

**Groundsmans Association**

**Pitch Advisors January Blog**

**January Anticipation**

Usually the turn of the year starts our countdown to the start of the cricket season, which includes the short month of February.

Diesel engines need to be turned over on a regular basis during the colder months, particular if they have lain dormant since the last match of the 2018 season.

Consider having your outfield *Verti-drained* or *Shockwaved* when conditions allow. It has been suggested, by more qualified people than me, that you alternate these two actions on an annual basis. These processes can be continued well into the spring and up to the start of the new season.

Square aeration is a different product altogether and hence requires a different regime. Aerate only using solid tines (no slits) and cease this process after mid to late February, unless you use Mendip loam when you might squeeze an extra two to three weeks in.

The long term forecast suggests we can expect a prolonged frost period which will create ‘heave’, another form of aeration, but we will have to wait and see!

Now is a good time to have machinery serviced as contractors will be reasonable quiet and there maybe some advantage terms available. Do not leave until March/April when we are competing against the domestic users.

**Goods available :-** A brand new Mk 3 Bowdry is available with £200 off the List price. Contact Paul Tatton for more details.