GEO Certified® Report
Trump Turnberry

Prepared by independent verifier: Carolyn Hedley

Certified by GEO Foundation: 2024
Recertification due: 2027

GEO Foundation
Sustainability in and through golf

“Trump Turnberry continues to demonstrate the highest standard of sustainable course management as befits an internationally recognised Championship venue. The natural habitats on this special part of Ayrshire’s coast are managed superbly with robust long-term plans for continued protection and further improvements.

The courses and clubhouse will play a vital part in the future success of Trump Turnberry’s ‘net zero roadmap’ through carbon emission reduction and resource efficiency.

There were many highlights observed during my visit, including the use of clippings data to improve the fertiliser programme and the resources efficiency projects, monitoring and reporting in conjunction with the hotel initiatives.

The whole team should be proud of the high standards reached to date and I look forward to seeing and hearing more positive communications promoting their sustainability successes over the next few years.”

Carolyn Hedley
(GEO accredited independent verifier)

Introduction

GEO Foundation is pleased to confirm that Trump Turnberry 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.

Trump Turnberry 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, Trump Turnberry should be awarded GEO Certified® status.

For the certification period stated above, Trump Turnberry 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
Manager, Data and Reporting, 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.isealalliance.org**

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**	Map all habitats and vegetation types on the site; Regularly update landscape / biodiversity surveys	The team at Trump Turnberry have demonstrated a good understanding of the habitats and vegetation types across the golf courses and the overall nature and landscape value of the site. The three courses of Trump Turnberry – The Ailsa, the King Robert the Bruce and a 9-hole course are part of an 800ha overall estate. The biodiversity on the site was discussed and observed during my visit and includes a variety of habitat types including coastal grassland and dune heathland, managed amenity grassland, open sand areas, gorse scrub, plantation woodland and pond habitats. There has been a wealth of biodiversity and landscape data and knowledge gained over many years through regular external expert surveys, maps, audits & assessments and ecological management plans, the latest of which was carried out on behalf of the R&A Championships in June 2023. **Highlight: As part of the recent R&A Golf Course Biodiversity Project, the ecological value of the courses will be assessed through biodiversity surveys over a 5-year period. Selection to be part of this international initiative demonstrates Turnberry's reputation as a leader in golf course ecology.** **CIP: Please ensure that all survey records are uploaded to the South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre (https://swseic.org.uk/) and the National Biodiversity Network Atlas (https://nbnatlas.org/).**
	N1.1.2 Knowledge of legal designations for protected areas, habitats and species	Understand legal responsibilities for protected landscapes and species; Record and monitor protected, endangered, or rare species found on the site	Part of the site is within the Turnberry Dunes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), a coastal habitat noted for supporting nationally scarce beetles. The site is also partially in the geologically based Turnberry Lighthouse to Port Murray SSSI. The Site also lies within Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere.

			These areas were observed during the course tour and we discussed the legal requirements for protecting these areas during course management operations. As part of the planning permission for a future course development project, the nearby SSSI will be protected using silt fencing, flora translocated, and some invasive plant species removed in agreement with planning authorities and NatureScot. Protected, endangered and rare species have been monitored on the site over many years as part of specialist ecology surveys. **Highlight: Of the 223 species identified in the recent R&A golf course biodiversity project on the Ailsa Championship course, 30 were identified as protected or notable species.**
	N1.1.3 Understanding and respect for cultural heritage	Protect any archaeological, historical or cultural designations on the site	The historic and cultural heritage of the site is understood and structures such as the lighthouse, and the hotel are significant features of the estate.
N1.2 Opportunities to naturalise the course	**N1.2.1 Measures taken to identify and minimise the required area of managed turfgrass**	Observe, track and / or monitor golfer play	The areas of managed turfgrass have been optimised over many years by monitoring patterns of play and wear to meet the needs of the visiting and club golfers, and also the R&A Championship organisers. Unmaintained areas were observed, and habitat management and naturalisation plans for the site and for the proposed redevelopment area were discussed. **Highlight: There has been a programme of naturalisation of bunker edges reducing revetted bunkers from 200 to 80, benefitting nature and reducing resources required for management and rebuilding.**
N1.3 Actively manage habitats for wildlife	**N1.3.1 Projects to manage habitats in the best way for wildlife and golf**	Regularly review and follow a habitat management plan; Prioritise native species when planting and landscaping	Following the advice from many years of ecology and landscape management experts, the management of the habitats for wildlife and golf is of a very high standard. I observed a variety of ecology reports and we discussed some of the recommendations and priority actions that are being taken forward including the gorse management programme, rough grassland, pond and woodland management, and nesting boxes and hedge planting on the wider estate. There are also future plans to create more open sand features within gorse areas and during construction and project works for ecological enhancement.

