HENDERSON Grass MACHINERY

Greentech Sportsturf

SCOTT MCNEIL
HENDERSON GRASS MACHINERY LTD

DENNIS
World-class turf maintenance equipment

BOWLS SCOTLAND

SISIS®
World-class turf maintenance equipment

Scott McNeil

Served apprenticeship at Brechin Golf Club
Head Greenkeeper, 7 Years Brechin Golf Club
Head Greenkeeper, 8 Years St Micheals Golf Club
Groundcare Sales, HGM LTD, 14 Years
Bowling since I was 6

So what is a bowling green?


19.09.2012

The running game off firm, tight turf is so much more skilled and fun.

Fine turf is dominated by two fine-leaved, slow-growing, deep-rooted, drought resistant grasses, namely Fine Fescues *(Festuca rubra)* and the Bents *(Agrostis)*.

All golf courses are improved with these grasses which naturally exist in cool-season, temperate latitudes (Indeed, they do not like hot climates). The principles of good greenkeeping are based on the needs of these grasses and the conditions where they flourish which are at the same time unsuitable or unappreciated by coarser-leaved, faster-growing, shallower-rooted, more agricultural meadow grasses *(Poa annua)*.

The common denominator where fine grasses flourish?

It is not altitude, as they flourish at sea level and on moorland tops. They enjoy alkaline (often derived from sea-shell content) dry arid links, downland and limestone heath and acid moorland.

The answer is as follows, to quote **Jim Arthur** (from "*Practical Greenkeeping*"):

"What was surmised a century and more ago has been proven by research and analysis countless times since. The secret of good golf greenkeeping is to copy basic infertile conditions – especially to avoid phosphatic fertilisers – and to ensure ideal conditions for deep-rooting by intensive deep aeration. In other words, for good greens use nitrogen only and aerate deeply. These same principles apply equally to every part of the golf course."

Another way of putting it, is the old greenkeeping adage "ask a farmer what to do and go and do exactly the opposite" – established many moons ago!

The mono-cultured green of one colour (encouraged by fertilising) is not what good greenkeepers are looking for. A green of indigenous fine grasses gives a dappled mosaic of colours, including yellow patches in the summer where the meadow grasses (*Poa annua*) is being stressed out by drought and a lack of fertiliser.

The cardinal sin is overwatering.

It encourages the wrong grasses. Greenkeepers of fine courses allow greens and fairways to dry out. Have a look at a bumpy fairway and what do you see? The fine grasses are on the top of the dry ridge and in the wet furrows are found the meadow grasses. The solution? Aeration, to stop rain running off the ridge and more aeration, to give drainage in the furrow.

A technological breakthrough called Wetting Agents is being increasingly used to help moisture retention in dry areas of greens and surroundings. No longer does the whole irrigation system have to be turned-on to just irrigate a small dry area. This saves gallons of water, while just keeping the grass alive rather than an overwatered lush colour of green

Encourage fine turf:

All greenkeeping hinges on the precept that, if we copy the basic conditions found in nature, where these fine fescue and bent grasses dominate, and therefore keep out their competitors, then the grasses we want will thrive. Even where past mismanagement has resulted in annual meadow grass dominance, correcting the course management policy will slowly but surely achieve a swing back to fine turf.

Reduce costs with FineGolf

The target-style courses have to spend unnecessary amounts on fertiliser, water, pesticides and maintenance to keep their meadow grass (*Poa annua*) dominated courses alive and are often closed in the winter.

Fine courses run on much smaller budgets, cutting out fertiliser, pesticides and over-watering. The grasses need less maintenance and cutting and the greens are firm and in use all year round.

A BOWLING GREEN IN MY VIEW SHOULD BE

1. FIRM
2. LEVEL
3. BE OF CONSISTANT GRASS AND HEIGHT OF CUT
4. RUN AT BETWEEN 10 TO 14 SECONDS
5. APPEARANCE

OK, SO WHERE DO YOU START?

1ST ~ FIND THE CAUSE

2nd ~ FORM A PLA N

3rd ~ EXECUTE THE PLAN

GET SOME STRAPPING VOLUNTEERS TOGETHER

TEAM PARKVIEW
(COMBINED AGE 360)!!!!!!


