



GEO Certified[®]

GEO Certified[®] Report Remuera Golf Club

Prepared by independent verifier, Kristine Kerr

Certified by GEO Foundation: December 2022
Valid until: December 2025

GEO Certified[®]



**GEO
Foundation**
Sustainability in and through golf

'Led by the commitment of the greenkeeping team along with club management and administration, Remuera Golf Club is an outstanding example of sustainable operation and provides many notable examples of best practice - continuous efforts to increase biodiversity, create more habitat area, use of electric vehicles, organic fertiliser programme, inclusive attitude towards accessibility and employment, and remaining strongly engaged with neighbours, the wider community and stakeholders. All of these lead to a greater awareness of environmental and health benefits of golf courses.'

The club-wide use of technology is impressive and effective in monitoring and analysing on-site conditions, informing maintenance practices, as well as health and safety, education and training purposes.'

Kristine Kerr

(GEO accredited independent verifier)



Introduction

GEO Foundation is pleased to confirm that **Remuera Golf Club** 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.

Remuera Golf Club 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, **Remuera Golf Club** should be awarded GEO Certified® status.

For the certification period stated above, **Remuera Golf Club** 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

Richard Allison
Manager, GEO Certified Facilities



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



Verifier's Report

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

THEMES	ACTION AREAS
Nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitats & Biodiversity • Turfgrass management • Pollution prevention
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water • Energy • Materials
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	Biodiversity and ecological surveys and maps from 2019 available.

			<p>2019 “Ecological Enhancement Plan” with Auckland Council funding; Environmental management plan.</p> <p>Habitats observed and vegetation types observed</p> <p>Continued transitioning to natives including Kahikatea and Nikau. 2020-2021 an additional 1ha of new habitat created.</p> <p>Created fish ladders.</p> <p>New native vegetation and maintenance practices have led to presence of Kaka and Bellbirds, not seen on site for 100 years; new plantings provide pockets of viable habitat and corridors for migratory birds.</p>
	N1.1.2 Knowledge of legal designations for protected areas, habitats and species	<p>Understand legal responsibilities for protected landscapes and species; Record and monitor protected, endangered, or rare species found on the site</p>	<p>At-risk or threatened endemic species have been identified in surveys.</p> <p>Flora and fauna species are listed by current risk status and whether they are endemic or exotic.</p> <p>Auckland Council all trees are protected and club needs to apply for consents for removal of any.</p> <p>Practices are informed by ecological plans including informed management practices</p>
	N1.1.3 Understanding and respect for cultural heritage	<p>Protect any archaeological, historical or cultural designations on the site</p>	N/A
N1.2 Opportunities to naturalise the course	N1.2.1 Measures taken to identify and minimise the required area of managed turfgrass	<p>Observe, track and / or monitor golfer play</p>	<p>Number of rounds recorded to monitor traffic. Plans created, including ‘Trackman’ on 14th hole, to show where balls land and heavy play areas.</p> <p>Have incrementally increased unmaintained rough by approximately 1ha each year to a total of 6ha.</p> <p>Golfer feedback on naturalised areas and if / where slowing down play.</p>
N1.3 Actively manage habitats for wildlife	N1.3.1 Projects to manage habitats in the best way for wildlife and golf	<p>Regularly review and follow a habitat management plan; Prioritise native species when planting and landscaping</p>	<p>Follows ecological enhancement plan from 2019. Also documented “Methodology of Naturalising Selected Rough Areas”.</p> <p>Observed habitats and new native planting in viable pockets between fairways. Kahikatea are being planted to replace pines as they age and become unsafe.</p> <p>Native species tend to be evergreen and remove issues of leaf litter; planted so as not to overly shade golf turfgrasses.</p>

