



GEO Certified®

GEO Certified® Report Golfklúbbur Mosfellsbæjar

Prepared by independent verifier Matthew Schiffer

Certified by GEO Foundation: 2025
Recertification due: 2030

GEO Certified®

 **GEO
Foundation**
Sustainability in and through golf

“Golfklúbbur Mosfellsbæjar is still led by Managing Director Ágúst Jensson, now with new Superintendent Bjarni Hannesson. The club was doing many good things in 2022 and are now moving forward with major efforts to improve. The philosophy of protecting nature, encouraging public access, and maintaining the turf with as little water and as few chemicals as possible is still being practiced.

The new golf holes at the 9-hole Bakkakot course have reduced disease pressure by taking out non-native vegetation to increase sun exposure and airflow and will also increase the consolidated area of unmaintained “wild” land. The change to only electric robotic mowers for day-to-day maintenance addresses one of the concerns about safe fuel storage at the Bakkakot maintenance shed from the 2022 verification.

The renovation of the back nine holes at the 18-hole Hlíðavöllur will address safety issues caused by golf balls being hit into the residential properties surrounding the golf course and will also address water quality issues by adding gentler slopes and vegetative buffers around water bodies. It will also make the public horse and pedestrian paths that intersect with the golf course more visible to golfers and safer for the pedestrians. In addition, a new par-3 course that is proposed will accommodate families, children, seniors, people with disabilities, beginners and those who want to take their first steps in golf and/or play in a shorter time and at lower cost.

The club hosts a very popular and profitable charity golf tournament to raise funds for a camp that supports severely disabled children and their families. The local community also enjoys a very popular restaurant that is operated out of the clubhouse. Recycling and composting have increased since the 2022 verification and single-use products are no longer sold. Communication to explain maintenance and sustainability efforts with the membership is frequent.

Finally, the club is now considering using sand from the local sewage treatment plant for topdressing. If it proves to be suitable, this material will be free to the club and will not need to be transported to be landfilled, as it currently is.

Golfklúbbur Mosfellsbæjar has become busier and more popular in the last three years. Given this, the club is making decisions and major investments to continuously improve the sustainability and accessibility of its operations and facilities so that it may remain a very positive asset for the local environment and community.”

Matthew Schiffer
(GEO accredited independent verifier)



Introduction

GEO Foundation is pleased to confirm that Golfklúbbur Mosfellsbæjar 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.

Golfklúbbur Mosfellsbæjar 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, Golfklúbbur Mosfellsbæjar should be awarded GEO Certified® status.

For the certification period stated above, Golfklúbbur Mosfellsbæjar 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 – that 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 club now employs a full-time gardener. He manages the woodland parts of the Bakkakot (9-holes) course. He takes out dead and non-native trees and shrubs, which are often mulched and used on walking paths. A lot of landscape management happened at Bakkakot due to the 1st and 2nd holes recently being rerouted and rebuilt. Pictures were provided showing a large amount of undergrowth removed between the new holes. As a result of this rerouting, a large contiguous area of the current 9-hole course will be “rewilded”. As a part of the new nine holes being built for the Hlíðavöllur course, the club plans to measure unmown land (called “biodiversity working areas”) on a five-year interval.
	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 is in the planning stages of rerouting and rebuilding the eastern 9-holes of Hlíðavöllur, with the primary purpose being the improvement of safety to houses and pedestrians on the perimeter of the golf course property (on the riding track and recreational path). The boundary of the protected seashore will not be impacted. An objective of the new construction will be to “minimise negative environmental impacts and maximise positive ones.”
	N1.1.3 Sound understanding and respect for cultural heritage	Protect any archaeological, historical or cultural designations on the site, if applicable	No change from 2022.
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 maintained area is listed as 35.96 hectares on OnCourse (2 hectares irrigated), which is slightly larger than the area reported in 2022. The philosophy of minimizing managed turf still applies. The new 9 holes on the eastern side of Hlíðavöllur will use a smaller area of land outside and east of the current course boundary.

			Quoting from the planning report called Hlíðavöllur – Eastern Part, dated 23 February 2025: “Provision is made for three new golf holes outside and east of the current course boundary, in order to create scope for removing, shortening, rotating and shifting existing holes further away from houses and recreational paths, without needing to close the golf course while works are carried out. Two holes in the proposed new area of the course are designed along the shoreline, taking into account, among other things, safety along the riding track. A new recreational path is planned, running roughly at right angles out to a desirable viewpoint on the coast, via an underpass beneath the riding track. Provision is also made for a par-3 course – that is, a high-quality golf course in miniature form – on the part of the existing course that is poorly suited to longer holes from a safety perspective. It is intended for families, children, senior citizens, people with disabilities, beginners and those who want to take their first steps in golf and/or play golf in a shorter time and at lower cost.”
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 reports that they are seeing more birds than they did in 2022. The club's approach remains the same – to not disturb breeding and nesting birds.
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	No change from 2022.
N2 Turfgrass			
N2.1 Maintain optimum turfgrass and soil health	N2.1.1 Appropriate turfgrass varieties adapted to climatic and	Select appropriate grass species for the climate	The mix of grasses on the existing holes is the same as it was in 2022. The grasses for the new holes at Bakkakot and the new holes planned for Hlíðavöllur have been selected for excellent winter tolerance and wear tolerance as determined by Scanturf trial plots. The new holes for both