			CIP: Please continue to submit habitat creation projects, such as the open sandy areas, as Sustainable Golf Highlights.
N1.4 Conserve key species	**N1.4.1 Practical conservation measures for priority species**		A variety of key species are conserved through considered habitat management and creation. I was shown areas of gorse scrub management which is of particular benefit to bird species such as yellowhammer. The R&A Golf and Nature biodiversity summary and the R&A Championships ecological management plan include recommendations for further survey and monitoring actions for priority bird species, threatened butterflies, threatened plant species and invasive non-native plant species. **CIP: It was discussed that there could be more member walks organised, in particular to discuss and observe the abundance of bird species including some that are on the Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) red list.**
N2 Turfgrass			
N2.1 Maintain optimum turf and soil health	**N2.1.1 Appropriate turfgrass varieties adapted to climatic and other geomorphological factors**	Select appropriate grass species for climate	Data submitted was confirmed to show that Poa on greens has been reduced in the last 3 years with an increase in Bent and Fescue species. This overseeding with topdressing is reducing inputs and increasing stress tolerance to provide the highest quality surfaces and condition for visitors and tournament standards. **Highlight: A larger turf nursery has been developed in the last couple of years, lowering costs and emissions by reducing the need to import turf from a great distance, whilst giving control over inputs and turf quality.**
	N2.1.2 Practices to maintain good soil structure and condition		Trump Turnberry follow R&A Sustainable turf management best practices to maintain good soil structure and condition.
	N2.1.3 Careful and responsible fertiliser application throughout the year to avoid over-fertilisation	Undertake soil tests and nutrient analysis	Soils nutrient levels are tested annually to support a targeted fertiliser programme. Agronomy reports were viewed and discussed during my visit. There is an aim to transition to more data-driven decision-making to reduce inputs such as water, nitrogen, and labour, adopting the MLSN process (minimal levels for sustainable nutrition) to ensure no over-application of nutrients.

			Highlight: Clipping volumes from greens are monitored daily to assess nitrogen removal and to support growth rate calculations. This gives accurate data to enable targeted, responsible fertiliser application and provides insights into growth and labour-intensive processes such as top dressing to reduce organic matter accumulation.
N2.2 Prioritise mechanical maintenance	**N2.2.1 Non-chemical pest, disease and weed management**	Sharpen mowing blades; Remove surface moisture; Hand weeding	IPM strategies including cultural, non-chemical pest, disease and weed management methods are used to reduce the quantity of chemical inputs needed such as surface moisture removal, equipment efficiency and washing and sharp blades.
N2.3 Use chemicals responsibly	**N2.3.1 Application of chemicals only when necessary to prevent or cure defined / identified turf health issues**	Establish patterns and levels of risk for pests and diseases; Scout the course daily for early signs of pests and disease; Accurate pest and disease identification; Map and track pest and disease hotspots; Establish pest and disease thresholds	Chemicals are used minimally and preventatively by having good identification practices and monitoring procedures. We discussed the use of Acelepryn for leatherjacket control in conjunction with nematodes.
	N2.3.2 Application of chemicals with full safety precautions	Use only legally registered and approved products; Ensure staff are fully qualified and licenced to use pesticides; Regularly calibrate and test applicators; Use appropriate protective equipment; Dilute and dispose of leftover product on untreated areas of turf .	There are records of chemicals, products application logs and applicator licenses and training. Health & Safety Policy, protective clothing and equipment, list of hazardous substances and hazardous waste licences are in place.
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; Maintain mowing buffer zones around water and all ecologically sensitive areas; Maintain spraying and spreading buffer zones around water and all ecologically sensitive areas; Create a map / aerial visual reproduction, drawing etc of the course showing buffer zones and no-spray, no-spread areas.	I can confirm there are SOPs in place to ensure pollution is prevented along with emergency spill response procedures and training in place. Staff are trained to follow this and use spill kits to reduce risk to human health and the environment. Buffer zones and no spray areas were observed during the course visit. **CCIP: Please include the SEPA Pollution Hotline in incident reporting procedures. This should also be made visible to staff e.g. on noticeboards.**

