

# BIGGA's code of ethics: guiding principles for professionals

This Code is established to promote and maintain the highest professional standards of service and conduct among the membership of BIGGA. Through adherence to this Code, members will gain for themselves recognition of individual integrity, responsibility and professionalism whilst enhancing generally the respect and good will for both their profession and Association.

As a member of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, I accept this Code and pledge myself to:

1. Set standards of personal conduct which will enhance the stature of the profession of golf course management.
2. At all times carry out my duties and responsibilities in such a manner as to reflect

favourably on the profession and Association.

3. Seek to use every opportunity to broaden my professional expertise for both self-improvement and the good of the profession.
4. Follow, as a basic tenet, sound business and turf management principles in exercising the responsibilities of my post.
5. Observe the highest standards of personal integrity in my relationship with fellow greenkeepers as well as other associated individuals and at all times, as far as I am able, assist my fellow greenkeepers as required of me.
6. Pursue job advancement only where vacancies arise and not at the expense of a fellow greenkeeper and abstain from any action, comment or communication not founded on

truth which is likely to harm the professional reputation or practice of another greenkeeper.

7. Give endorsements of any kind only upon satisfactory personal experiences of the item identified.
8. Refrain from encouraging or accepting considerations of any value which might be deemed an inducement to find favour for a particular party or influence decisions in relation to that party and at all times avoid any exploitation of my Association, Industry or Profession.
9. Support at every opportunity the Association, its Regions and Sections in seeking to improve the public understanding and recognition of the profession of golf course management.
10. Report to the Association any evidence likely to be in violation of this Code of Ethics.

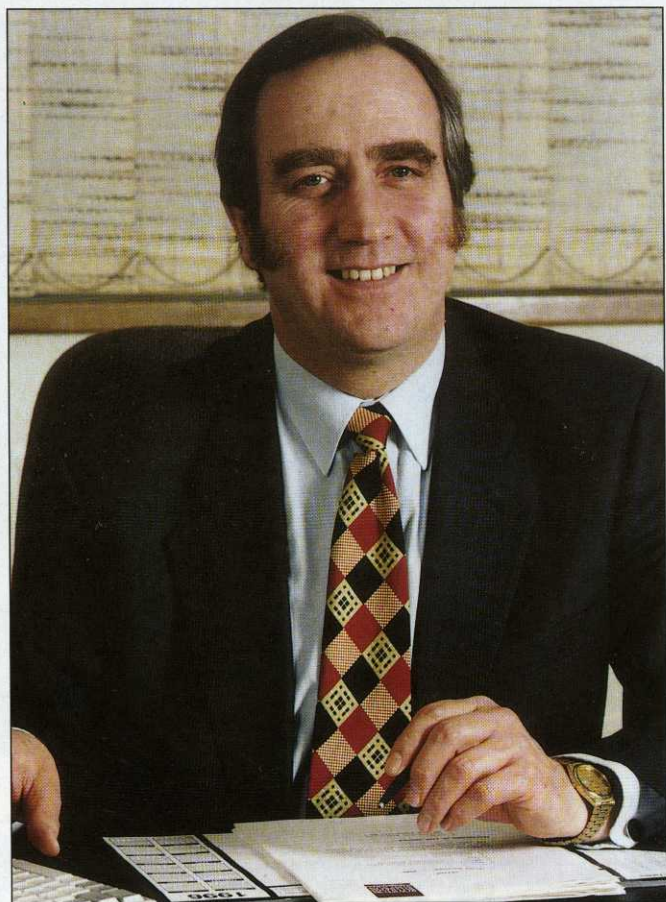
## Appointment strengthens Toro support

The Toro Company has teamed up with golf agronomy consultant, Bruce Jamieson, as part of a commitment to providing high level support to customers. This arrangement will further increase Toro's policy of supporting educational establishments.

Mr Jamieson, 39, has over 20 years of experience in the golf industry and was Director of Agronomy for the PGA European Tour for six years. He operates his own consultancy, B Jamieson Golf Advisors, in Hook, Hampshire and will act as an independent consultant to Toro in the UK and throughout Europe.

In announcing the appointment, Toro's European director of sales, Bob Buckingham, said: "The appointment is an indication of our commitment to supply 'Total Solutions' support to our customers."

Initially, Bruce will be working with Toro to provide specialised training for Toro's European distribution network. On new golf course construction projects, he will provide agronomic advice.



At the AEA's Annual General Meeting at the Savoy Hotel in London, Kim Macfie, Sales and Marketing Director of Hayter Ltd, was elected as the 1997/98 Chairman of OPEC, the Outdoor Power Equipment Council.

Kim has been "south" of the border since 1981 as General Horticultural Manager for Cowies Eastern Tractors, before moving in 1984 to his current position with Hayter.

Kim will have a particular eye for this year's Open Golf Championship having retained his membership of the Royal Troon club throughout his years in the south.

## Wait for the weather, urges expert

Greenkeepers planning to re-seed or grass new areas, should leave their seed in the bag until weather forecasts predict significant rainfall.

That's the advice of Force Limagrain's Andrew Wallis, following the driest March for over 50 years and continued April drought.

"Even in dry conditions, Fusarium – a disease which is endemic in UK soils – will quickly infect untreated grass seeds," he explains. "And the longer this seed lies dormant, waiting for rain, the better the foothold the disease will gain.

"Once soil moisture finally stimulates seed germination, the fusarium can finish-off the weakened seed, leaving patchy establishment of weakened grasses.

"Problems will be worst in areas shielded from rain and where winds continue to dry out soil moisture reserves.

"Untreated grass seed which lies dormant for two to three weeks or more will suffer in this way with a less than satisfactory survival rate.

Treated seed will provide better emergence and can survive after six weeks of dry soil conditions, but here again, Mr Wallis suggests turf managers are patient and wait for the weather.

"We desperately need prolonged periods of penetrating rainfall," stresses Mr Wallis. "The worst case scenario would be to run into a period of light drizzle or showers followed by a further dry spell. Untreated seed would germinate, emerge and then die due to lack of moisture.

## Test passed

A group of 12 STRI staff, including members of the agronomy team and plant pathology, undertook training for the BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection (Amenity Horticulture) and passed with flying colours.

Although BASIS certification is not obligatory, STRI felt it was an essential part of staff development with increasing concerns over use of pesticides and the changes to pesticides legislation.