharged to the local network.
	N3.1.3 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from maintenance facility operations	Wash machinery over an impermeable, leak-free surface; Mix and load pesticides and fertilisers over an impermeable, leak-free surface; Triple rinse pesticide containers and applicators	The wash area is on impermeable, leak-free surfaces. The mixing and loading of pesticides and fertilizers is also over an impermeable surface. The maintenance area is actually off-site and shared together with the municipal maintenance department. Containers are triple rinsed after use.
N3.2 Safely manage hazardous substances	N3.2.1 Legal compliance in the storage, handling, application and safe disposal of all hazardous substances	List of hazardous substances, made available to authorised staff; Product and material data safety sheets; Well ventilated concrete or metal building; Impermeable, leak-free flooring; Sufficient storage capacity; Spill containment kits; Secondary containment e.g., bunds or drip trays; Emergency wash area, as per local requirements (body shower and / or eye wash station); Hazardous substances safely collected by a registered company or body ; Follow any additional legal requirements	Hazardous materials area stored in a secure and ventilated building. The door is kept locked. Pesticide products are stored separately from fertilizers. Dry fertilizers are stored above liquids. Drip trays are present under the liquid products. Spill containment kits are present. Fire extinguishers and emergency kits are present. Eye wash station is found in the maintenance area.

	N3.2.2 Legal compliance in the storage and handling of fuels and gases	Tank secured to a horizontal, flat, non-combustible surface; Secondary containment of fuel in the event of spills e.g. bunds and drip trays; Inspection of storage tank(s) at least quarterly, if required; Fire extinguisher in the immediate area	The fuel tanks are shared with the fire department and municipal maintenance department. They are regularly inspected and conform to local standards.
N3.3 Responsibly manage waste / storm water	N3.3.1 Appropriate wastewater usage, treatment and discharge	Impermeable, leak-free surface; Treatment as per local requirements (oil, grease and / or clipping separation); Formal discharge agreement, if applicable	The wash pad is equipped with a clipping separator and an oil/grease separator. These are regularly cleaned out and disposed of appropriately. The wastewater from the washing station is directed into the local STEP (water treatment plant) of the municipality.

RESOURCES

R1 Water

Objectives	Requirements	Mandatory Practices	Verifier Notes
R1.1 Minimise water demand	R1.1.1 Measures to reduce the need to consume water	Select appropriate grass species for the climate e.g., drought and disease tolerance; Target irrigation to essential playing surfaces; Prioritise native, drought tolerant species for landscaping and planting	Irrigation of greens, tees and fairways. Some rough areas are also irrigated. Some areas of rough have been converted to grassland or wildflower meadows, reducing some irrigation consumption. CIP: Please explore opportunities to further reduce areas out of play and behind tees in the coming years. CIP: Please explore opportunities to control irrigated surfaces and see if some reduction in irrigation on playing surfaces would be possible.
R1.2 Maximise water efficiency	R1.2.1 Practical measures to use water more efficiently on the golf course	Schedule irrigation based on informed assessment of soil moisture and weather forecasts;	The irrigation system has been updated including a change to the Toro Lynx system for more efficiency and control. Soil moisture sensors are used.

		Evaluate new irrigation technologies e.g., central control, precision sprinklers etc.; Provide staff training on efficient irrigation practices; Adjust sprinklers to playing surfaces only	The greenkeeper uses a local weather website to help with scheduling and the local measurement station for this weather site is actually on the golf course. The club was working together with The Shift, now BloomUp, a sustainability consultant. Together they have created a number of commitments for improving sustainable management of the OEM as well as the golf course. A 3-year action plan was drawn up and used to guide the various projects. Resource efficiency has been one of the priorities.
	R1.2.2 Practical measures to use water more efficiently in buildings	Monitor and record water consumption (bills, flow meter etc.); Encourage water conservation practices amongst players and staff	A water audit is conducted for the buildings however the clubhouse and maintenance buildings are only rented by the golf club and the restaurant is also renting the building and is not connected to the golf club. An awareness meeting has been done with the staff to sensitize employees to saving on resources. CIP: Water-saving practices and appliances/fixtures could be encouraged by the club. This will slowly be brought on board in regular communications.
R1.3 Source water responsibly	R1.3.1 Measures towards alternative, lower quality sources of water	Water abstraction permit, if required; Report water consumption to environment agency, if required	Water for the course and the clubhouse and maintenance shed is coming straight from the mountains. The clubhouse and maintenance area pay for water which is passed through a municipal water treatment/purifying system. The irrigation water comes directly from the mountain source, without passing through the purifying system. It is therefore free. The source lake has been doubled in size recently, providing a solid water source for the coming years.
R2 Energy			
R2.1 Reduce energy demand	R2.1.1 Measures to reduce the amount of energy consumed in golf course maintenance	Naturalise non-playing areas to reduce mowing and other energy intensive inputs	The club has converted a number of areas of managed turf into grasslands and wildflower meadows in order to reduce mowing and other energy intensive inputs. This has been done in collaboration with BloomUp and Naturarks. CIP: Further areas out of play and behind tees could also be converted to hardrough areas in the future, saving further time and resources. Some machines are hybrid. A couple of new electric vehicles have been purchased including an electric greens mower.