		N3.1.2 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from clubhouse operations	Ensure all hazardous materials are safely and securely stored; Ensure compliance with all required standards and systems for hazardous waste and wastewater discharge	I can confirm Health and Safety Policy and licences are in place including risk assessments and procedures for the safe storage and use of cleaning products and hazardous materials. Water services and sewerage licences are in place.
		N3.1.3 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from maintenance facility operations	Ensure wash areas are on impermeable, leak-free surfaces; Mixing and loading of pesticides and fertilisers over an impermeable surface; Triple rinse pesticide containers and applicators	Best practice is followed for all maintenance facility operations to minimise risk of any spills. There is a biological closed loop system for treating and recycling machinery wash water. Any spills from chemical mixing or container rinsing would go through this system also.
	N3.2 Safely manage hazardous substances	**N3.2.1 Legal compliance in the storage, handling, application and safe disposal of all hazardous substances**	Maintain a register of hazardous materials available to authorised staff; Safe storage in secure and ventilated concrete or metal building; Sufficient storage capacity; Impermeable flooring; Spill containment kits present; Emergency wash area; Fire extinguisher in the immediate area; Secondary containment for fuel, either externally constructed, or integrally manufactured; Regular inspection of storage tanks	Storage tanks are inspected annually by Ayrshire council and are double skinned and bunded. I can confirm there is a register of hazardous substances, and first aid and emergency response procedures are in place.
	N3.3 Responsibly manage waste / storm water	**N3.3.1 Appropriate wastewater usage and discharge licences**	Wastewater discharge licence; Appropriate treatment of machinery wash water (impermeable surface, oil / grease / clipping separation)	A sewerage licence is in place as part of the business water billing agreement. Wash bay and recycled operational wastewater treatment system was observed as above in N3.1.3.

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**	Target irrigation to essential playing surfaces only	Irrigation water is targeted at playing surfaces only and the ongoing programme of overseeding will reduce future water demand. Trial plots are in place to investigate turf species mixes that require less water and less wetting agents.
R1.2 Maximise water efficiency	**R1.2.1 Practical measures to use water more efficiently on the golf course**	Conduct regular irrigation performance checks; Provide staff training on efficient irrigation practices; Ensure effective application of water to target areas; Ensure irrigation schedules are informed by weather patterns and soil moisture analysis	To guide maintenance practices and support the targeted use of irrigation water, soil conditions are analysed by data performance tools such as a POGO moisture probe, Clegg impact hammer and Soil Scout sensors along with climate measurements and predictions. Overhead irrigation is reduced to provide a base amount of water only PM supplemented by hand watering AM. There is a full-time irrigation technician to manage the systems to ensure maximum efficiency and minimise water usage. The irrigation system sprinkler heads are replaced every 5 years and a major irrigation upgrade is planned in the next couple of years.
	R1.2.2 Practical measures to use water more efficiently in buildings	Audit water use regularly; Review bills frequently and look for irregularities; Encourage water-saving practices amongst staff and visitors; Categorise and track water consumption	Water use in buildings, kitchens, bathrooms, showers etc. is audited annually and many water saving devices and efficient appliances are fitted. Water consumption is tracked in the clubhouse and analysed for spikes. The increase in mains water use in the last 3 years is due to increasing golfer rounds and clubhouse visitors. Emissions derived from water supply and wastewater treatment are calculated to include in site carbon accounting.