	other geomorphological factors		courses will generally have the same mix of cultivars of Chewings Fescue, Slender Creeping Red Fescue, Common Bentgrass, Kentucky Bluegrass, and Spreading Bluegrass on the tees and fairways. The mix on the greens will include Chewings Fescue, Slender Creeping Red Fescue, Common Bentgrass, and Creeping Bentgrass. Perennial ryegrass is no longer used due to poor winter tolerance. The club no longer uses the upcycled artificial turf for high wear areas and are transitioning to high wear turf on grass paths. The grass for these areas will be a varietal of Spreading Bluegrass TBD.
	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	There is a new (since 2022) superintendent for the golf courses named Bjarni Hannesson. He confirmed that he regularly aerates the tees, and aerates and verti-cuts the greens and said he monitors the firmness of the greens to determine frequency.
	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	As per 2.3.1 below.
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 club now has a blade sharpener and the blades for greens mowers are sharpened 3x per season, fairways mowers 2x per season.
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	Confirmed that the club identifies and tracks pest and disease hotspots. Very small amounts of herbicide (Primus) and fungicide (Pryaxor) were used this year to control dollar spot and fusarium caused by the unusually warm and wet weather in the fall. The new holes at Bakkakot were designed for increased sun and air flow at the greens to reduce disease pressure.

	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	In addition to a small amount of herbicide and fungicide, the club used growth regulators (Primo Maxx2) and wetting agents (Cilibre 357) on greens and tees for uniformity. They determined need for these applications by visual inspection and by checking ET levels. All chemicals are still stored safely in a spill-proof locker.
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	As part of the Hlíðavöllur remodel, the “current steep, eroded open drainage channels (will be shaped) into longer, more gently sloping and vegetated channels, (which are) expected to reduce erosion and provide synergies in favor of improvements to Mosfellsbær’s drainage system.” Also, addressing the CIP from 2022: “Vegetation along watercourses will be protected and strengthened in line with the Nature Conservation Act...” The new holes will provide for better storage and treatment of stormwater coming from the adjacent housing development.
	N3.1.2 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from clubhouse operations	Formal wastewater discharge agreement, if applicable	The waste streams that are separated and collected for recycling or energy recovery are now metal, plastics, organics, paper, cardboard, and hazardous waste.
	N3.1.3 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from	Wash machinery over an impermeable, leak-free surface; Mix and load pesticides and fertilisers over an impermeable, leak-free surface;	Confirmed product and material data safety sheets are available and hazardous substances are safely collected by a registered waste company.

	maintenance facility operations	Triple rinse pesticide containers and applicators	Confirmed that there is secondary containment in the event of spills in the main maintenance facility and that storage tanks are regularly inspected. Addressing the CIP from 2022: The Bakkakot course is now almost entirely cut by robotic mowers and should be fully electric by next spring, so there will be no need for diesel fuel. In addition, the club is discussing building a new machinery shed at Bakkakot that will be farther away from the water source. CIP: Please maintain and try to improve the state of the maintenance facility.
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	The main maintenance facility at the Hlíðavöllur course has been upgraded with improved staff facilities, including emergency wash areas, and improved chemical storage facilities. There is also a better catchment system and oil separators for the wash pads, which currently drain to septic but the club is working to change from septic to a hook up to the main sewer line for the adjacent housing development so the waste water can be treated at the municipal treatment plant. Addressing the CIP from 2022: There will be no hazardous materials at the Bakkakot course once the machinery for day-to-day mowing is fully electric in the spring. CIP: Please complete plans to electrify mowing and eliminate the need for hazardous materials.
	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;	The fuel tanks are inspected whenever they are filled (2x per year).

		Fire extinguisher in the immediate area	
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	Water from the impervious wash pad goes through a metal mesh and into a ditch that catches all of the grass clippings. Collected grass clippings are scooped out of this ditch and dumped into rough. The oil separator is pumped out once per year.

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	The club still uses a moisture meter and irrigates as infrequently as possible. Irrigation has been added for three of the greens and some of the tees on the front nine of Hlíðavöllur and will be installed for the new nine holes (but used infrequently after grow-in). Only 3 approaches of the 27 holes are presently irrigated.
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	The club has a new weather station for even more accurate and localized ET calculations.