R2.2 Maximise energy efficiency	R2.2.1 Measures to use energy and fuels more efficiently in buildings	Monitor and record energy consumption (bills, meters etc.)	At the moment the buildings are still owned by private third-parties. The building owner is still looking at replacing or renovating this old building in the future which will bring in many opportunities for maximising energy efficiency. It is nevertheless more a decision by the owner and not the club. The irrigation system is entirely gravity-fed and there is no pumping station. This saves considerable amounts of energy. However, the closed-loop water system on the course uses pumps to pump the water from the bottom lake back to the top one. CIP: Please explore opportunities to install solar panels to alimnt these pumps in the future. The restaurant manager reminds employees to turn off lights. Some motion sensors are used in the buildings. The greenkeeping does all the blade sharpening with their own grinders, even sharpening machinery for the municipal landscapers. The club has increased the area of club storage and encourages members to come to the course by foot, bike or public transport.
R2.3 Source energy responsibly	R2.3.1 Measures to source alternative, renewable forms of energy	Understand the energy mix of your electricity supplier; Explore possible greener energy providers	The club has a couple of solar energy projects on the driving range building and the maintenance building. These projects are to be realised very soon. CIP: Solar energy could also be incorporated into a new clubhouse building, if or when this happens, to provide electricity for the building as well as for the electric golf carts.
R3 Materials			
R3.1 Reduce materials demand	R3.1.1 Products and materials selection based on necessity, including opportunities for recycled, reused and locally sourced alternatives	No specific international requirement, however, identify activities to reduce the demand for materials and look for continual improvements	A waste management plan has been developed by BloomUp, the club's external sustainability advisor. This has been done in conjunction with the Omega European Masters as they continue to organise the tournament under this sustainability label.
R3.2 Purchase responsibly	R3.2.1 Commit to sustainable purchasing practices	Favour responsible, lower impact products	A sustainable purchasing policy is in place and signed by the main stakeholders at the club.

			The restaurateur, who is actually independent from the golf club, collaborates together with the golf club to work toward a more sustainable purchasing. A charter has been signed together with the golf club, under the encouragement of BloomUp. He is committed to serving healthy, local products with vegan options and starting to investigate fair trade and organic alternatives. Providers have been contacted to find out the source of the food and are encouraged to deliver equitable products. Eliminating plastic and no longer serving anything in PET bottles. This is also in conjunction with the OEM. They sort and separate paper, aluminium, bread, grease/oil, glass, etc. They offer half portions with the goal of eliminating food waste. The club, together with BloomUp, has written up a survey and begun to send it out to the various suppliers of the golf course to see what their practices are with regard to sustainability. The goal is for the club and the golf industry to put some pressure on suppliers to choose sustainable working practices and conditions. The students are looking at alternative biodegradable soap to use in the ball washing machines.
R3.3 Reuse and recycle	R3.3.1 Waste stream separation for maximum recycling and re-use opportunity	Put in place a recycling separation system, according to local rules and availability; Clear, simple and visible bin signage; Monitor and record weight of waste for each stream e.g. invoices, bills etc.	The club has recycling in the restaurant area, on the course and in the maintenance area. The greenkeeping team recycle mostly all materials and organise a combined pick-up together with the municipal maintenance department. Signs are put on most garbage containers on the course to indicate not to throw away plastic bottles, metal or glass and to dispose of them in the eco-points near the clubhouse. The club puts used golf equipment on their website with the goal of reusing equipment in the community.
R3.4 Demonstrate legal compliance	R3.4.1 Compliance with all local and regional waste management regulations	Authorised waste collector for general, hazardous, industrial and green waste, if required	The club complies with local waste management regulations. This is especially with regard to waste coming from the maintenance area. CIP: Please explore opportunities to begin composting on-site from golf course maintenance waste.

COMMUNITY

C1 Health & Wellbeing

Objectives	Requirements	Mandatory Practices	Verifier Notes
C1.1 Improve health and wellbeing	C1.1.1 Benefits to human physical and mental health from golf and facility activities	Plans in place to respond to incidents and emergencies	There are plans in place to respond to incidents and emergencies, especially within the greenkeeping area. The golf club encourages walking. The junior programme is well established. Young people have a very interesting deal to become members of the club to continue to grow the game.
C1.2 Be open and inclusive	C1.2.1 Inclusivity and diversity in membership and visitor policies	Membership policies free from discrimination across age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and ethnic background	The course is open to anyone. They have over 1600 members but are also a public golf course. This is impressive considering it's a DP World Tour event. There are many women and children playing over the two courses.
C1.3 Employ fairly, safely and provide career opportunities	C1.3.1 Ethical and legal employment, working conditions and professional development	Adopt an equal opportunity recruitment and hiring policy; Follow all relevant legislation and best practice for hiring and employment; Follow all relevant legislation and best practice for worker safety	The club is a good employer offering CPD to employees and apprenticeships positions. Overall the club employs people from about 14 different nationalities. The employees have access to the golf course as well as the swimming pool and restaurant. About 10 summer jobs are created for students, throughout the golf club and course.