R1.3 Source water responsibly	**R1.3.1 Measures towards alternative, lower quality sources of water**	Ensure appropriate water abstraction permit and reporting, as required	The irrigation system is supplied by abstracted groundwater from two boreholes under licence from SEPA under the CAR regulations Data is reported annually as requested. The increasing annual abstracted quantities were discussed and due to climatic reasons. Another borehole is being considered to increase capacity and increase resilience to future climatic changes.
R2 Energy			
R2.1 Reduce energy demand	**R2.1.1 Measures to reduce the amount of energy consumed in course maintenance**	Minimise areas of managed turf to reduce mowing, irrigation, and turf inputs	Reducing emissions through reducing energy consumption and low carbon sources is in progress across the facility. On the course many areas have been naturalised over the years along with optimising irrigation and reducing turf inputs. All revetted bunkers are bare face to minimise maintenance operations. There has been a move towards electric and hybrid machinery and golf carts and an introduction of electric small plant power tools such as mowers, blowers and strimmers. There will be further investigation into the electrification of larger pieces of equipment on the golf courses such as for greens and approaches and possibly fairways. There has also been the introduction of autonomous robotic mowers to mow out of play areas.
R2.2 Maximise energy efficiency	**R2.2.1 Measures to use energy and fuels more efficiently in buildings**	Audit energy use regularly; Regularly review bills; Categorise and track energy consumption	Following previous energy audits, many energy saving solutions have been implemented across the facility, including LED lighting, light sensors and replacing an old LPG boiler in the clubhouse. There are good records of both power and water to both the maintenance facility and the clubhouse. **Highlight: LED lighting in the Maintenance facility has reduced consumption by 80%.**
R2.3 Source energy responsibly	**R2.3.1 Measures to source alternative, renewable forms of energy**	Determine potential sources of renewable energy in the area and on-site, through renewable energy providers	Electricity supply has increased from approx. 40% renewables in 2022 to now 100% REGO backed green tariff (Renewable energy guarantees of Origin). There are 5 EV charge points at the hotel and plans for 5 more at the clubhouse carpark. They are investigating incorporating solar panels on the roof of the proposed extension to the maintenance facility and ASHP. Any future developments will look at more onsite power generation.

			Highlight: These plans are all part of an overall Resort wide net zero road map that has been produced, outlining the next 15 years of targets.
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**	Undertake a review of materials consumed	As part of resort wide resources monitoring, good records are kept for materials and waste streams. Efficient use of resources and reuse to prolong materials lifecycle is practiced where possible. For example: Sand from construction projects to be reused on topdressing of areas such as paths and fairways reducing the demand for bought in topdressing materials. Three bunkers have been built using 'Ecobunker' recycled materials as an initial trial with the intention for all practice area bunkers to use the EcoBunker technique. Vegware compostable cups are used for takeaway hot drinks.
R3.2 Purchase responsibly	**R3.2.1 Practical use of an ethical / environmental purchasing policy**	Adopt a sustainable, or ethical / environmental purchasing policy to maximise the use of locally sourced goods and goods made from recycled, recyclable and certified materials	Trump Turnberry have a very comprehensive Sustainable Procurement Policy which includes a ReSolve framework for all departments to follow when making purchasing decisions to support the circular economy. Purchasing decisions are made to maximise use of certified, recycled, or recyclable materials without reducing quality, and to reduce impacts of deliveries by buying from local suppliers where possible. In the proshop, there are products such as: Adidas and other suppliers using sustainable materials. Tees manufactured from recycled materials. Head covers made from Ocean Plastic. The clubhouse restaurant makes great efforts to operate sustainably by reducing single use plastics, reducing food waste and to source locally grown seasonal products, ingredients and drinks.
R3.3 Reuse and recycle	**R3.3.1 Waste stream separation for maximum recycling and re-use opportunity**	Demonstrate waste separation, reuse and recycling; Track how much waste goes to landfill, or is reused / recycled	Trump Turnberry partner with Lowmac for waste collection and recycling with zero waste going to landfill. In line with legislation, waste is collected in separate colour coded bins for uplift including, Dry Mixed recycling, food waste, glass, electrical and hazardous waste. Cooking oil from the clubhouse is also recycled.

				Staff are trained and given regular reminders of the recycling procedures. Different waste streams are monitored, recycling rates and quantities going to landfill, which will help with improving processes to keep waste products in circulation. They are looking to improve the recycling rate to above 50% - resort wide is currently 42%. Other recycling examples include: Old course pins, cups donated to local golf clubs. Green waste is composted including mulch turf, grass clippings and soil for reuse on the course. Unused food in the clubhouse is used staff in the canteen.
	R3.4 Demonstrate legal compliance	**R3.4.1 Compliance with all local and regional waste management regulations**	Use authorised waste and recycling contractor for general, hazardous, industrial and green waste	All waste legislation is complied with including the uplift of hazardous / chemical containers. I have observed waste carrier licences and PPC permits.