<p>N1.4 Conserve key species</p>	<p>N1.4.1 Practical conservation measures for priority species</p>		<p>Pest trapping – measured by “catchIT” run by Auckland Council; (rabbits, possums, rats).</p> <p>Wasp bait stations.</p> <p>Weta “hotels” observed.</p> <p>7 no. nesting boxes for ‘ruru’ (morepork), 3 were made by neighbours’ children during lockdown.</p> <p>New native plantings that attract native species – visual monitoring – including Kaka and Bellbirds that haven’t been seen in Auckland for 100 years.</p> <p>Maintained swan plants for monarch butterflies.</p> <p>Beekeeping on-site, some hives on ‘living roof’ and apiary where club branded honey is sold in golf shop.</p>
<p>N2 Turfgrass</p>			
<p>N2.1 Maintain optimum turf and soil health</p>	<p>N2.1.1 Appropriate turfgrass varieties adapted to climatic and other geomorphological factors</p>	<p>Select appropriate grass species for climate</p>	<p>Re-transitioning from Poa annua to creeping bent grasses on greens to minimise water usage, and suit climate; less fungicide is needed.</p> <p>Climate shifting towards sub-tropical, high end of temperate mapped in data.</p> <p>Species driven by amount of golf traffic and newer cultivars being more drought tolerant require lower inputs.</p> <p>Large turf nurseries on site provides for greens + fairways</p>
	<p>N2.1.2 Practices to maintain good soil structure and condition</p>		<p>Follows weather forecast and adjusts practices to suit; mowing patterns change.</p> <p>“Task Tracker” – lists and tracks faults and conditions, put into report and generates specific tasks for team members – i.e. sprinkler head not working; includes health and safety precautions; provides information on how many hours spent on tasks (since beginning 2022).</p>
	<p>N2.1.3 Careful and responsible fertiliser application throughout</p>	<p>Undertake soil tests and nutrient analysis</p>	<p>Soil testing – benchmarking twice / yr digital images and analysis by NZ Turf Management Solutions (NZTMS).</p>

	the year to avoid over-fertilisation		<p>"Chemical Playbook" – digital APP monitoring of inventory costs to inform usage.</p> <p>Tracking of organic matter levels at various depths.</p> <p>Uses 'BioGrow' organic certified fertiliser.</p> <p>100% organic plant-based fertilisers are used on fairways.</p> <p>Fairways have not been fertilised since April (7 months).</p>
N2.2 Prioritise mechanical maintenance	N2.2.1 Non-chemical pest, disease and weed management	Sharpen mowing blades; Remove surface moisture; Hand weeding	<p>Routine maintenance is in place to manage turf and includes weekly mower blade sharpening.</p> <p>Regular scouting for weeds and manual weeding for spot control monitoring of firmness, turfgrass density and treating with aeration, nutrition, and good cultural practice to crowd out weeds.</p> <p>IPM and grass selection that are more robust against pests and diseases.</p>
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	<p>Professional agronomist digital imaging, analysis and advice to identify turf health issues or disease and recommend dosages prior to chemical application.</p> <p>Live data is collected and analysed by Syngenta's 'Greencast' website – predictive modelling soil, temperature calculated from own weather stations and local climate data; daily pest scouting by staff if forecast for pest activity.</p> <p>IPM: Use of natural predators to replace insecticides where possible.</p> <p>Pre-emergent controls, manual work and hand picking Poa annua. Regular scouting, instinctive due to weather and identify areas to aim to prevent disease first; selective spraying as a last resort.</p> <p>Report by superintendent: "Creeping Bentgrass Maintenance Strategy for Greens" – IPM, steps to reduce inputs followed in order of priority first before using chemicals; (especially to manage poa) green speeds, traffic wear and management, nutrition, deeper root systems, less water, less chemicals. Report signed off by board.</p>
	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;	<p>All staff have current 'Growsafe' certificates.</p> <p>HWSA (health and safety at work) spill training.</p>

		Use appropriate protective equipment; Dilute and dispose of leftover product on untreated areas of turf	<p>PPE issued on induction and signed for by staff and tracked on “Safety Seeks” system.</p> <p>“Task Tracker” management tool used by all staff identifies correct PPE to be worn with each different chemical as do the spray logs.</p> <p>Fertilisers and chemicals logged.</p> <p>Spray equipment vehicle has automatic clean and rinse function and wind boom to reduce spray drift.</p> <p>Spray equipment now recalibrated every 6 months.</p> <p>Course renovation and ‘chemical playbooks’ record of applications signed by staff; aim for ‘usage not wastage’; can see costs for application for specific disease or for time period, provides predicative modelling and ‘live’ data for pest risks, soil sensors, height of cuts, alerts when low on products.</p> <p>Leftover chemicals as part of IPM process are diluted and sprayed on selected area of course depending on chemical.</p>
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.	<p>Emergency spill response plan at shed.</p> <p>Maps and plans for mowing and buffer zones.</p> <p>Observed buffer zones and no spray areas around water bodies and other sensitive areas</p> <p>Mulching around trees from material on site continues to reduce spray requirements.</p>
	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	<p>Club has ICL – Location Compliance Certificate.</p> <p>Efficiency action plan created by LiteClub – Project Lite Foot.</p> <p>Hazardous waste disposed of by waste management contract – waste oil and chemicals.</p> <p>Wastewater discharge licence not required and goes to municipal wastewater treatment plant.</p>