	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	No major changes to the clubhouse since 2022.
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	Confirming that there is no water abstraction permit required.
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	Club is transitioning away from diesel maintenance equipment to robotic and electric. The Bakkakot course will have day-to-day maintenance be fully electric by next spring.
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 reported that power usage in the clubhouse has increased due to the year-round popularity of the restaurant located in the clubhouse (leased and operated by an outside company). The club has also added three new golf simulators in the lower level of the clubhouse that have increased the use of the building in the off-season. The building's energy efficiency measures are unchanged from 2022. The club also reported using less hot water after finding and repairing a leak in the underfloor heating system at the main maintenance building.
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	No change from 2022
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	Highlight: The club is now exploring taking free sand for topdressing from the water company. It would be sand that is used in the sewage treatment system that currently goes to landfill. It would need to sit for 6-7 months before use. The sand would be coming from nearby, so if it works as topdressing (pending analysis), it would be a great deal for all parties.

			No longer using upcycled artificial turf and currently removing it and replacing it with high wear tolerant grass paths. The club no longer sells single use products – encourage members to bring water bottles. Also, using only 25% to 30% of paper scorecards as previously – membership has transitioned to smartphone scoring app, including for tournaments.
R3.2 Purchase responsibly	R3.2.1 Commit to sustainable purchasing practices	Favour responsible, lower impact products	The club reported on OnCourse that 152 of 170 suppliers are within 100 miles.
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 recycling bins on the golf course are now more consolidated, making it easier for the golfers to separate recyclables from landfill. Addressing the CIP from 2022: Some of the food waste from the restaurant is now picked up by the waste company for composting. As mentioned earlier, the collected grass clippings are spread in the rough, plus they have a pit on site for composting materials – though “not getting enough good material for it to be useful.” They have plans to build bins to compost the food waste themselves once the new housing has been built.
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	No change from 2022.

COMMUNITY			
<u>C1 Health & Wellbeing</u>			
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 electric buggy rental program still exists, with 10 electric buggies giving increased access to the golf course to 25 members who are either elderly or have disabilities.

			Three new golf simulators in clubhouse to expand membership and community availability in off-season. Highlight: The new construction on the Hlíðavöllur course will include a “new par-3 course (which) is intended to make golf more accessible to children, families, seniors, people with disabilities, beginners and others for whom the traditional full-length course is less suitable.” People will be able to play this course in a shorter time and at a lower cost than the 9-hole or 18-hole courses.
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	Membership is currently full at around 2,200 members, with a waiting list of ~1000 people. Female membership has increased from 30% to 35%, which is the national average. There are around 450 junior golfers.
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	There are currently 10 full time staff, plus 1 more on maternity leave. There are up to 43 seasonal workers in the summer, between the clubhouse and maintenance staff. All hiring practices are ethical and legal.
<u>C2 Outreach & Inclusion</u>			
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	As part of the new Hlíðavöllur holes: “A new recreational path is planned, running roughly at right angles out to a desirable viewpoint on the coast, via an underpass beneath the riding track.” “In addition to improvements in safety, provision is made for better lighting along recreational paths and riding tracks and for the targeted installation of signs providing information on natural and cultural heritage and emphasizing caution and mutual consideration between those engaging in different types of outdoor recreation.” The existing horse-riding track on the perimeter of the golf course will remain unchanged, with additional safety measures added: • redefining a municipal service road so that it no longer runs along the riding track;

			• installing information signs on the course, with recommendations to golfers about timing shots with regard to traffic on the riding track and noise from golf shots; • building two underpasses beneath the riding track where recreational paths and golf routes cross it; • relocating the existing bird-watching hut further east, to reduce vehicle traffic on the riding track; • providing short connections from the riding track down to the shore; • lighting the riding track along its entire length within the planning area; • minor realignment in the north-west corner due to coastal erosion; and • increasing the distance between recreational path and riding track where it is currently less than 5 m. The restaurant, which is open to the community, is more popular than ever.
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	Highlight: The charitable golf tournament hosted by the club is now one of the most popular tournaments in the area and sells out quickly for 250 players. Last year 35,000 was raised to support a camp for children with serious disabilities – it was only during the summer, but is now year round.
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 public access from 2022 still applies, with outside groups such as bird watchers and horse riders still encouraged to share the land with the golfers.
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 sustainability group formed before 2022 still exists, but does not meet often. The club prefers to communicate via Facebook and the clubhouse message board. CIP: Please make better use of the sustainability group, to develop future plans and projects in a more structured way.
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	As per C3.1.1 above.

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 has reported annual data on OnCourse since 2020. With the new construction about to take place on the Hlíðavöllur course, the club would like to monitor the following to make sure the new holes are safer and more sustainable compared to existing: • an annual overview of recorded incidents and corrective measures; • counts of traffic on paths by walkers, cyclists and riders; • measurement, at intervals of up to five years, of the area of unmown land (“biodiversity working areas”); • annual measurement of water use for irrigation and the proportion drawn from the municipal supply, as part of progress towards self-sufficient, sustainable irrigation; • statistics on use of the par-3 course to assess whether golf has become more accessible; • monitoring GM’s annual accounts as an indicator of the financial sustainability of course operations; and • monitoring adherence to the construction schedule, with the aim of minimising the duration of negative construction impacts.
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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