BIGGA
- IT'S ABOUT YOU...
If you’re thinking about joining BIGGA for the first time or are wondering whether to rejoin in 1996, here are just a few of the benefits BIGGA membership offers you:

**EDUCATION**

We aim to keep you up to date with developments in a fast moving world by means of seminars, training courses, management courses, workshops, publications, videos etc. These are aimed at helping you carry out your job more effectively and develop your career. They are available to you as a member at reduced rates.

Supervisory and Management Courses aimed at generally improving your skills whilst providing the underpinning knowledge for NVQ Levels 3 and 4 are held annually at BIGGA HQ. With five modules to choose from you can apply to those courses most suited to your needs. Similar two day courses are held in each of BIGGA’s regions. Attendance at these courses can gain you credits towards the Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

BIGGA Sections also organise their own seminars and training programmes for members during the Autumn and Winter.

We also have a library of books and videos for loan to members – the only cost is postage back to BIGGA (unless of course you wish to purchase!).

**MASTER GREENKEEPER CERTIFICATE**

We want to help you reach the highest standards of excellence: those who gain all 300 credits required to receive this prestigious award prove not only that they are highly qualified and experienced greenkeepers but have reached the very pinnacle of their profession.

The scheme is designed to recognise through a combination of training, experience and by a formal examination those who are Masters of their profession. Credits are gradually built up through the three stages until you achieve the maximum 300.

**LEGAL HELP LINE**

The Help Line is there to provide you and your family with legal advice and assistance on any matter 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Last year alone the Help Line received nearly 600 calls from members regarding not only employment, but also matrimonial problems, disputes with neighbours etc, etc. BIGGA's insurers also paid out £98,000 in legal costs in the course of helping members pursue claims through the courts, claims they may not otherwise have been in a position to pursue.

**NEW FOR 1996 – STRESS LINE**

Stress is something that affects all of us at some time, not just at work but also in our everyday lives. That’s why this year we’ve introduced a Stress Help Line. Staffed by trained counsellors, like the Legal Help Line it’s there 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to help you cope with any matter that could potentially be or is actually a cause of stress.

**INSURANCE COVER**

It’s a fact of life that accidents do happen. Our personal accident insurance policy offers peace of mind for you and your dependents.

Cover includes £5,000 for accidental death, loss of sight in one or both eyes or permanent loss of one or more limbs, £1,000 for permanent loss of one thumb, plus £35.00 per week (up to a maximum of 104 weeks) should you become temporarily or totally disabled as a result of an accident.

Since 1988 BIGGA’s insurers have dealt with 158 claims on behalf of members including payment of £3,495 to a member involved in a road traffic accident and £8,668 to a member who suffered a back injury.

**BIGGA TURF MANAGEMENT EXHIBITION**

The BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition held annually in Harrogate is the premier exhibition for the fine turf industry in Europe and as a member you are eligible to discounted rates at the extensive educational events linked to the exhibition.

Where else will you find comprehensive educational seminars, the major manufacturers, producers and distributors for the greenkeeping profession all under one roof? The BTME provides you with the ideal opportunity to discuss new developments, view the latest equipment and machinery and get expert advice as well as exchanging ideas and experiences, meeting old friends and, of course, making new ones.
NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE
Linked to the BTME, BIGGA’s annual two day educational event is the largest, most varied education and training programme in Europe.

Make sure you are aware of the latest developments, new technology and advances in greenkeeping by attending. As a member you are entitled to a discounted rate. Attendance at this event and the BTME seminars or workshops can gain you credits towards the Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES
Younger members can enter the Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year competition for which the winner wins a 10 week expenses paid trip to the United States including an 8 week residential turf management study course at the University of Massachusetts. Why not join the BIGGA greenkeepers at the Open Championship. Demonstrate that your skills lie not just in keeping the fairway but in playing the fairway by taking part in the Hayter Challenge Golf Tournament or the BIGGA National Tournament. There are a whole host of other opportunities as well – but only if you’re a member.

REPRESENTATION
As the leading representative body in the greenkeeping profession, BIGGA has been instrumental in earning greenkeeping the recognition it deserves as a highly skilled and technical job. More and more clubs are adopting BIGGA’s recommended salary scale.

RETIREMENT
Retirement does not mean severing all connections with the greenkeeping profession. Upon retirement you can apply to become a retired member and keep in touch by receiving your monthly copy of BIGGA’s magazine, “Greenkeeper International”, and joining in all section events.

INTERNATIONAL
If you’re a greenkeeper employed overseas, you can continue to receive all the benefits of BIGGA membership by applying as an international member (the Legal Help Line applies to UK Law only).

