

SICC Bukit Course Reinforces Its Commitment to Environmental Stewardship

The Bukit Course at The Singapore Island Country Club (SICC) has once again reinforced its position as one of Asia's leading examples of sustainable golf course management, successfully achieving GEO Certified® verification for 2026.

Set within one of Singapore's most ecologically significant landscapes, the Bukit Course is surrounded by mature rainforest, protected habitats, and the nearby MacRitchie Reservoir catchment. Its latest certification reflects a deeply embedded culture of environmental stewardship, operational responsibility, and continuous improvement.

Sustainability Embedded into Daily Operations

Throughout the verification process, it was clear that sustainability at SICC is not treated as a standalone initiative, but as an integral part of the Club's day-to-day decision-making.

One of the most impressive recent initiatives has been SICC's innovative tree repurposing program. Rather than sending storm-damaged trees and fallen limbs off-site for disposal, the Club has developed a circular approach that transforms timber into bespoke on-course furniture, buggy exit signs, fairway distance markers, and tee signage.



This practical initiative not only reduces waste and disposal costs but also lowers haulage emissions, reduces reliance on new materials, and enhances the natural aesthetic of the course.

The SICC team also continues to demonstrate strong leadership in biodiversity protection and habitat management at the Bukit location. Key initiatives include:

- Detailed habitat mapping and wildlife surveys to monitor and protect native species
- Protection of critically endangered Malayan pangolin habitat and important Purple Heron nesting areas
- Preservation of a historic World War II bunker, with educational signage for Members and guests
- Creation of new forest and wetland habitat zones across multiple holes to enhance biodiversity and reduce maintenance inputs
- Wide no-spray and no-fertiliser buffer zones throughout rough and out-of-play areas to protect surrounding ecosystems
- Retention and protection of a mature tree canopy that provides important cooling, shade, and habitat value across the property



Alongside its environmental initiatives, Bukit has also made significant progress in operational sustainability and pollution prevention, including:

- Turfgrass species selected for suitability to Singapore's climate and low-input performance
- Major upgrades to chemical

storage and safety systems, including bunding, steel shelving, emergency wash stations, and improved spill prevention measures

- Ongoing waste auditing, reduction of single-use plastics, and comprehensive recycling systems
- Investment in solar infrastructure for the clubhouse, with more renewable energy opportunities under review

SICC's commitment to sustainability also extends beyond the golf course itself. Recent initiatives such as the Club's Donate & Drive campaign further demonstrate a broader culture of community engagement and social responsibility.



Independent Verification by BRT Agronomy

As part of the official certification process, BRT Agronomy Managing Director Brad Revill was appointed as the independent GEO-accredited verifier, responsible for assessing the SICC Bukit locations' environmental and social performance against GEO's International Voluntary Standard for Sustainable Golf Operations.

"The Bukit Course at Singapore Island Country Club remains one of the most naturally beautiful golf courses in Singapore, with mature heritage trees, surrounding jungle, and a genuine sense of care for the environment throughout the property.

"What stood out during the verification was the Club's practical, well-considered approach to sustainability. From habitat

creation and wildlife protection through to pollution prevention, waste management, and resource efficiency, the team continues to make meaningful progress.

“The tree repurposing initiative is a particularly strong example of how practical sustainability can be integrated into daily operations in a way that delivers both environmental and operational benefits.

“It is clear there is strong support from both management and the sustainability team, and I look forward to seeing the Club continue to build on this momentum over the coming years.”



Supporting Long-Term Sustainability in Golf

SICC Bukit's continued progress is another strong example of how golf facilities in Asia can successfully combine environmental stewardship with high standards of presentation and playability.

Independent verification plays an important role in ensuring sustainability efforts are practical, measurable, and aligned with internationally recognised best practice.

BRT Agronomy supports golf facilities across Asia-Pacific with independent sustainability audits, GEO certification support, and practical environmental performance reviews designed to help clubs achieve meaningful, measurable outcomes. ■

By BRT Agronomy Managing Director, Brad Revill

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Stewardship in Action: SICC (Bukit) Recertified

Certified for 2026 - 2028

SICC has successfully re-attained GEO Certified® status for its Bukit Location. Despite the anticipated expiry of the Bukit Course lease in 2030, sustainability remains as a core aspect of its business priorities through recent key initiatives of recycling felled trees into tee stanchions and using recycled turfgrass for collar returfing.

Recertification Highlights:

- Green Mark 2021-Compliant design at Bukit Clubhouse
- Collar returfing with recycled turfgrass
- Recycling tee stanchions

Sustainability Beyond the Course

Beyond Bukit Course, the Club continues to demonstrate forward-thinking sustainability efforts. The Bukit Clubhouse was designed and constructed with sustainability in mind, where natural ventilation and daylighting were integral to the building's concept.

As SICC continues incorporating sustainability into its operations and lifestyle, the continued support from Members towards our sustainability initiatives is much appreciated. ■



SICC is committed to social sustainability, and we believe that it is important to create a more just and equitable society for all. We invite you to join us in our efforts to make a difference.

Members of the United Nations pledged to implement 17 Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) - a shared blueprint for advancement of a sustainable, inclusive and just society.

SICC has aligned our sustainability journey with these goals and has recently gathered more than 125 sustainable initiatives that cover 9 UNSDGs.

