

September



Maintain regular mowing as required, aiming to keep the grass at a height of between 65mm – 75mm.

If the weather is dry, look to chain harrow to help stand the grass up and replace a few divots. Look to aerate during this month if possible.

October



As long as the ground is fairly dry, aim to maintain a regular mowing schedule, trying to keep the grass as healthy as possible.

You will reap the rewards of this later in the season. Brushing/dew removal will lower the risk of disease, dew removal will also help keep the leaf dry and therefore reduce risk of disease.

Look to apply a autumn/winter fertiliser (not if frost is forecast) following an aeration operation, this will strengthen the grass' cell walls and roots. If possible, look to chain harrow and hand fork away any standing water on the pitch.

November



Generally the weather will start to deteriorate during this month. Begin aerating on a dry day and continue chain harrowing where possible. If the weather has been particularly mild you may well get your last couple of cuts in this month.

One or two frosts will soon put a stop to grass growth.

Raise the height of your cut during this month to a height of 65mm – 75mm (for rugby).

Grass growth will begin to decrease during November, observe this and adjust mowing schedule accordingly.

December

The main aim for this month is to try and keep machinery off the pitch as much as possible. When carrying out the works, try and get them done when conditions allow. Hand fork the pitch in high use areas, this will replace divots and put a pattern on the pitch.

If the pitch is too bad to play then one game cancelled now, may save further games later in the season.

Using the pitch for training or games when it is at high risk of damage will incur further maintenance works at a later stage.

January



Typically the coldest month of the year.

Stay off the pitch as much as possible including players. Look to direct teams to use other areas of your grounds (run off areas).

Fork any standing water before it freezes. If the weather allows, try and get another spiking done.

February

Continuing from January's wet and cold month.

Weather dependant aim to hand fork high use areas.

If budget allows, look to seed high use areas as this will improve grass density going into March.



March



Chain harrow before mowing recommences to improve surface levels and surface damage.

Reintroduce slitting programme, by slitting at this stage you will be reducing surface moisture while speeding up the increase in ground emperature.

April

Observe grass growth/coverage and cut as necessary. This may be a good time to engage other volunteers in the club to help you with the major works at the end of the season.

Look to order your sand/seed and fertiliser for the works to take place.



A close-up photograph showing a person's hand, wearing a dark sweater, using orange-handled scissors to trim a patch of bright green grass. The scissors are positioned near a weathered metal pipe. The background is a blurred lawn under bright sunlight.

May

After your last fixture, consider renovating your heavy use areas.

June

Keep on top of the mowing schedule, looking to keep the length around 40mm. If there is a dry spell try and keep the grass irrigated. This will be particularly difficult to do if there is an extended dry spell, but the more grass you can keep now the better.



July

Watering the renovated areas and mowing are the main duties this month.

Mow frequently to aid grass density.



August

Preparation for fixtures to be played get underway this month.

Mark the field out, look to use a paint with growth retardant in it.

Maintain mowing and irrigation as these are vital during this time.

