This month, Ken Richardson reports on the latest education and training information, after a particularly hectic month...

**IMPORTANT GREENKEEPER INFORMATION**

Due to the very poor response to this year’s BIGGA HOUSE Training Courses, the following courses are no longer available.

**BIGGA HOUSE**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>9/10 October</td>
<td>Managing Oneself</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/12 October</td>
<td>Managing Information for Action</td>
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Further BIGGA House Courses and some Regional Courses are at risk of being cancelled unless further bookings are received. Use them or lose them. Contact Ken or Sami for further information.

**EDUCATION UPDATE**

Life has been hectic in the Education and Training Department, arranging the final stages of the TORO Student of the Year and Excellence in Greenkeeping Competitions, liaising with Bob Taylor, from STRI, to complete the final stages of the Golf Course Environment Competition, sponsored by Amazone Ground Care and finalising the programme for the Learning Experience 2001 which is, once again, sponsored by Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products. We have also been busy arranging for additions to be made to the Field Guide on Trees and Shrubs and to the Guide on Grass Identification, producing an environmental booklet, administering the BIGGA CPD scheme, dealing with applications for the BIGGA HOUSE Supervisory Management and Management Courses and for the Regional Training Courses, finalising details of our next training video on Irrigation and Water Management and judging the BIGGA Essay Competition, which are all provided thanks to the contributors to the BIGGA Education and Development Fund, shown on page 3 of this magazine.

Toro awards

I was very pleased to hear from the judges of the TORO Excellence in Greenkeeping Competition that the standard of entries continues to improve with improved facilities for greenkeepers, including formal training and excellently prepared and presented golf courses. It gets more difficult each year to select the finalists. The Toro Student of the Year Competition continues to attract high quality entries year after year and this year is no exception. Details of the finalists for the Student of the Year Competition and for the Excellence in Greenkeeping Competition appear on page 36 and 37 of this magazine.

Golf Environment Competition

Entries for the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition, sponsored by Amazone Ground Care continue to increase and improve each year making judging ever more difficult. Bob Taylor, Jonathan Hart-Woods and Keith Duff have almost finished their judging. The announcement of winners should take place during November.

**BIGGA HOUSE Courses**

There is still time to book a place on a BIGGA HOUSE Supervisory Management Course and/or on one of this year’s Regional Courses. Presented at very low prices, these courses have something for everyone. Contact Sami or myself to check on availability.

**Education and Training contact information**

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E-mail: education@bigga.co.uk
Internet: www.bigga.org.uk/edudev.html
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Fax: 01347 833801

**Golf Course Preparation Video**

£14.95 to BIGGA members
£29.95 to non-members

**Golf Course Reconstruction Video**

£14.95 to BIGGA members
£29.95 to non-members

**Ecology Book**

£3.00 to BIGGA members
£7.00 to non-members

**Ecology Video**

£14.95 to BIGGA members
£29.95 to non-members

**Raising the Standards of Mowing Management Video**

£14.95 to BIGGA members
£29.95 to non-members

**Setting the Standard in Spraying Application Video**

£14.95 to BIGGA members
£29.95 to non-members