BIGGA RECOMMENDED MINIMUM SALARY SCALE, 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>18 Holes</th>
<th>27 Holes</th>
<th>36 Holes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper</td>
<td>£19,650</td>
<td>£21,600</td>
<td>£24,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Course Manager/Deputy Head Greenkeeper</td>
<td>£14,300</td>
<td>£15,600</td>
<td>£17,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Assistant</td>
<td>£12,376</td>
<td>£12,376</td>
<td>£12,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Greenkeeper: aged 21 and over</td>
<td>£11,648</td>
<td>£11,648</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Greenkeeper: aged 20</td>
<td>£9,880</td>
<td>£9,880</td>
<td>£9,880</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Greenkeeper: aged 19</td>
<td>£8,736</td>
<td>£8,736</td>
<td>£8,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Greenkeeper: aged 18</td>
<td>£7,280</td>
<td>£7,280</td>
<td>£7,280</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Greenkeeper: aged 16/17</td>
<td>£5,824</td>
<td>£5,824</td>
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</table>

NB: Where appropriate these rates should be increased to reflect Regional variations.

Subscriptions to Greenkeeper International

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper</td>
<td>£67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deputy Course Manager/Deputy Head Greenkeeper</td>
<td>£54</td>
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<tr>
<td>All other greens staff and students aged 21 and over</td>
<td>£47</td>
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<td>Greens staff and students aged 20 years and under</td>
<td>£30</td>
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<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>£54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate/Company with magazine</td>
<td>£54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate/Company without magazine</td>
<td>£28</td>
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES from 1 January 1996

EVEN BETTER VALUE FOR MONEY
If you pay your own membership subscription, you can claim tax relief on the amount, saving 25% for a standard rate tax payer, making membership even more beneficial. Clubs can normally also claim tax relief on the amount.

MAGAZINE
"Greenkeeper International" is the award-winning professional journal for greenkeepers providing news, education updates, technical and scientific articles and regular what’s on information in addition to informative editorial features, an excellent recruitment section, lively competitions and an exciting format guaranteed to maintain your interest throughout the year.
If you're not employed as a greenkeeper in Fine Turf, why not become an Associate or Company member?

- **Associate** membership is for those people involved in the golf industry but not employed as greenkeepers, e.g., Golf Club Secretaries, Members of Greens Committees, etc.

- **Company** membership is available to those persons employed by a business connected with greenkeeping or fine turf management.

So what are the benefits? As well as receiving a monthly copy of “Greenkeeper International”, Company and Associate members also have the opportunity to take part in BIGGA events at national, region, and section levels. This provides Company members with a regular opportunity to get to know the people they provide with a service in an informal surrounding and enables Associate members to mix with their peers. All members will benefit from the educational aspects section events provide.

Company and Associate members also benefit from reduced delegate fees at BTME, the National Education Conference and all BIGGA educational seminars and courses.

**EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND**

BIGGA membership can be linked to the Education and Development Fund. The fund was established to further advance the status of the greenkeeping profession and standards of golf course management by providing specialist training videos, publishing books on greenkeeping, running educational seminars and management courses.

By becoming a golden or silver key circle member, you can help secure the very future of greenkeeper, golf club and game.

During 1995, money from the Education and Development Fund has been used for:

- 12 regional management training courses commencing October 1995
- Practical Ecology Management book
- Course Preparation video
- Green Reconstruction video (completion Winter 1995)

Future projects include:
- Grass Identification booklet
- Videos, books and booklets
- Presentation skills course
- Educational grants

**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS OF GOLDEN KEY CIRCLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individuals</th>
<th>Contributions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Tie – BIGGA/Golden Key Circle design</td>
<td>Donations of over £150 annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association Membership – to include monthly copies of “Greenkeeper International” magazine</td>
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<tr>
<td>15% discount on all BIGGA Educational Programmes</td>
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**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS OF SILVER KEY CIRCLE**

<table>
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<th>Individuals</th>
<th>Contributions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Tie – BIGGA/Silver Key Circle design</td>
<td>Donations of £100-£150 annually</td>
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<tr>
<td>Association Membership – to include monthly copies of “Greenkeeper International” magazine</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.5% discount on all BIGGA Educational Programmes</td>
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For more information on BIGGA membership, contact Janet Adamson at the address below:

**BIGGA**
Aldwark Manor
Aldwark
Aline
York
YO6 2NF
Tel: 01904 838581

If you are already a member, do nothing for the time being, we will send you advance notification of your renewal.

If you are not currently a member but are now thinking of joining the Association, please complete and return the membership application card in this magazine.