C2 Outreach & Inclusion

C2.1 Diversify access and provide multifunctionality	C2.1.1 Social and recreational activities at the facility	No specific international requirement, however, identify multifunctional activities and look for continual improvements	With a short playing season the golf club is closed half of the year and in the winter the course is used for sledding, skiing and generally walking. Even during the playing season it is possible to walk through many areas of the course and enjoy the spectacular views to the local mountains and valley below.
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			The clubhouse, owned by a private third-party, has a restaurant which is open to anyone, even though the golf club is the biggest client.
C2.2 Provide for volunteering and charity	C2.2.1 Opportunities available for volunteering and support of charities and good causes	No specific international requirement, however, identify activities to support volunteering and charity and look for continual improvements	The club organises a minimum of 4 or 5 charity events every year. The members volunteer to do a spring clean-up of the course, after the skiing season. The manager has given lessons to mentally handicapped golfers and the club has also organised for DP World pros to give lessons to physically handicapped golfers.
C2.3 Establish active community partnerships	C2.3.1 Positive and constructive engagement with neighbours, the local community and other groups	No specific international requirement, however, identify partnerships and community activities and look for continual improvements	The club has created a sustainable working group which is composed BloomUp, Naturarks, the management and greenkeeper. Regular meetings are held to focus the improvements and stay on track for their 3-year action plan. The club collaborates with 2 local schools to help build and install bird boxes and insect hotels. One of these schools has also collaborated with the club to work on a water quality testing study. The club is trying to act as a leader in the community by showing a good example increasing habitats and biodiversity. The club is trying to make golf a mandatory class in the physical education programme, which would be free for all students.
C3 Communications & Advocacy			
C3.1 Engage staff and golfers	C3.1.1 Communications activities that raise awareness and understanding amongst members and visitors	Involve staff and committees in sustainability efforts; Involve golfers in sustainability efforts; Post sustainability information in the clubhouse and / or on the golf course	The golf club continues to increase awareness of sustainability and advertising the commitments of the club. They have sustainability information on their website and are more and more active on social media. Every week the club issues a newsletter on events happening within the club, including a theme of sustainability progress. This is done in collaboration with BloomUp. Another sustainability expert, Eric Nanchen, has assisted the club in installing information signs to explain the various sustainability projects and benefits achieved throughout the golf course. There is a new sign beside every tee box.

			Together with BloomUp, the club gives sustainability sensibilization courses to staff to make them aware of best practices for saving energy, water and resources.
C3.2 Celebrate and promote sustainability	C3.2.1 Activities that raise awareness and engage people in the wider community	Share at least 3 Highlights on sustainable.golf	The club will be doing a walking tour of the different areas during the Omega European Masters, in collaboration with Swiss Golf. The club wishes to become a leader in the community with regards to sustainability. Numerous highlights have been added to OnCourse and are regularly discussed in articles or newsletters.
C3.3 Follow a journey of continuous improvement	C3.3.1 Measures to help track, review and improve sustainability and climate action	Put measures in place to ensure that OnCourse can be updated annually	Together with BloomUp, the club has become increasingly more organised with the annual data and action plans. BloomUp has uploaded many of their documents and data onto the OnCourse document library, making it easier to keep track of the different policies and data. This also acts as a reminder for what material needs to be reviewed for the annual data input and future 5-year verifications. Some OnCourse tools have been used. CIP: Please consider the use of further OnCourse tools, which will help to manage and report on sustainability practices, including carbon footprinting.

Golf and Sustainability

Among all sports, golf has a particularly close relationship with the environment and communities, golf facilities can bring many benefits to people and nature - from the protection of greenspace and conservation of biodiversity; healthy recreation for all ages; local supply chains; and jobs, tourism and other forms of economic value.

Adopting a more sustainable approach is also good for golf. It's about presenting a high-quality golf course and providing a memorable experience in natural surroundings. It's about being as efficient as possible. And it's about supporting the community in a range of ways that bring increased recognition, respect and contact.

At a broader level, it's important that golf credibly demonstrates its commitment, and its social and environmental value – strengthening the sport's image and reputation for the long term.

Golf facilities that participate in OnCourse®, an international sustainability initiative assured by the non-profit GEO Foundation, are taking a comprehensive approach and striving to be leaders in the community.

Find out more at www.sustainable.golf