19.09.2012


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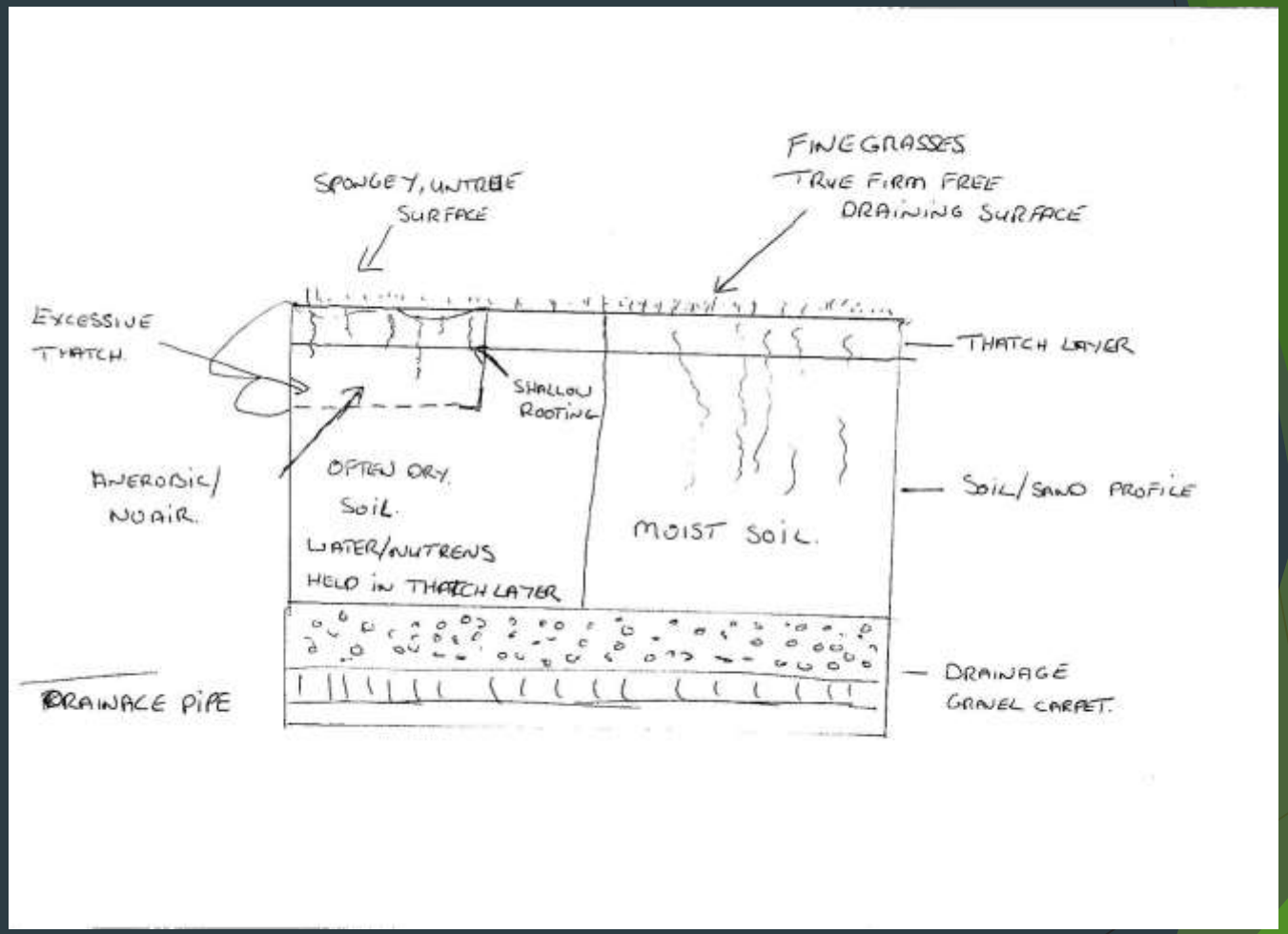
THE CAUSE

TOO MUCH CHEMICAL
HAS BEEN OVERDOSED WITH MANY DIFFERENT CHEMICALS

GROUND NOW TOXIC AND WONT GROW GRASS

Maintenance in season


SPONGEY, UNTRUE SURFACE
FINE GRASSES TRUE FIRM FREE DRAINING SURFACE
EXCESSIVE THATCH
THATCH LAYER
SHALLOW ROOTING
ANEROBIC/ NO AIR.
OFTEN DRY SOIL.
WATER/NUTRENS HELD IN THATCH LAYER
MOIST SOIL.
SOIL/SAND PROFILE
DRAINAGE PIPE
DRAINAGE GRAVEL CARPET.


