Sami Collins, Head of Learning & Development, provides a departmental update…

Planning, planning, planning – guess what the word of the month is? March, April and May are the months where all the planning and updating takes place for the next nine to 12 months. Believe it or not the programme for Harrogate Week 2010 is taking shape, entries for the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award are starting to arrive, the Master Greenkeeper Certificate scheme has been updated and the annual archiving of old files has commenced.

Club Managers Association of Europe

As you will be aware, BIGGA has signed an agreement with the Club Managers Association of Europe (CMAE) to enable course managers to develop their careers and become club managers. This can be achieved by gaining the Certified Club Manager (CCM) qualification, a challenging education programme designed to equip club managers with the tools they need to fulfill their role.

The CCM is based on the following 10 core competencies:

- Private Club Management
- Food and Beverage Operations
- Accounting and Financial Management
- Human and Professional Resources
- Management and Leadership
- Inter-Personal Skills
- Marketing
- Golf/Sports Management
- Buildings and Facilities Management
- External and Government Influences

For further information and to download a copy of the CMM Certification Programme go to www.bigga.org.uk/education/downloads or visit the CMAE website www.cmaeurope.org.

The book, Contemporary Club Management, produced to support the CMM is now available from the BIGGA library.

Use Tesco Clubcard Vouchers to pay for Training

The National Extension College (NEC) offers an extensive range of distance learning courses that can be paid for using Tesco Clubcard Deals Tokens. £2.50 in Clubcard Vouchers gives £10 worth of Clubcard Deals Tokens. Courses include:

- Project Management
- Report Writing
- Assertiveness at Work
- Time Management
- Business Basics: Book-keeping
- Business Basics: Marketing
- Chartered Management Institute (CMI) qualifications

For further details visit www.nec.ac.uk

Land-Based Learner of the Year 2008 Awards

Congratulations must go to Paul Carella, from Bellshill Golf Club, in Lanarkshire, for his success at the Land-Based Learner of the Year Awards. Paul scooped the top prize, Lantra Land-Based Learner of the Year as well as three other prizes, Scottish Enterprise area learner of the year, Modern apprentice of the year and Horticultural learner of the year.

Paul, who completed a SVQ Level 3 in Amenity Horticulture with Gosta Training in June 2008, was a runner-up in the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award 2008 and has also been presented with the Harry Diamond Quaich by the BIGGA Scottish Region.

Learning and Development Updates

Higher Education Scholarships

The first Scholarship of 2009 has been awarded to Stephen Clark to study for a Foundation Degree in Sports Turf.

To apply for a Higher Education Scholarship download an application form from www.bigga.org.uk/education/downloads.

BIGGA Library

We have added one new book and a DVD to the BIGGA Library:

- Contemporary Club Management – Joe Perdue
- USGA Recommendations for a Method of Putting Green Construction – USGA DVD