

GEO Certified®

GEO Certified® Report
Golf Club Klosters

Prepared by independent verifier David Bily

Certified by GEO Foundation: 2025
Recertification due: 2030

GEO Foundation
Sustainability in and through golf

“The Golfclub Klosters demonstrates a very minimalist philosophy in the construction and maintenance of the golf course. Weaving through protected alpine barns and up and down the existing natural terrain, about 60% of the golf club land is covered with non-input alpine meadows, rich with a wide diversity of habitats for many local mammal, bird and amphibian species. The greenkeeper uses a minimal pallet of chemicals and fertilizers, focusing his maintenance regime on cultural practices. Minimalism is at the core of Klosters’ management. In fact, there is so much nature on this piece of land that golf really plays a secondary role. Overall, this compact golf facility demands few resources during their 6 months of operation but provides maximum year-round multi-functionality on the site for all members of the community.”

David Bily
(GEO accredited independent verifier)

Introduction

GEO Foundation is pleased to confirm that Golf Club Klosters 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 Klosters 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 Klosters should be awarded GEO Certified® status.

For the certification period stated above, Golf Club Klosters 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.isealalliance.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 greenkeeper has a very good understanding of the site and its landscape value. The golf course still has (and uses) a detailed map of all existing landscape and vegetation types. This was done following construction over 20 years ago and is continually referred to for maintenance purposes.
	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	The club understands the legal issues and protection of areas and elements within the golf course property. Two strips of glacial moraine traversing the golf course are protected, and remain in their existing state following construction. Surveys are done regularly to monitor protected, endangered and rare species on the site. In the past a number of members participated in counting flora and fauna species under the guidance of the greenkeeper and habitat specialist.
	N1.1.3 Sound understanding and respect for cultural heritage	Protect any archaeological, historical or cultural designations on the site, if applicable	There are many old hay barns dotted throughout the golf course which were protected and are still used by the local farmers. They are important cultural landscape elements and also provide habitat for different animal species including birds, bats, fox and other smaller animals. These barns also add to the playing experience and strategy of the golf course. The architect did an exceptional job to sensitively fit the golf holes into the existing topography and ski resort; producing a very successful golf course and creating a multi-recreational site. Some areas were hardly touched if only to provide some drainage lines in low areas. This strategy has allowed the rolling alpine meadows to retain their former contours and remain a typical vernacular Swiss landscape. The club consults with both Pro Natura and WWF Graubünden on landscape and cultural heritage and follows a detailed maintenance plan restricting inputs and haying practices on different zones of the course.

				Late haying of the hard rough alpine meadows is a management strategy to maintain a high level of biodiversity and conserve the colour and texture of the traditional Swiss alpine grasslands.
	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 areas of turfgrass maintained for golf are the minimum for playability. These managed turf areas are squeezed in between the vast alpine wildflower meadows maintained by local farmers, surfaces which haven't received any inputs for the last 20 years.
	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	The club has a solid understanding of the various habitats present throughout the golf course and makes it a priority to properly look after these areas to optimize the biodiversity. Besides the wildflower meadows, managed habitats include ruderal areas, rough pasture, small woodlands, forest, wetlands and dry hillocks and stone piles. The old stone piles from previous agricultural use are protected and now contribute to a wide diversity of flora and fauna due to their micro-habitat value. Wood piles were left behind the clubhouse building to provide habitat for various insects. The sides of the glacial moraines are regularly cleared of native plants to open up the sandy surface, providing important habitat for native bee populations.
	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	The club has large areas of wildflower meadow cut once or twice a year, after the 15 July and sometimes in mid-September. These typical alpine meadows have over 160 different plant species including protected anemone and orchid species. They provide food and habitat for numerous species of insect, bird and animal in the valley including over 91 different species of flying insects. The meadows are inspected and photographed regularly to evaluate their evolution and propose any maintenance modifications. Two constructed wetland areas also provide different aquatic plants and edge conditions interesting for native frog and salamander species as well as habit for certain local bird species. Extensive surveys on flora and fauna were undertaken, and the club works regularly with Pro Natura, WWF and a private environmental consultant. A more recent biodiversity survey was done and supported and in collaboration with the Canton of Graubünden and a national university.

