B.I.G.G.A. ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

TO BE HELD AT

VERULAM GOLF CLUB, LONDON ROAD,
ST. ALBANS, HERTS.
17th, 18th, 19th AUGUST, 1987

Those wishing to take part in the Tournament must complete the Entry Form and return to Tournament Organiser:

K. BUNTING,
1 Greenkeepers Cottage, Ashridge Golf Club,
Berkhamsted, Herts. HP4 1LU

1987 ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

Monday, 17th August:
1st Round of 54 and 36 Hole Competition
Scratch and Nett
Senior Division
Junior Division
18 Hole Coming of Age Cup

Tuesday, 18th August:
2nd Round 54 Hole and 36 Hole Event
18 Hole Medal Competition
Putting Competition

Wednesday, 19th August:
18 Hole Medal Competition
(Final Round of 54 Hole Competition)

PRIZE PRESENTATION AT 3.00 p.m.

(Entry in the Tournament Events is open to Full Members of B.I.G.G.A.)

Accommodation details can be obtained from Ken Bunting - Tel: Little Gaddesden 3359 or Tourists Information Centre 99264511

ENTRY FORM

NAME: ________________________________
ADDRESS: ________________________________
TOWN: ___________________ COUNTY: ___________________ POST CODE: ___________________

GOLF CLUB: ________________________________
SECTION: ________________________________
HANDICAP: ________________________________

☐ TICK BOX IF ELIGIBLE FOR UNDER 25 CUP
☐ TICK BOX IF ELIGIBLE FOR COMING OF AGE CUP (Age 60 or over)
☐ TICK BOX IF REQUIRING TROLLEY

ENTRY FEE: £10.00

(Cheques payable to B.I.G.G.A. to be enclosed with entry form)

Return to: K. BUNTING, 1 Greenkeepers Cottage, Ashridge Golf Club,
Berkhamsted, Herts. HP4 1LU

(CLOSING DATE 30th JUNE, 1987)
RELIABLE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS
are not a bargain basement investment .... says John Lelean

Irrigation systems, like hedgehogs are inclined to winter hibernation, but there the comparison ends. Whereas our spiny friends emerge unscathed and ready for a summer's foraging, the irrigation system is affected from the ravages of the winter and when needed most, suffers the inevitable breakdown.

Now is the time to test the system, ensuring all the sprinklers are working correctly and the underground pipes and electrical controls are functioning to full efficiency.

During the winter months, course maintenance is such, greens, may be reduced in size, the cutting regime is drastically curtailed and sprinkler heads go on hold. A complete survey of the whole system is a must during the month of April to avoid unnecessary expense later in the year.

There are few courses in Britain that have not installed at some time an irrigation scheme, though many of the early installations are now out of date compared to the modern computerised schemes available from the major manufacturers.

An update of the existing system or the installation of a completely new one is fraught with danger if care is not taken. Because the irrigation scheme may be one of the largest capital expenditures any course is likely to make, price often becomes critical and there is a tendency for clubs to cut corners and take the cheapest option.

The major suppliers of irrigation schemes have recently formed an Association - The British Turf Irrigation Association, under the chairmanship of Peter Roberts of the Toro Company. Their aim is not only to protect the good name of the irrigation industry but to maintain the high standards necessary to produce systems which will not only work, but give service throughout the life of the scheme.

In a recent statement a leading manufacturer has criticised the cost conscious attitudes of some green committees for accepting quotations purely on price without regard to the needs of the course. Efficient irrigation is a scientific engineering operation, not something that can be given to the local plumber.

An acquaintance presently working in Tunisia on the development of a new course has discovered this to his cost. Because of the shortage of foreign currency, local materials and labour, he had to accept an equipment specification. It does not take much imagination to realise what happened. The pressure required to put sufficient water on the tees, greens and fairways, blew the system. Unfortunately there will be many similar ‘cowboy’ operations in this country if price is regarded as the dominant factor.

The problem, according to Peter Roberts, is based on the fact that club secretaries and greens committees are not technically aware.

“How can they judge if an automatic watering system is hydraulically sound? How can they tell if underground pipe joints are capable of standing water pressure put through them or that the pumps specified are man enough for the job? The simple answer is that they cannot - yet they are the ultimate decision makers!”