	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	Mix and load areas on concrete pad. Wash down areas are on impermeable surfaces and drains to bunded area drained by sucker truck.
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 sighted – ample space, tidy and organised. Have ICL = compliance certificate Superintendent licenced for purchase, handling, use of hazardous materials including fuel and flammables. Fuel storage also now triple bunded; impervious surfaces, spill containment, storage and kits observed. Spill containment kit and eyewash handy to mix and load areas. First Aid, Fire and Emergency Response procedure signage observed – and map as part of plan.
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)	“Watercare” removal; no wastewater licence required. Wash bay observed with separation of clippings and water goes into sewage system. Minimal oil and grease from machinery as well-maintained, plus electric machinery is cleaner. CIP: Potential future improvement could be onsite ‘bio-remediation’ treatment of wastewater. The club has investigated and currently is considered economically inefficient.

RESOURCES			
R1 Water			
Objectives	Requirements	Mandatory Practices	Verifier Notes

<p>R1.1 Minimise water demand</p>	<p>R1.1.1 Measures to reduce the need to consume water</p>	<p>Target irrigation to essential playing surfaces only</p>	<p>Changed (reduced) arcs on sprinkler heads to 180deg and fine tune to avoid irrigating roughs.</p>
<p>R1.2 Maximise water efficiency</p>	<p>R1.2.1 Practical measures to use water more efficiently on the golf course</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Extensive TORO irrigation system breakdown of information and decoders.</p> <p>Full time irrigation technician.</p> <p>2 dosing systems - wetting agents and pH monitoring and sensor that automatically doses acid into irrigation line to correct pH, therefore requiring less fertiliser and keeps plants strong allowing them to “use” nutrients</p> <p>“Groundworx” sensors are ‘live’.</p> <p>6 greens fitted with sensors are indicative, then mobile “pogos” can test anywhere on the course, mapped into tablet with moisture, temperature and salinity allowing to spot treat anywhere required.</p> <p>Sprinkler location to target where required.</p> <p>Collected stormwater in dams is aerated with nano-bubble technology to more effectively irrigate; nano-bubbles keep water healthier, oxygenated, eels and freshwater mussels in ponds, no algae in summer.</p>
	<p>R1.2.2 Practical measures to use water more efficiently in buildings</p>	<p>Audit water use regularly; Review bills frequently and look for irregularities; Encourage water-saving practices amongst staff and visitors; Categorise and track water consumption</p>	<p>Monthly checks, programs adjusted accordingly, annual audits of water use</p> <p>Usage is metered and measured.</p> <p>‘Watercare’: spreadsheets of in + out per month. Also used for carbon emission calculations.</p> <p>Flow restriction devices on all outlets eg. taps, showers, toilets.</p> <p>Water awareness signage in bathrooms – ‘LiteFoot’ assists as part of efficiency action plan.</p>
<p>R1.3 Source water responsibly</p>	<p>R1.3.1 Measures towards alternative, lower quality sources of water</p>	<p>Ensure appropriate water abstraction permit and reporting, as required</p>	<p>No mains water is used to irrigate, and drainage is all to storage ponds.</p> <p>Stormwater from nearby subdivision directed to golf course ponds used for irrigation. Water quality not suitable for alternative use.</p> <p>Rainwater data is measured and monitored.</p>

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	Have increased areas of reduced maintenance rough and continuing to reduce. Transitioning type of energy used and have 2 electric mowers, 2 electric rollers, 4 electric utility vehicles with 5 th on the way.
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	'LiteClub' report 2019 created plan for energy use. Club tracks on their own online system energy, water and waste – part of the carbon emission calculation "GHG" (greenhouse gas emissions).
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	Since 2019 converted all electricity to renewable with 'Ecotricity' which offsets its emissions; is cheaper; 100% NZ owned, 50% community owned. CIP Could incorporate solar and generate from rooftops; in discussions to do so.
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	Waste contractor 'Waste Management Ltd' records waste tonnage and other data.
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	Informal. CIP Work in progress to formalise purchasing policies. Purchases more bulk items to reduce packaging and deliveries
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	Dual rubbish and recycling bins at every hole on the course Excluding food, all waste at the club is recycled batteries, steel, waste oil, plastics / bottles.