03.06.2013


03.06.2013

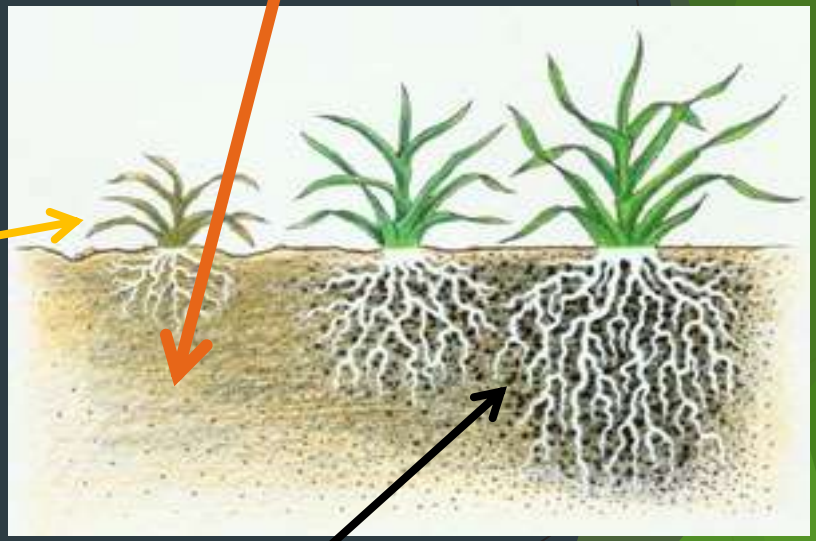
DRY PATCH

DRY PATCH

HYDROPHOBIC/WATER REPELLENT SOIL.

- *WATER REPELLENCE RESULTS FROM WAXY ORGANIC COMPOUNDS COATING SOIL PARTICLES*

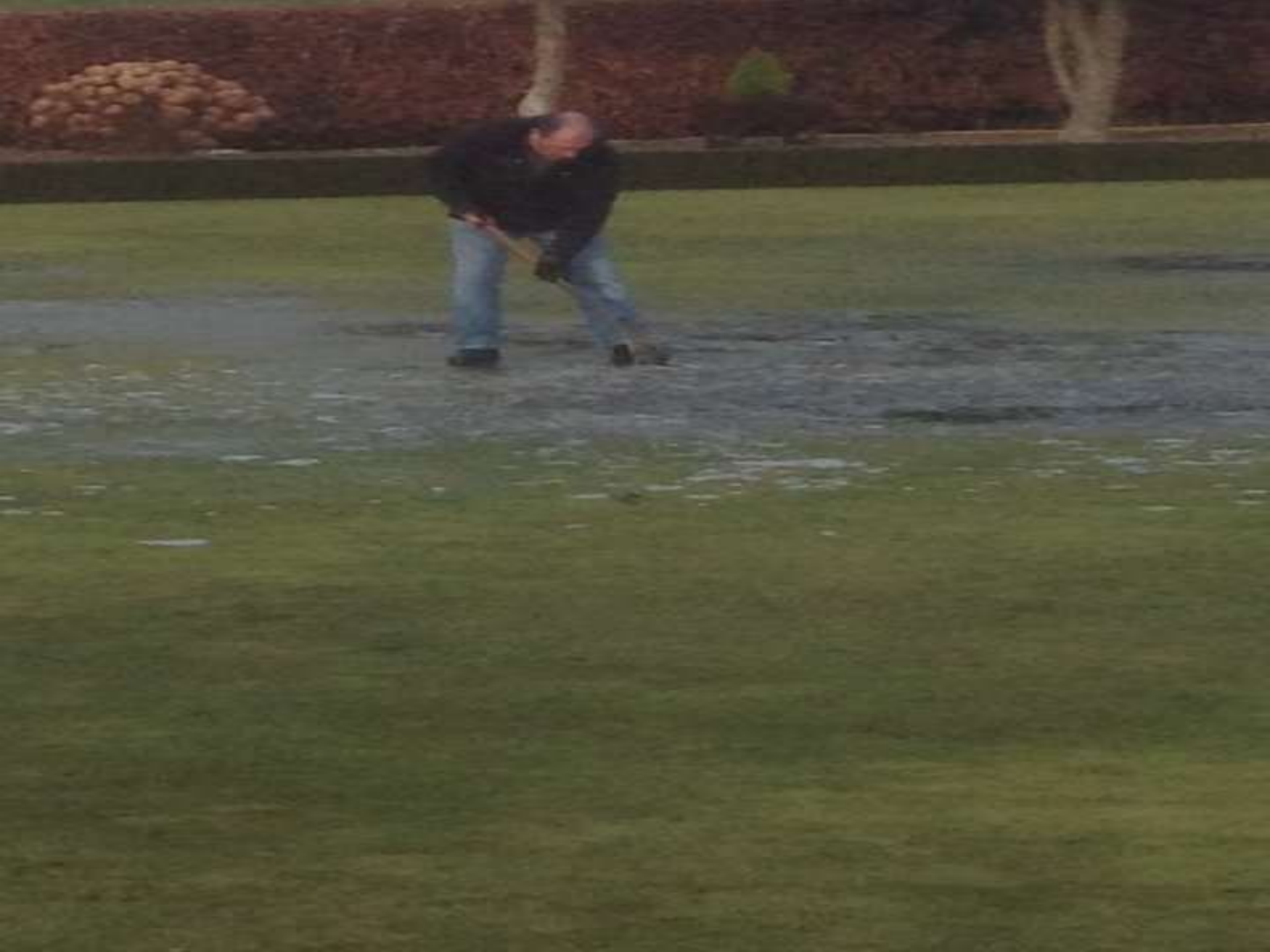
Areas of dying grass, causing inconsistent and uneven surfaces.