“We are spending more and more of our time improving or up-dating systems which quite often call for a much higher specification, if the system is to be really efficient. As it is, a lot of systems rely on natural rainfall to get by. When the weather suddenly turns dry over a few weeks the problems become evident as greens become hard and green, turf changes to straw...”

“Unless golf clubs are prepared to look beyond the bottom line figure I’m afraid that quite a few of them are going to end up with just an expensive collection of pipes, pumps and sprinklers”.

CAMERON
INTRODUCE NEW RAINBIRD RANGE

Cameron, the horticultural, sports turf and amenity division of Wright Rain Ltd., are using a new range of Rainbird products, for which they are the sole U.K. distributor.

The 95DR valve-in-head electric rotor is ideal for irrigating large turf areas such as football pitches, lawn bowling greens, golf courses and parks. The 95DR combines part and full circle operation capability in one unit, its unique circular or wheel impact drive resulting in a slower and more even rotation speed for longer life. This water lubricated impact sprinkler has a precision moulded power nozzle to maximise radius of throw, while its low 23° angle of trajectory provides superior wind resistance.

PES — ELECTRIC PLASTIC SCRUBBER VALVE

PES scrubber valves are effluent water valves which contain a self-cleaning flow activated scrubber consisting of a stainless steel cylinder screen and a plastic scraper. The scraper keeps algae, micro-organisms or silt from clogging the valve control ports to give trouble free operation in very dirty waters.

Scrubber Valve keeps algae and silt from clogging system

PES valves are available in two sizes and can also be ordered with an optional pressure regulating device, the PRS-2 which senses inlet pressure and maintains constant outlet pressure despite fluctuations in mainline pressure. This ensures better sprinkler performance and saves water energy. PES valves have a brass flow control stem and manual on/off capability. PES valves provide brass valve features including high pressure operation at economical plastic valve prices.
Launched in October last year is a new advanced, TW2 computer irrigation controller from Watermation.

This all British designed and made controller has all the advantages of a low cost computer controller. The operation is extremely simple using prominent push buttons and it requires no previous computer knowledge.

The TW2 has been developed by Watermation from their TW1 two wire controller, which has been enormously successful, especially with golf clubs. It is capable of controlling 396 individual irrigation stations, which means it can handle a complete golf course scheme including greens, tees and fairways - all from one unit.

The TW2 will operate four different zones, each zone capable of having four different start times. In practical terms this means that given sufficient water and pumping capacity, four different areas could be operated simultaneously, or, in fact, any combination of areas. The timing, is computer accurate with set times as wide as one minute to ten hours, which makes it suitable for both drip and sprinkler irrigation. It displays "rain" when the rainstat has operated during the night.

This is a flexible, easy to use irrigation system suited to all types of layout, soil, elevation and weather conditions.

Aquaflow Plus, the simple way to computerise your golf course watering system without having to worry about computer languages. Benefits include:-

- 4 automatic start times per day/night.
- 2 automatic syringe start times per day-full or zoned.
- Unlimited number of manual starts • 7 day operating cycle • No computer language needed!

PLUS - A DUAL PURPOSE

Your Club Secretary can use Aquaflow Plus to run his office - ideal for membership listings, subscriptions, handicaps, competition dates, pay-rolls etc.

Designed to connect to most existing golf course watering systems, Aquaflow Plus reduces installation costs to a minimum.

Ask Gary Parker for more details - he will be pleased to show you how...

IRRIGATION & SLURRY SERVICES

LOUVAIN - GUAVEY ROAD - REDLYNCH - WILTSHIRE SP5 2HH

TELEPHONE: DOWNTON (0725) 20377

Toro Irrigation Area Distributor

TORO SPRINKLERS GIVE YOU AND YOUR CLUB TWICE THE PERFORMANCE!

Sprinklers, the sharp end of a golf course watering system are vitally important to the economics, efficiency and long term viability of your club's investment!

If your club is thinking of installing or improving an existing water system, now is the time to consider the types of sprinklers to be used...

Consider these important points -

1. CORROSION & DAMAGE

Unlike sprinklers containing corrosive metal working parts, Toro Sprinklers are engineered with hi-tech, plastics such as 'Cycolac®' and 'Delrin®'. This eliminates corrosion whilst making each sprinkler highly resistant to impact damage. (It also saves expensive mower blades from accidental damage!)

