Education Update

Education and Training Manager, Ken Richardson, is into the busy part of the training and education year, including making arrangements for the new conference.

Turf Managers Conference - speakers announced

Things are getting even more hectic in the Education and Training Department as Sami and I strive to present education and training opportunities for all members of BIGGA.

The Regional Conference season has begun. Regional/Section Courses are in full swing, BTME & Clubhouse is just around the corner and the British and International Turf Managers Conference is ready to launch.

The British and International Turf Managers Conference

With so much happening at Harrogate during BTME & Clubhouse, the BIGGA Board of Management decided to move the Education Conference from Harrogate in 2005. They also decided that we should concentrate on Golf Course Management and the title of The British and International Turf Grass Managers Conference (BITMC) was chosen.

Therefore BTMC, which is supported by Syngenta Professional and by the John Deere Team Championship and endorsed by the R&A, the Scottish Golf Union, the English Golf Union, the Welsh Golf Union, the STRI, the GTC and the IOG, will take place over the weekend of 19 and 20 March 2005 at the Staverton Park Conference Centre, nr Daventry.

The draft programme is:

Friday 18 March
Arrival and informal Dinner
Saturday 19 March
Session One
Mr James Murphy, Specialist in Soil Physics, Rutgers University
Session Two
Mr Brin Bendon, Management Trainer
Session Three
Mr Peter Jones MSc, Greenkeeping Consultant
Session Four
Darin Bevard, USGA Green Section Consultant
Session Five
Dr Ruth Mann, STRI Scientist
Session Six
Mr David-Bancroft Turner, Management Trainer

Sunday 20 March
Session Seven
Mr Steve Jones MG, Greenkeeping Consultant
Session Eight
Dr Alan Gange, Biological Scientist, London University
Session Nine
Mr Roger Greenwood, Broadcaster, Film Maker, Journalist
Session Ten
Mr Richard Hayden, Environmentalist
Session Eleven
Dr James Murphy

All the speakers have confirmed their attendance and subjects include: Research into Soil Biology, Current USGA Research, An Holistic Approach to Disease Management, The Use of Modern Technology in Golf Course Management, Obligations to the Environment, People Relationship and Dealing with the Media.

Staverton Park is a purpose-built Conference and Training Centre that has four star accommodation, excellent food and full leisure facilities including its own golf course.

The intensive two-day learning programme will cost less than £400, including VAT, that includes two nights accommodation in a single room, all meals, including the Conference Dinner, two days of top level education and full use of the leisure facilities (except golf).


Continue to Learn at Harrogate

Some people seem to think that Continue to Learn week at Harrogate has been diluted, but the opposite is true.

As you should have seen from the Continue to Learn Brochure in last month’s edition of Gl, the number of opportunities for education and training has increased, with more Workshops than ever before, three days of Seminars, instead of two days, plus a full day of presentations by the Association of Golf Club Secretaries.

Places on the Workshops are limited and we have received a large number of bookings already, so make sure of your place by booking early.

For further information, contact Sami at BIGGA House on 01347 833833.

Regional/Section Courses

Some of this Autumn’s courses are fully booked, whereas some are in danger of being cancelled. Remember, use them or lose them. Places are available on:

- Essential Management Skills
- Ross on Wye Golf Club
- 9 & 10 November
- Communication Skills
- Cleethorpes Golf Club
- 17 & 18 November
- Management Skills for Head Greenkeepers
- Old Fold Manor Golf Club
- 22 & 23 November
- Course Managers
- Dunham Forest Golf Club
- 25 & 26 November
- Negotiating Skills
- Exeter Golf Club
- 30 November
- Exeter Golf Club
- Each day course costs £99 + VAT (£116.33) and the one day course costs £49 + VAT (£57.58) thanks to a massive subsidy from the BIGGA Education and Development Fund.

Regional Conferences

Education Conferences are being held at:

- Midlands
- Warwickshire College
- 10 November
- South West & South Wales
- Cannington College
- 17 November
- North
- Penrhyn Golf Club
- 25 November

Contact your Regional Administrator for details of how to book your place.