			This survey has produced a number of structural or management measures which could be taken to improve biodiversity.
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 L-93 greens have relatively good disease resistance at altitude. It still has to prove its sustainability over the long run and may demand overseeding with other seed mixes over time. A mix of Fescue and Perennial Ryegrass on the rest of the course is well chosen. **CIP: With climate change, the club could be proactive and consider experimenting with some other turfgrass species, so they are prepared.**
	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 improvements	A minimum chemical input and maximum use of mechanical methods has proven that this golf club can still achieve very high-quality playing surfaces with minimum impact to the environment.
	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	Fertiliser is used in small quantities and mostly for the greens. The alpine meadow rough areas which are cut by local farmers are designated pesticide and fertiliser free areas.
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	The greenkeeper uses nearly zero chemicals for pest management. Only an occasional application of insecticide is used on the greens or fairways against the Garden Chafer or Garden Foliage Beetle. Ravens regularly feed on the larvae causing extensive damage to the fairway surfaces. Otherwise, the greenkeeper uses alternative methods to manage these insects, like pheromone traps and even vacuuming them with a customized industrial vacuum cleaner. Unfortunately, the pheromone traps only work against the males of the species. Sound-emitters used in turfgrass areas to disturb moles and mice and push them into rough areas. This is also only partly successful.

			A high tolerance for disease, pests and invasive grasses and weeds is the policy, which is also communicated to the members and visitors.
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	The greenkeeper doesn't use many chemicals. Pesticides are only applied as needed and never used in a preventative manner.
	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 greenkeeper only uses legally registered and approved products and staff are trained and qualified for the application. Leftover product in the sprayer is diluted and disposed of on untreated areas of maintained turf.
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	Appropriate mowing, spraying and spreading buffer zones are maintained around all water and ecologically sensitive areas. All on site water runoff is filtered through grassy swales before running into an underground evacuation system and treated in retention areas. Each green is equipped with a visible outflow pipe which allows all the water running from the greens to be checked regularly before draining into grassy swales and filtered before running into an underground drainage system. The water tests prove to be as clean or cleaner than the water flowing onto the golf course.

				No wastewater from the golf course or from golf course operations is running directly offsite. Water from the washing station runs through an oil and grass separator and then goes into the local sewer line, where the water is further filtered by the municipal water system. The club has recently added a new filter in the oil and grass separator. Emergency spill response plan in place.
		N3.1.2 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from clubhouse operations	Formal wastewater discharge agreement, if applicable	No hazardous products are used in this very minimalist clubhouse. A wastewater discharge licence is in place for the clubhouse.
		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 few hazardous materials including any pesticides and fertilizers are safely and securely stored in dry rooms. Mixing and loading of pesticides and fertilizers is done over an impermeable surface. Washing of vehicles is also done over on an impermeable surface.
	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 ;	All pesticides and fertilizers are safely stored in secure and ventilated concrete buildings. Oil barrels are sitting on a spill proof bottom with grate.

		Follow any additional legal requirements	
	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 tank is secured to a horizontal, flat, non-combustible surface. There is a secondary containment around the fuel tank. This tank is regularly inspected by the local authorities. Fire extinguishers are in place.
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 conforms to the highly demanding regulations of the canton and all wastewater running away from the wash pad area is treated via an oil and grass clipping separator and contained in impermeable underground retention areas which are regularly emptied by the local waste management company. The club improved their wash pad a few years ago, which filters all wash water through thick gravel and sand layers before it arrives at the retention areas.

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;	The club nevertheless uses relatively little water for course irrigation and a modern irrigation system keeps the low volumes as efficient as possible. One line of irrigation was installed down the middle of each fairway. The course has appropriate grass species for this climate and altitude.

			Prioritise native, drought tolerant species for landscaping and planting	
	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; Evaluate new irrigation technologies e.g., central control, precision sprinklers etc.; Provide staff training on efficient irrigation practices; Adjust sprinklers to playing surfaces only	Precipitation and weather conditions are monitored constantly to efficiently manage the irrigation needs of the golf course. De-compaction, evening irrigation scheduling, soil moisture analysis and use of wetting agents are just some of the cultural practices which help keep irrigation to a minimum. A new, more efficient water pump was installed in 2023. The club is presently comparing offers for updating their irrigation system software.
		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 done yearly, reviewing water bills. It appears that consumption is quite stable from year to year.
	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	The golf course uses only potable water from the public mains, but water shortage is not generally a problem in this mountain region. An on-site reservoir was refused by the municipality due to landscape protection issues, so they have no other viable water source. The golf course has an agreement with the municipality to use the public potable water.
	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 maintenance machines run on biodiesel and the club has Easy-Go electric buggies with lithium batteries which are considerably more energy-efficient. 2 new Ventrac maintenance machines were purchased within the last few years for nearly all turf maintenance. These small, compact machines with multiple attachments have contributed to reduced energy use, cost and turf compaction. Since the last verification visit the club has purchased 2 robot mowers for mowing the driving range.

