Education Update

Ken Richardson, in the Education Department, plans ahead for Regional Training and BIGGA's National Competitions.

May has become the planning month in the Education and Training Department when Sami and I look forward to the autumn and winter education and training programme.

Continue to Learn - Regional Training

Regional training has proved to be even more popular this year, using over 50% of the Education and Development Fund. As courses get more expensive to run and the Fund’s income remains static, we have had difficulty providing all of the training requested by Regions and Sections.

The recent Board of Management Meeting, held in March, and the Education Sub Committee, held in April, decided that the Education and Development Fund should not be used to subsidise training courses that were required by law and that the subsidy for all courses, Seminars and Conferences would be a maximum of £500 per day. Unfortunately, this means that some courses, especially those with a limited number of delegates, e.g. Chainsaw Course, would be a lot more expensive but they should still cost less than the same courses offered by other training providers.

Therefore as from October 2005, the cost of Regional Training Courses will be:

TWO-DAY MANAGEMENT TRAINING COURSES

£160 + VAT (£188)
• Essential Management Skills
• Next Steps in Management Skills
• Communicating with Committees
• The New Supervisor
• Project Management
• Budgets and Finance
• Management Skills for Head Greenkeepers and Course Managers

TWO-DAY TECHNICAL COURSES

£200 + VAT (£235.00)
• Health and Safety Awareness
• Tractor Driving
• Managing Health and Safety

TWO-DAY TECHNICAL COURSES REQUIRED BY LAW

£325 +VAT (£381.88)
• Chainsaw Maintenance and Crosscutting
• First Aid Refresher

TWO-DAY COMPUTER SKILLS COURSE

£150 +VAT (£176.25)
• Basic Computer Skills

ONE-DAY MANAGEMENT COURSE

£80 + VAT (£94)
• Presenting a Professional Image

Entries have been flooding in for this year’s BIGGA Golf Environment Competition, sponsored by Scotts UK Professional, Syngenta Professional Products, Waste2Water and WRAP. There is still time to request an application form, so long as you complete and return it before the June 24 deadline.

TORO Student of the Year Competition

The deadline for the TORO Student of the Year Award 2005 is Friday May 6. Judging will commence, in Edinburgh, on Monday July 4.

The criteria for the Award states that a student must be on a N/SVQ Level 2 or 3 course on a National Certificate or Diploma course and must be nominated by their Senior Greenkeeping Lecturer. If you wish to receive further details and an application form please contact BIGGA HOUSE as soon as possible.

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TORO Student of the Year Award