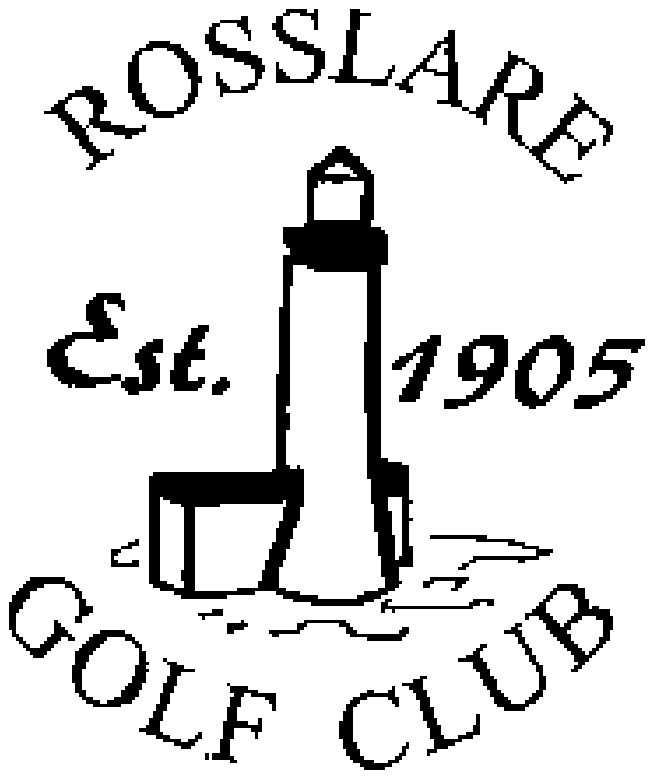
IRISH LINKS INITIATIVE

Preserve, Promote, Protect

The objectives of the ILI are, and remain its guiding principles;

- To maintain and conserve the heritage of Irish links golf.
- To enhance the links experience in its natural raw state.
- To promote and drive the education of links management.
- To exchange and share information among links courses.
- To create greater awareness of Irish links courses.
- To promote Irish links golf locally, nationally and internationally.



The Rosslare Affair

Environment and Topography

- Relatively flat peninsula, 200-500yrds wide, 8 greens 30yrds from beach or dune
- Dynamic dune system (no indigenous sand quarry)
- Sand based spit
- 130 acres site
- 2 hectares of greens
- Fully automated irrigation system
- Annual rainfall **800-1000mm**
- 30 golf buggies
- 30,000 rounds per annum

The Good The Bad and the Ugly.

How did it get this way?

- Verti-cutting/scarifying
- Irrigation, limited system, not measured accurately, not tested for quality,
- Mowing at 3-4mm with triplex
- Hollow-coring.
- Application of 255kg/ha N per year. (Uriec Nitrogen)
- Sporadic use of wetting agents (Fairy washing up liquid as surfactant)
- Preventative spraying for fusarium and anthracnose. (15 applications in 2005)
- Minimal dew removal when greens not mown

Creating the Right Environment.

- Communication
- Nutrition
- Aeration
- Over-seeding
- Top-dressing
- Water Management

Grass Seed

2007

2012

Read
HH2
Store
Esc
Set
#

Inputs Before and after

Inputs	2005	2014
• Expenditure	• €265,000	• €180,000
• Staff	• 8-10	• 6-9
• Grass Species	• 80%Poa, 20% Bent	• 70%Fescue 20%Bent 10%Poa
• Annual Rainfall 800-1200mm	• 853mm	• 1154mm
• Player Numbers	• 30,000 rounds	• 30,000 rounds
• Nitrogen	• 255kg/ha	• 30kg/ha
• Seed	• 800kg	• 1500kg
• Irrigation (moisture contents)	• 20-30%	• 12-15%
• Fungicides (Litres) (Applications)	• 267 litres • 15 applications	• 20 litres • 1 application
• Top-dressing	• 350tonnes	• 250tonnes
• Mowing Heights	• 3-5mm	• 4-6mm
• Organic Matter	• 5.3%	• 2.5%

Our other problems..

- East wind and Sand Blow
- Coastal Erosion/Protection
- Rough Management
- Frost/Snow

Sand Blow

SUPER 500