Management of training needs

Golf clubs often fail to plan properly and manage their training needs. Good training will lead to improved awareness of the hazards of working and operating in a golf club environment.

The golf club must ensure it has in place a simple to use training needs matrix that clearly identifies all of the personnel in the organisation, their roles and their existing qualifications.

The training needs should have dates put on it and be able to demonstrate the training has been completed. The Greenkeepers Training Committee provide a very useful guide for greenstaff. The training needs matrix should be kept up to date at all times and ultimately be controlled in the club’s health and safety management system.

Training Requirements

The training courses the clubs should have completed are as follows and a brief description follows;

- General Health and Safety Management
- First-Aid
- Fire Fighting
- Manual Handling
- COSHH, Pesticide Spraying, Chain Saws, Welding, Hygiene.

General Health and Safety Management

All Head Greenkeepers should have a knowledge of the current UK and EU Health and Safety laws and how these laws relate to golf clubs. The head greenstaff should gain certification in Health and Safety as a good understanding of the laws will allow much better implementation.

First-Aid

It would also be beneficial, once the Head Greenkeeper has gained this training, to systematically pass his knowledge on to all staff.

- First-Aid

It is essential as a minimum that the Head Greenkeeper is First-Aid trained by a recognised industry training board such as St John’s ambulance or equivalent.

The first-aid training should also be given to a deputy and other members of the club staff such as the Club Manager and, in some cases, the club steward. The important aspect is to ensure that full training is obtained and kept up to date.

- Fire Fighting

Fire fighting training is essential for greenstaff to aid in the understanding of fire causes and also to enable them, should a fire start, to understand the correct method of controlling the fire. Fire fighting training can be carried out by the club’s contract maintenance company. The Head Greenkeeper and all greenstaff should be fire trained and so should the key members of the club’s staff.

- Manual Handling

This training is often overlooked by club management and is essential to ensure members of the club staff do not get back and body injuries from poor lifting techniques.

The manual handling courses would cover lifting methods, risk assessments and useful mechanical devices to assist in hazardous tasks. It is essential that the Head Greenkeeper receives this training and also the bar steward and key members of the catering staff.

- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)

Handling of chemicals is a hazardous activity and must be understood properly and controlled. COSHH is about ensuring that the greenstaff and club staff controls the use of hazardous chemicals. COSHH training courses would allow greenstaff to better understand the fundamentals of a COSHH system and ensure that in the future chemical’s do not present a risk.

Summary

Training at golf clubs plays a major part in the understanding and management of good Health and Safety and Haztek International will be happy to advise on the club’s training needs and prepare the training needs matrix. Please contact Jerrard Winter on 0208 905 7552 email: info@safegolf.co.uk

A novel approach to scale drawings and colour photography of the golf course based on aerial data provides a wealth of detail for a fraction of the normal cost.

A good set of drawings is a real asset for helping maintenance and when alterations are to be done. Accurate plans used to cost thousands, but not any more! Tonick can now give you large scale drawings containing a wealth of detail derived from the latest in aerial photography and radar. You get a poster-sized colour photo too!

- The plans are derived from stereo photography and radar elevation measurement
- Optionally, augment plans with accurate positions of sprinklers, valves, drain points, cable & pipe runs via a simple GPS ground survey conducted with the greenkeeper in just one day.

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- Turf Vigor 5.2.12. Organic Microbial Fertiliser is a natural based nutrient delivery system designed to enhance the biological balance of the soil and turf ecosystem. Turf Vigor 5.2.12. Organic Microbial Fertiliser feeds and enhances soil microbial activity, adds "beneficial microbes" back to the soil environment; "conditions" the turf grass plant with stress reducing compounds and provides a balanced fertility base for turf nutrition.

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Turf Vigor 5.2.12. Organic Microbial Fertiliser

Bacillus pasteurii SB3003

- Phytohormone producer, effective at higher soil temperatures
- Converts atmospheric nitrogen into a form useable plants

Bacillus licheniformis DA-33

- Effective at low soil oxygen levels, produces hydrolytic enzymes that release nutrients in soil

Bacillus amyloliquifaciens SB3002

- Produces hydrolytic enzymes that release nutrients in soil

Fertiliser feeds and enhances soil microbial activity, adds "beneficial microbes" back to the soil environment; "conditions" the turf grass plant with stress reducing compounds and provides a balanced fertility base for turf nutrition.

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