Good moisture levels – healthy plant

Ignore Dry Patch at your peril…….

Winter Maintenance

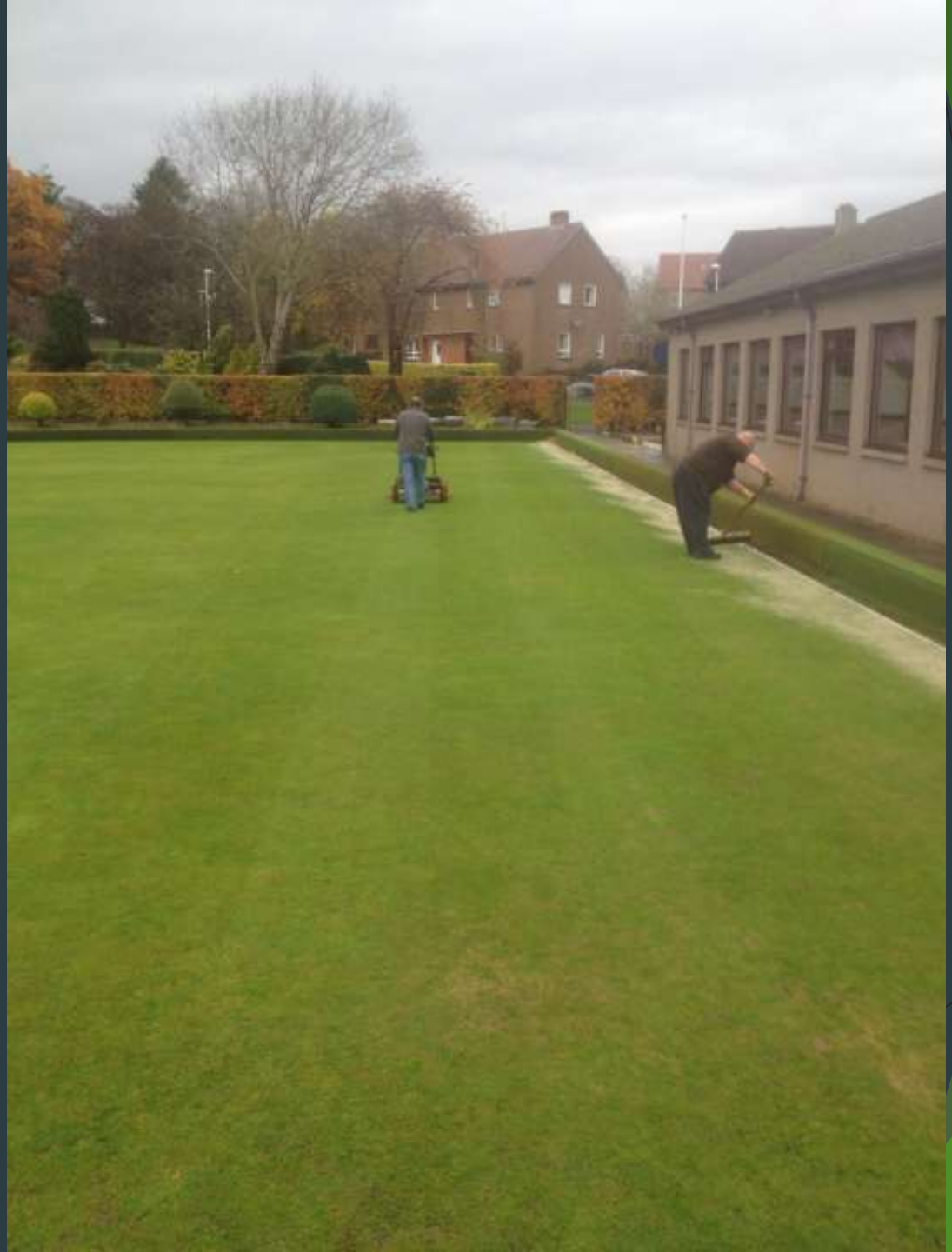



BOWLS

Pests and Diseases


PLEASE USE STEPS
NO SITTING ON BANKS


SOVEREIGN

