



Over time, users of the TB 220 will develop their own patterns and strategies to get the optimum performance from the brush.

The following is a summary of the most efficient and successful patterns of use to date.

**ADDENDUM APRIL, 2010** *The warm, dry, windy conditions this spring have created concern when using grooming tools on turf, including the TB 200. Moisture-stressed turf will **almost immediately** indicate wilt when using grooming tools and the **condition is compounded** when abrasive sand particles are being brushed into the canopy. Slopes and crowns of putting greens are particularly susceptible. **Be ready to apply cooling irrigation water immediately if necessary!!***

**ADDENDUM APRIL, 2013** *This new TB 220 has had many design upgrades compared to the TB 200. The transport wheel assembly has been eliminated and now, only the brush rollers are being raised and lowered within the frame. Because the entire weight of the unit is not being raised and lowered, the 600 lb rated actuator is no longer required. A 300 lb rated actuator is now being used which makes its cycle in just over 3 seconds compared to the 7 or 8 seconds of the original.*

***The faster actuator gives the operator the choice of making straight passes across the playing surface instead of having to leave the brush on the ground at all times because of the slow actuator. Straight passes are great for a distinct striping effect!!***

1. For **GROOMING** on wet or dry turf

To lift those longer, coarse grass blades – those that create “grain” on the putting surface – and allow the mowing units to cut them off, we use this procedure:

- Lower the brush at the front, center of the green. Proceed in a 6 to 12 direction toward the rear of the green. Note: The collar is typically groomed at the same time.
- Grooming in the early morning dew only makes it easier to see what has already been done.
- If you notice that you are pulling sand out of the canopy from a recent topdressing, you will probably want to switch to procedure #2 for this grooming.
- When you get to the rear of the green, make the decision whether to go in a clockwise or counterclockwise direction. **\*\*The operator should alternate directions from green to green to prevent the brushes from developing a “cone shape” that results from always turning in the same direction\*\***



- Continue brushing in a giant "looping" pattern to cover the green surface before lifting the brush and going to the next green. This is the quickest method of grooming the green surface and will usually allow you to stay ahead of the mowers that are following.
- **FACT:** *not all of the grain will be removed in one brushing operation* and since *all of the grain doesn't lay in one direction*, alternating your direction of the "loop" – similar to alternating mowing directions – will eventually result in smoother, more consistent putting surfaces. For the ultimate in tournament preparation, combining the use of the TB 200 with speed rollers and low cutting heights will provide remarkably smooth and fast greens.
- If time permits, grooming the surfaces in two directions will address more of the grain removal issue without causing significant stress on the plant tissue.
- Brushing longer cut turf – tees and fairways - does **not** require an aggressive setting !!

## 2. **BRUSHING TOPDRESSING** into the turf canopy

Please notice in the grooming summary that reference is made to pulling sand out of the turf canopy while grooming the green prior to mowing it. When operating the TB 220 in long, straight lines you notice sand particles will accumulate on both ends of the brush. These particles are often the coarsest sand particles in the topdressing and are the ones that score the cutting edges of reels and bedknives. The best way to reduce reel damage is to follow this procedure:

- Clear the center of the green first. Lower the brush at the front, center of the green. Drive to the 12 o'clock position and give yourself room to make a "keyhole" turn in either direction before you get to the collar. Drive alongside the first pass toward the front of the green and, again, make a keyhole turn in the same direction as you made before. Proceed alongside the first pass to roughly the center of the green, then make a tight 360 degree turn, again in the same direction that was made before. **\*\*Alternating clockwise and counterclockwise turns is ALWAYS recommended as explained before\*\***
- Now, sharply "spiral" turn your way to the outer edge of the green – you will be continually moving the windrow of the coarse sand and any debris toward the collar.



- Light applications will require only one pass of the TB 220. Heavier applications may require two passes and with very heavy applications, spiking or quadratining the green prior to brushing is suggested to create “voids” to work the topdressing in to.
- NOTE – if damp or wet material is used, a quick pass of the TB 220 will “fluff” the sand and aid in drying. Return later to do a finish brushing. We have found that 2 passes of the TB 220 will result in very little or no sand being picked up by the mowing equipment – the sand particles are incorporated into the canopy of the turf and BELOW the mowing range

### 3. BACKFILLING AERIFIER HOLES WITH TOPDRESSING

**On soil greens** – It is beneficial to apply the topdressing material *before* aerifying the green! This prevents collapsing the holes with the topdresser. In most cases, we recommend removing the cores before brushing the topdressing into the holes.

**On USGA, California or Sand Capped Greens** – again, apply the topdressing before aerifying. If core aerifying, the cores may be chopped and brushed back into the holes along with the new topdressing to avoid removing the beneficial Organic Matter and nutrients or the cores may be removed.

#### **The TB 220 procedure:**

- Lower the brushes to the greens surface. Make small figure 8 turns over the entire surface to pull sufficient material to the center of the green where you will begin the cleanup. The will be windrows of debris all over the green to start. Again, use the “spiral” method described in the **TOPDRESSING** procedures to move the windrow of debris toward the collar. If the windrow becomes too large to move, use scoop shovels to put the thatch debris into a utility vehicle for removal.
- As you begin to clear the green from the center-out, you will see that the holes are being filled **from the BOTTOM – UP** because of the mechanical action of the TB 220 - and will be *completely* filled to the top if you have applied enough topdressing to do so. After 2 or 3 passes of the TB 220, the holes are filled and what topdressing is left on the surface of the green is worked into the canopy. The green may be quickly put back into play. If you prefer, a couple turns of the sprinkler heads will wash the “stain” from the turf and settle the sand further into the canopy. The light watering will cool the plant tissue as well if the work is being done on a warm, sunny day.



**A few items to remember –**

- The TB 220 brush height is *FULLY adjustable* from “no contact” to “quite aggressive” according to your requirements.
- The drive chains inside the side covers have adjustable idler sprockets to maintain proper chain tension. **DO NOT** run chains too loose or too tight! And always make adjustments when the brushes are in the **DOWN** (working) position. **DO NOT** apply sticky lubes to chains
- Periodically check inside the side covers to be sure that the drain slots are allowing debris to fall out and not accumulate inside the cover.
- Tire pressure affects the brush height – *do not run tires flat!*
- The tube frame on the rear of the TB 220 is designed to store the brush vertically. **Be very careful** when raising and lowering the brush – once it is standing vertical, it is very stable – but **it is quite heavy**...ask for assistance when raising and lowering.

**THANK YOU FOR INVESTING IN THIS VERSATILE, LABOR SAVING GROOMING BRUSH!!**