BIGGA is actively involved in raising the Standard of Greenkeeper Training. The Association is a member of the Greenkeepers’ Training Committee and strives to enhance the level of education though various means, including Section, Regional and National workshops, seminars and conferences.

The range and quality of training now available throughout the UK means that there is a training course for every greenkeeper. This should improve the quality of greenkeeping and help to produce better quality golf courses to the benefit of all within the industry.

Golf Course Managers should ensure that their staff are trained to the highest standards. This begins by selecting a training provider that meets the criteria laid down by the GTC. There is a clear link between education, training and economic success and all clubs should invest in the education of their staff.

Ken Richardson
Education and Training Manager
British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association
Tel: 01347 833800
Email: education@bigga.co.uk
Website: www.bigga.org.uk
This guide is not exhaustive and a full list of GTC approved training providers can be obtained from the GTC. The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) are continually reviewing the approved status of training providers offering greenkeeper training courses. Anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeeper Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aline, York Y061 1UF, Tel: 01347 838640 or visit their website at http://www.the-gtc.co.uk

ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE Askham Bryan, York, North Yorkshire, YO23 3RF Contact: Central Admissions Tel: 01904 772211 Email: enquiries@askham-bryan.ac.uk Web: www.askham-bryan.ac.uk Information: Foundation Degree Horticulture, Foundation Degree Landscape and Garden Management, Foundation Degree Horticulture, all available full or part-time. Block release courses: NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Maintenance, NVQ Level 3 Amenity Horticulture. Short courses: FEPA spraying, chainsaw and brushcutter courses.

BERKSHIRE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE Hall Place, Burchett's Green, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 4OR Contact: Deborah Smith Tel: Freephone 0800 071 666 Fax: 01628 244367 Email: enquiries@bcac.ac.uk Web: www.bcac.ac.uk Information: Located in the Thames Valley, BCA has excellent resources for horticultural based training, including a six-hole golf training facility opened by HRH The Duke of York. Programmes include the First Diploma, National Certificate and National Diploma in Horticulture, with Landscape Design and Greenkeeping options plus Apprenticeships, Higher National Diploma/Certificate programmes. Part-time programmes include NVQ Level 2 and 3 Amenity Horticulture, Sports Turf. Residential accommodation is available and free parking on site.

BRIDGWATER COLLEGE CANNING CENTRE FOR LAND-BASED STUDIES, Canning, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 3LS Contact: Course Enquiries Tel: 01278 481234 Fax: 01278 444363 Email: enquiries@bridgwater.ac.uk Web: www.bridgwater.ac.uk Information: National Certificate in Horticulture (Sports Turf), Certificate of Higher Education in Golf Course Management, Foundation Degree in Golf Course Management, NVQ Level 2 Sports Turf, NVQ Level 3 Sports Turf, FEPA Training, Chainsaw Certification, Greenkeeper Mechanics. Note: The Certificate of Higher Education and the Foundation Degree are available as part-time options.


GUILDFORD COLLEGE MERRIST WOOD Crafts Road, Merrist Wood, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 1AD Contact: Andrew Wight Tel: 01252 727377 Fax: 01252 727952 Email: andy.wight@guildfordcollege.ac.uk Web: www.guildfordcollege.ac.uk Information: First Diploma in Horticulture, First Diploma in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Maintenance. Part-time and short courses are available for NVQ levels 1-4. Full-time courses: Horticulture, National Award (Garden Design), First Diploma in Horticulture. Part time courses: NVQ Level 1; NVQ Level 2 in Landscaping and Sportsturf; NVQ Level 3 Landscaping and Sportsturf; NVQ Level 4. Also available are BHIA Irrigation Certificate Course, throughout the year. Please contact us for any of our up to date listings, qualifications and advice. Open evenings are held regularly at the campus.