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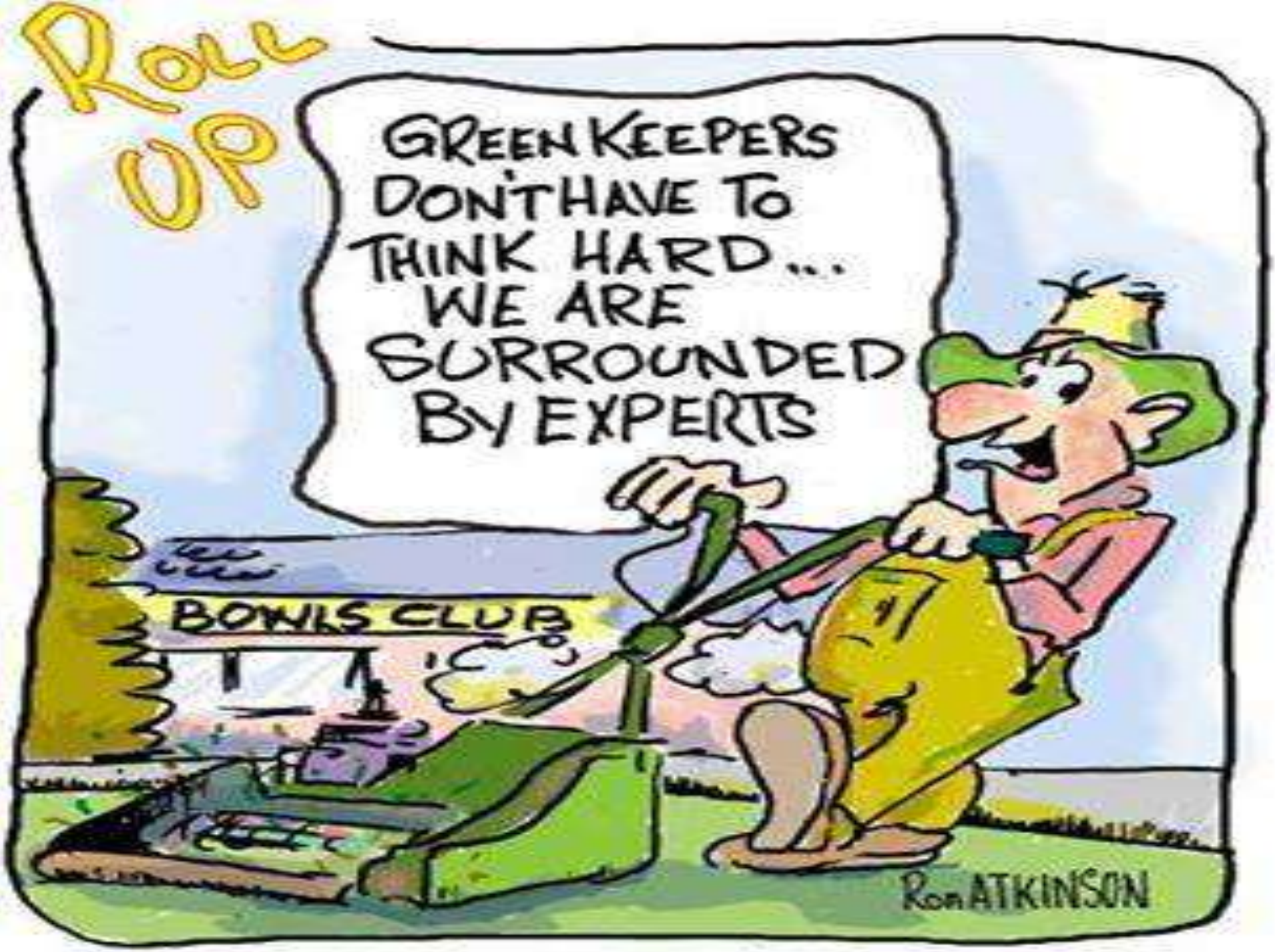
ROLL UP
GREENKEEPERS DON'T HAVE TO THINK HARD... WE ARE SURROUNDED BY EXPERTS
BOWLS CLUB
RonATKINSON

Support your Greenkeeper

Thank You
Questions