



# SIMON GIDMAN

International Golf Course Architects

Planning & Development Consultants and Project Managers

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## MANAGEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION

One of the principle issues involved with renovation is the actual construction work involved. Golf club members are not used to heavy machinery parading around their golf course and now with Health and Safety issues very much to the fore quite often golf holes are closed for the simplest remedial tasks. In the past small works, for example bunker and tee re-construction, have been undertaken 'in house'. There is clearly a saving in costs in this method of working and of course the greenkeeping staff can work very much to the detailed timetable of the golf club. However on the down side the greenkeeping staff have to maintain, look after and improve the existing golf course and so often new projects are started, partly completed, and then put to one side whilst more mundane maintenance matters are dealt with. As a result what is perceived as minor re-construction work can take months to finish. This is no reflection on greenkeepers more a reflection on staffing arrangements.

What I have found surprising is the response from golf clubs when contractors are involved. The range of construction works, top soil stripping, earth shaping, drainage, root zone application, turfing, seeding and irrigation all need to be undertaken to a very exact timetable



*Harewood Downs G.C.*

and contractors are geared to this. They cannot afford to have employees idle. The cost does tend to be higher than if the works were done internally but the speed and precision of the work generally tends to compensate.

**Simon Gidman**

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