			Otherwise, the machine park is unchanged since the last verification in 2021. **CIP: Please consider purchasing more electric robots or electric/hybrid vehicles for course maintenance.**
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.)	The club keeps track of their annual energy consumption with accounts of electricity, diesel, petrol and hydraulic oils. The main building uses only electricity and is not heated (only used during summer months). No official energy audit has taken place but the clubhouse/pro shop/greenkeeper office is very small and only open during 6 months of the year. During that time almost no energy is used for heating and lights are limited to very small areas. Exterior lights are on movement sensors, as well as bathrooms. The maintenance shed uses almost no energy without any heating and minimal lighting. In the winter all facilities are closed. **CIP: Please conduct an energy audit at some point.**
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	They are presently connected to the local grid supply and no alternative sources of energy are being investigated at this time by this small club, but the energy used is very minimal for the buildings. However, there is a project within the town to install a large surface of photovoltaic solar panels. The solar energy produced from this project would feed into the local grid of which the golf course is a user.
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	The maintenance team looks for local materials and works with Swiss companies for any golf course purchases. The clubhouse has minimal purchases but works locally for any drinks or snacks. The restaurant used by golfers is in an old chalet in the middle of the golf course, however it is not owned nor run by the golf club.

R3.2 Purchase responsibly	**R3.2.1 Commit to sustainable purchasing practices**	Favour responsible, lower impact products	The club tries to purchase locally when possible. **CCIP: Although there are very few materials purchased, please develop and put in place a more official sustainable purchasing policy.**
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.	Almost all waste is recycled including PET, glass, aluminium, metal, paper and cardboard. Organic waste from the golf course (notably grass clippings) is collected by the town of Klosters to be composted and made available to the community residents. The club has not yet done a waste audit but considering the scale of the club this is not a major issue at Klosters. The greenkeeper has used fallen trees to make benches for each tee box and flower boxes used for the fairway distance markers. The clubhouse, pro-shop and maintenance office are all housed in a building formerly used for the office of the tunnel construction. All maintenance buildings were former agricultural barns/buildings. The cores from hollow tinning are kept and re-used for topdressing in a few years. **CIP: Please try to do a more precise estimation/calculation of your waste stream, potentially using the calculator tool available on OnCourse.**
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 all regional waste management regulations. There is an authorised waste and recycling contractor for all hazardous and green waste from the golf course.

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	The club has a general health and safety policy. The club offers a safe playing environment with correct distances between golf holes. There are great working conditions for the few employees who have been with the team for many years. This mountain course is extremely up and down so most golfers use a golf cart.
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 golf club is a resort course open to all golfers and non-golfers. There is a strong female membership and junior programme. As a resort course in this tourist destination, there are a high number of greenfee players from the many national and international visitors. School groups are still regularly invited to discover and practice golf on certain days of the week.
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	Staff are trained for emergencies with 4 staff trained to national level medical standards including defibrillators, and an emergency incident plan is in place.
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	The golf club site is used for many different purposes, most specifically as a ski resort in winter. Walking paths also criss-cross the course and are used by locals and visitors.

			The golf course practice area was once used to host a music concert open to everyone. (One of their previous highlights.)
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 golf club hosts numerous tournaments every year, of which many are for charity causes. Volunteers from the membership are occasionally involved in helping to count flora and fauna with the help of a biologist.
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	There is a strong relationship with the local community for the use of the site and the continued protection of the landscape and ecology. The club has a very simple “sustainability committee” consisting of the club captain, the manager and the head greenkeeper. It is essentially the same group that makes up the “Platzkommision” **CIP: Please consider creating a more specific sustainability committee, which would specifically target sustainable management issues.**
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	There are numerous information panels on the course explaining different aspects of environmental interest and management practices, like near tee boxes. Besides communicating environmental information via newsletters, display boards and these on-site interpretation panels, the golf club has printed out brochures to explain their interest in the environment and their relationship with GEO. They are also regularly posting on Instagram to communicate their events, management and environmental objectives. The head greenkeeper occasionally gives presentations about the club’s commitment to sustainable golf course management and highlights their various actions for creating or maintaining biodiversity. (ex. Lions Club, municipality, members).
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 has also provided tours of the course to local residents keeping them informed of their environmental commitment. Klosters has appeared in a number of different local and national articles including the Journal of Swiss Entomologists for the diversity of insect

				species. Recently a number of national and international journalists have shown interest in Klosters with the intention of writing articles on their environmental achievements.
	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	The club continues to demonstrate strong commitment to sustainable management. Nevertheless the club has not shown very many new initiatives over the past 5 years. **CIP: It would be nice to see some new actions within the areas of nature, resources or community, even if they are small steps.**

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