COMMUNITY

C1 Outreach

Objectives	Requirements	Mandatory Practices	Verifier Notes
C1.1 Diversify access and provide multi-functionality	**C1.1.1 Social and recreational activities at the facility**		The golf courses at Trump Turnberry are used by both local and international visitors and members of the Turnberry Golf Club. The site is accessible to non-golfers also including paths, bike and horse-riding trails linking up with wider access tracks and pathways. Safety information boards are in place. The clubhouse restaurant, function and meeting rooms are accessible to the public for a variety of activities.
C1.2 Provide for volunteering and charity	**C1.2.1 Opportunities available for volunteering and support of charities and good causes**		There has been a large amount of community and charity support given by Trump Turnberry for a number of years and staff are encouraged to volunteer.

				For example: - over £129K raised for charities including Glasgow Children's Hospital in 2023. -Working with the On Course Foundation in the rehabilitation of armed forces personnel. -Joined the Armed Forces Covenant as a member -Care home visits to work with Dementia sufferers. -Host charity golf days - Chris Boyd and John Hartson. -Beach Clean volunteering
	C1.3 Establish active community partnerships	**C1.3.1 Positive and constructive engagement with neighbours, the local community and other groups**	Create a 'sustainability working group'	Trump Turnberry collaborate with local schools, environmental groups and sustainable business initiatives. Community engagement was discussed and there are lots of ideas to further communicate with the local community to promote sustainability activities and achievements vis the members club.
	C2 Golfers & Employees			
	C2.1 Improve health and wellbeing	**C2.1.1 Benefits to human physical and mental health from golf and facility activities**		Health & wellbeing of staff and golfers is important at Trump Turnberry. They support a variety of golf development initiatives for all ages e.g. - Health assessment support for staff. -Coaching camps for junior non-members / local school children.
	C2.2 Be open and inclusive	**C2.2.1 Inclusivity and diversity in membership and visitor policies**	Demonstrate inclusive policies for members and visitors	While not within the control Trump Turnberry, the Turnberry Golf Club membership policies appear to be open, non-discriminating and inclusive.
	C2.3 Employ fairly and safely, and provide career opportunities	**C2.3.1 Ethical and legal employment, working conditions and professional development**	Follow all relevant national legislation and best practice for employment, health & safety etc	Employee safety is important with all training required to carry out staff roles provided. Good working conditions and employee satisfaction is important and Professional development and CPD are encouraged.
	C3 Communications			
	C3.1 Engage golfers and members	**C3.1.1 Communications activities that raise awareness and understanding amongst members and visitors**	Provide information on the facility's sustainability commitments, actions, or achievements	Internal communication regarding sustainability matters is good, with monthly staff updates 'blasts', intranet and noticeboard information. There is a Green committee that meets monthly to discuss progress and initiatives. Externally, for the golfers and wider community, while the golf courses are widely promoted on the website etc, there is limited amounts of promotion

				of sustainability activities and achievements, but this is an area where there are intentions to improve. We discussed how a plan for sustainability communications could include different messaging for the different stakeholders involved; hotel visitors, members and local community. It was discussed that various initiatives could be linked and promoted e.g. - junior coaching with nature education, - beach clean initiatives with sustainable ocean plastic products in the shop. - ecology information passed on to Turnberry GC members including a possible site walk with Bob Taylor. **CCIP: Please develop a Stakeholder Sustainability Communications Plan.**
	C3.2 Celebrate and promote sustainability	**C3.2.1 Activities that raise awareness and engage people in the wider community**	Provide evidence of external communications and community engagement	There are plans to increase and improve external communications and community engagement including: - More info to be passed out to Turnberry stakeholders. Corporate members etc. - Sustainability is discussed where possible with suppliers and contractors. - More social media and community outreach when and where possible **CCIP: Please undertake more positive sustainability and environmental education and awareness raising. This can be achieved through various communication channels, using GEO Certified status as a reason to be loud and proud!**

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