GUILDFORD COLLEGE MERISSERT WOOD Campus of GUILDFORD College Horsham Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU3 0PF Contact: Sue Rodley Tel: 01483 884006 Fax: 01483 884001 Email: paul@guildfordcollege.ac.uk Web: www.guildfordcollege.ac.uk Information: Part time courses: NVQ Level 2 Sportsturf college day release and work place visits/assessments at Merrist Wood, Camberley and the London Golf Club in Kent; Level 3 Diploma college day release for those without qualified workplace assessments, NVQ Level 3 Sportsturf on-line, Level 3 National Award college day release for those without qualified workplace assessments, HNC Turfgrass Science and Management college day release over 2 years, and NVQ diploma. 1 extra year plus a Top-up BSc Degree for HND graduates part-time over 2 years, plus various short courses including BHIA Irrigation Certificate Course, throughout the year. Please contact us for any of our up to date listings, qualifications and advice. Open evenings are held regularly at the campus.

MYERSCROUGH COLLEGE Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 0RY Contact: Wayne Roberts Tel: 01995 642222/642305 Fax: 01995 642333 Email: mailbox@myerscough.ac.uk Web: www.myerscough.ac.uk Information: Full time courses; BSc (Hons) Turfgrass Science, Foundation Degree Sportsturf Science - online option by distance learning, NVQ Level 2 Science & Sports Ground Maintenance; National Certificate in Groundsmanship and Greenkeeping, also Sports Turf Merchandising option; First Diploma in Greenkeeping, Turf Science; NVQ Level 2, 3 & 4 Greenkeeping Management delivered both in the workplace and over the internet using the college's 'Multivet System'. Part-time courses NVQ Level 2 & 3 Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Maintenance (Day/Block release or Fast track work-based training qualification). All higher education courses can be accessed on a part time basis: BSc (Hons) Turf Science, BSc (Hons) Sportsturf Science. Short courses: NPTC Modules, Chainsaw certification, Tree inspection, Horticultural Machinery. Soft Lifting and First Aid.

OAKLANDS COLLEGE St Albans Smallford Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL4 0JA Contact: Andrew Wright Tel: 01727 737080 Fax: 01727 737081 Email: andy.wright@oaklands.ac.uk Web: www.oaklands.ac.uk Information: Full time courses: National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. Part-time courses: leading to NVQ Level 2 & 3 Greenkeeping Apprenticeship Training. Foundation degree starting in September '06. Short Courses: Pesticide, Chainsaw.

PLUMPTON COLLEGE Echilng Road, Plumpton, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AD Contact: David Blackmore Tel: 01273 894545 Fax: 01273 893077 Email: enquiries@plumpton.ac.uk Web: www.plumpton.ac.uk Information: Foundation Degree in Horticulture (Sportsturf specialism) with effect from Sept 2006 start students to enrol. National Diploma in Amenity Horticulture, National Award (Garden Design), First Diploma in Horticulture. Part time courses: NVQ Level 1; NVQ Level 2 in Landscaping and Sportsturf; NVQ Level 3 Landscaping and Sportsturf; NVQ Level 4. Also available are RHS Certificate and RHS Advanced, IOG National Technical and Intermediary National Diploma. Short courses are also available for FEPA spraying and chainsaw.

RODBASTON COLLEGE Rodbaston College, Rodbaston, Penkridge, Staffordshire ST19 5PH Contact: John Reshaw Tel: 01785 772020 Fax: 01785 715791 Email: john.reshaw@rodbaston.ac.uk Information: NVQ Level 3 Sports Turf Management (Sports Turf) at Levels 1-4. Part-time and flexible study options. Short Courses: Pesticide, Chainsaw and safe use of equipment.


WRITTLE COLLEGE Cheffinsfield, Essex, CM1 3RH Contact: Registry Tel: 01245 424200 Fax: 01245 420456 Email: info@writtle.ac.uk Web: www.writtle.ac.uk Information: SPORTS TURF PROGRAMME: Foundation Degree - Sports Turf and Golf Course Management, Honours Degree - Sports Turf Science & Management, NVQ Level 3 Sports Turf (Horticulture), NVQ Level 2 Horticulture Technician, NVQ Level 2 Horticulture Technician, NVQ Level 2 Horticulture Technician. Note: The Certificate of Higher Education and the Foundation Degree are available as part-time options. City and Guilds Advanced National Certificate Sports Turf - A level 3 qualification. 1 year day study. Which includes Sports Turf course, Sports Turf Technician, Evening Course, NVQ Level 2 & 3 Service Engineering (Agricultural & Groundcare Machines), C&G Service Engineering Progression Award.

Short Courses: NPTC Chainsaw, Health & Safety plus many more.