2. EFFECTIVE COVERAGE

Being gear driven each Toro Sprinkler provides a smooth, uninterrupted working action which enhances water distribution.

3. SELF PROTECTION

The gear drive assembly inside a Toro Sprinkler is lubricant sealed and, therefore, protected from water borne materials such as particles of sand. This ensures the gears work smoothly and helps reduce maintenance.

4. WET SPOTS

Check Valves also eliminate the problems of 'low head drainage' and the need for gravel sumps on low lying areas.

5. INDIVIDUAL CONTROL

The valves also enable greens staff to use sprinklers individually - applying larger or smaller amounts of water on selected parts of the course...

6. EASE OF MAINTENANCE

Toro Sprinklers are designed to make servicing simple. Repairs can be carried out on the spot - no need to take the sprinkler away to a workbench!

7. IMPROVED WARRANTIES

Toro now offer increased Warranty protection for large size! sprinklers - in some instances these have been given twice the length of validity - there's confidence!

8. WHO USES TORO SPRINKLERS?

St. Andrews, the All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club, Wimbledon and Wembley Stadium - three good examples!

Consider these points then ask your nearest Toro distributor for the facts. He will explain how £ for £ your club can enjoy twice the performance.
SOUTH COAST

For the Section's last winter lecture held in Winchester and hosted by members had the pleasure of Geoff Yelland, Technical Manager for Rigby Taylor. Geoff showed a number of slides on turf diseases and also talked on the new pesticides legislation. Our thanks also to Mark Wilton for his assistance.

The Section's A.G.M. was then held with the Secretary giving the Annual Report and Financial statement. A report on the Section's Tournaments during 1986 was given, and a report from the Board of Management by our Chairman, Eric James.

I am also pleased to report that the validity of the Tournament Organiser has been filled by Mr. Joe Burdett. Joe volunteered his services and in the absence of any other nominations was unanimously elected. Our thanks to Joe for taking on this job, and we look forward to meeting you at our various Tournaments and Meetings. For information, Joe is Hon. Secretary of the National Association of Public Golf Courses and joined the Section last year.

A tournament in which members can represent their Section is planned for later in the year. This is the Annual Match against the South West Section. The venue will be HIGH POST GOLF CLUB and the date is September 3rd, 1987.

Members who would like to take part in this tournament are invited to let Joe Burdett know, so that team selection can be spread among the Section's membership.

Details for the Spring Tournament are: Venue: Stonehenge Golf Club. Date: Thursday, May 28th, 1987. Competition: 36 Hole Medal Competition Members wishing to play only 18 holes will be entered in a 18 hole Medal Competition. Members aged over 50 can also compete for the Nita Stimson Trophy.

The entry fee is £8.50 per person (cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the B.G.G.A. South Coast Section).

Members who intend to play should send in a written entry, giving name and address and their current handicap, together with the entry fee. Please also state whether you wish to enter the 36 or 18 Hole Medal Competition, and the Nita Stimson Trophy.

Entries to: Mr. Joe Burdett, 948 Castle Lane East, Bournemouth BH7 6SP (Tel: No: 0202 483017) to arrive not later than the 18th May. Will trade members requiring meals also contact Joe by that date.

PLEASE NOTE: No late entries will be accepted.

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Bill Matthews, Superintendent, Parks & Gardens, Thanet District Council, Kent.

David Jones, Superintendent, Parks & Gardens, City of London.

Geoff Sadler, Head Groundsman, Talbooth Hotel & Restaurant, Essex.

"From grass to shrubs, from flowers to trees, Floranid gave us fast and long lasting results."

David Jones said, "Floranid cut leaching to a minimum so we needed fewer applications. We used it on a wide range of areas including raised shrub and flower beds."

Bill Matthews was looking for strong, even growth sustained throughout the season. "Floranid more than lived up to my expectations. It produced the hard wearing grass that I needed and also gave me vigorous, healthy shrubs with good colour and appearance."

Geoff Sadler considers that he has already saved money. "Our grass has to look good. Floranid gave us good colour and rapid recovery even after hard wear but without any excessive growth. Floranid has certainly worked well for us."

That's what these professionals think of Floranid slow release fertiliser. So whatever your requirements the Floranid range can work for you.