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	'Waste Management' company for waste to landfill and recycling. Green waste from course is re-used on site.
--	---	--	--

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		Annual hosting of 'outdoor classrooms' for students from local Sacred Heart College to demonstrate sustainability. During covid-19 lockdowns locals were invited to walk areas of the course and this continues. Opened a new (additional) driving range facility in 2021, open to the public with engagement of children and families. Uses social media and run competitions such as 'best photos', 'what birds can be seen'; signage for awareness. Many new members post-covid and a waiting list of 350.
C1.2 Provide for volunteering and charity	C1.2.1 Opportunities available for volunteering and support of charities and good causes		Volunteering – members can do tree planting and maintenance. 'Black and White' charity event, 5pm Ladies Shotgun for "all abilities" and club does not charge fee for hosting.
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'	The club advertises planting days for the nature reserve adjacent. Club donates space and catering for environmental awards, hosted an environmental forum in 2021.

			<p>Orakei local board and engagement with Ngati Whatua Orakei – local iwi – who conduct blessings on site for events.</p> <p>Bought native plants from local iwi</p> <p>Superintendent on ‘Golf is Green’ action group with Auckland Council with weekly meetings, advocating for environmental outcomes in golf.</p> <p>Auckland Council provides funding for club participation in sustainability and environmental enhancement plans.</p>
C2 Golfers & Employees			
C2.1 Improve health and wellbeing	C2.1.1 Benefits to human physical and mental health from golf and facility activities		<p>‘GolfNZ’ survey: 40,000 rounds / month in NZ. Remuera has 60,000 rounds per year.</p> <p>Colour green is known to reduce stress and anxiety.</p> <p>Public can walk on the course 7pm to 7am, plus a perimeter track.</p> <p>Gates are kept open from adjacent reserve also for public access.</p>
C2.2 Be open and inclusive	C2.2.1 Inclusivity and diversity in membership and visitor policies	Demonstrate inclusive policies for members and visitors	<p>With membership increase not so much availability for visitors to golf.</p> <p>Junior development program with coaching and annual data shows increased junior participation.</p> <p>Promotes programs such as “She loves golf” with GolfNZ.</p>
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	<p>In mid-2022 club gained an in-house HR manager who ensures all legislation, health and safety, risk assessments are undertaken and updated.</p> <p>‘Safety Seeks’ tracks inductions, health inductions and risk assessments and each area of system generates notifications for updates required.</p> <p>Risk assessments for hazards are updated every 6 months with a notification / reminder on system.</p>
C3 Communications			

<p>C3.1 Engage golfers and members</p>	<p>C3.1.1 Communications activities that raise awareness and understanding amongst members and visitors</p>	<p>Provide information on the facility's sustainability commitments, actions, or achievements</p>	<p>In-house specific PR.</p> <p>Notifies on course maintenance, environmental practices.</p> <p>On-course educational signage – beehives; members didn't like other on-course signage once it had been installed.</p> <p>2020 GolfNZ "Environmental Club of the Year" award.</p> <p>2020 'Qualmark' Certified</p>
<p>C3.2 Celebrate and promote sustainability</p>	<p>C3.2.1 Activities that raise awareness and engage people in the wider community</p>	<p>Provide evidence of external communications and community engagement</p>	<p>Superintendent was keynote speaker at Auckland Council Conservation Awards (sequestering more carbon than emitting).</p> <p>GolfNZ (national golf body) and NZ PGA offices are based at the club.</p> <p>Volunteers including neighbours participate in predator management initiative.</p> <p>Workshops with local golf courses to improve sustainability practices and local knowledge to increase the drive to manage pests.</p> <p>Partnerships include with Auckland Council who own the land, local iwi – Ngati Whatua Orakei who supply native plants, local school who visits the course for outdoor classrooms and sustainability education.</p> <p>Host conferences.</p> <p>Corporate members that follow sustainable practices – e.g. Panasonic.</p> <p>Signage is used for communication and awareness of sustainability activities and walking tracks and public driving range provide access for non-members.</p> <p>Remuera GC branded honey is sold in golf shop from on-site hives and neighbouring apiarist who prepares it.</p>

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