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BASF Group.
FORTHCOMING GOLF TOURNAMENTS

APRIL
16 St. Mellion G.C. (Welsh)
27 Saltburn G.C. (Clev)
30 Moor Allerton G.C. (Rufford Top Dress Invitation)

MAY
14 Robin Hood G.C. (Mid)
20 Vitax Tournament Ferndown G.C.
21 Bury G.C. (N.W.)
28 Stoneham G.C. (S.C.)

JUNE
3 Keighley G.C. (Northern)
16 Horsforth G.C. (Northern)
17 Arkley G.C. (Mid Anglia)
18 Southerndown G.C. (Welsh)

JULY
1 Ladbrook Park G.C. (Mid)
9 Berkhampsted G.C. (Mid Anglia versus Midlands)
13 Welwyn Garden City G.C. (Mid Anglia)
16 Lee on Solent G.C. (S.C.)
22 Saddleworth G.C. (Roses Match)

AUGUST
17-19 NATIONAL TOURNAMENT
Verulam Golf Club

Contact Sectional Secretaries for entry forms

DEVON & CORNWALL

Hon. Sec: Bill Pile,
33 Knowle Drive,
Exwick, Exeter EX4 2DF.
Telephone: 214053

Once again without the benefit of yours truly the section managed to come together for our penultimate meeting of the season at St. Enodoc G.C.

I am reliably informed the course was in superb condition with weather to match. Two trophies were in contention and the results were as follows:

May & Baker Assistants Shield
1st P. Newcombe (Exeter G.C.) (1) 34 pts.
2nd A. Woolnough (Teignmouth G.C.) (12) 12 pts.
3rd J. Parr (Exeter G.C.) (5) 33 pts.

Supatuf Cup (For Head Greenkeepers & Trade)
1st G. Hargrave (Sidmouth G.C.) (16) 37 pts.
2nd M. Pike (Elfordleigh G.C.) (18) 31 pts.
3rd R. Battishill (St. Mellion G.C.)  (16) 30 pts.

I have been asked to thank Stuart Dymond, the head greenkeeper, for giving the non-golfers an informative tour of the course and a first class history lesson.

After a sumptuous lunch the afternoon was taken up by an update of the progress of the B.I.G.G.A. from Gordon Child and a general discussion.

I would like to conclude by congratulating Richard Wisdom of Okehampton Golf Club on gaining a distinction in his City and Guilds exam at Bicton College.

SECTION SECRETARIES

The Editor would appreciate all items for the Sectional News Pages for inclusion in the May issue to be submitted not later than 18th April.

Please give details of Golf Events to be published in the TOURNAMENT DIARY

The Scottish Sections are also invited to submit details.

ROMAN CITY VENUE FOR FIRST BIGGA NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Mid Anglia Section of BIGGA are pleased to welcome members to Verulam Golf Club for the Annual Tournament over 54 holes on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 17, 18, 19th August.

The Verulam Golf Club is situated just outside St. Albans, the Roman city of Verulamium.

The Catuvellauni Tribe had a 'oppidum' or settlement at Prae Wood extending down the hill to the banks of the River Ver.

The original timber fort built by the Romans, around which the first town grew, was destroyed in Boudicca’s Revolt in A.D. 60-61, but afterwards the town was rebuilt in grand style.

In 1905, the Verulam Golf Club was opened. Among the early members was Samuel Ryder, the St. Albans Corn-Merchant who presented the Ryder Cup for the professional golfers of Gt. Britain and U.S.A. to compete for bi-annually.

While the Course measures just under 6,400 yards, the 71 S.S.S. is a fine test and many of the approach shots to the Par 4 holes need to be played with a degree of precision if a good score is to be achieved. Head Greenkeeper, Geoff Smith, and his thoroughly competent staff, provide excellent greens - always a pleasure to play on.

Most of the Green Staff are keen golfers and very hard to beat, especially when a friendly wager is at stake on the outcome.

Hotel accommodation and Guest Houses are plentiful in and around St. Albans. A list of addresses and approximate cost has been compiled and is available from Tournament Organiser, Ken Bunting, Telephone: Little Gaddesden 3359 or write to the address (to be found on Entry Form), or contact the Tourist Information Centre, 37 Chequer Street, St. Albans, Herts. - Telephone: 99264511.

The centre of London can be reached by car or train in minutes and a wide range of entertainment is available with very little travel.

It is intended to hold a Dinner on Tuesday evening, 18th August, and further details will follow.

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