**AN UPDATE FROM BIGGA’S MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT**

**BIGGA Membership Categories are streamlining**

From 1st April 2009 we will be streamlining the membership categories. Currently, a member has from over 20 fee structures to choose from this will be simplified.

**Why the change?**

To improve administration procedures within the BIGGA Membership Department, to help new and existing members when renewing and joining the Association and to help simplify the administration for employers who pay their employees membership subscriptions.

**What are the changes?**

1. **Full Member**
   Any person employed in the keeping of the green at a golfing establishment.
   Split into: Category 1A = Greenkeeper in a Managerial Role, i.e. Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper Category 1B = All other greenkeeping employees who have gained a minimum qualification or who hold a minimum of three years continuous relevant experience.
   (Incorporating: Category 1A - Course Manager, Head Greenkeeper, Category 1B - Deputy Course Manager, Deputy Head Greenkeeper, First Assistant, Greenkeeper aged 21 years and above, Greenkeeper aged 20 and under and Mechanics)

2. **Associate Member**
   Any person employed in the keeping of the green at a golfing establishment and is not eligible to be a Full Member.
   Split into: Category 2A = Greenkeeper aged 21 and over (no minimum qualification, less than three years continuous experience)
   Category 2B = Greenkeeper aged 20 years and under (no minimum qualification, less than three years continuous experience)
   (Incorporating unqualified aged 21 years and over and unqualified aged 20 and under)

3. **Life Member**
   At the discretion of the Board of Management any Full Member recognised as having contributed in an outstanding manner to the Association or profession.
   (Proposals for the election of a Life Member shall be made only by the Board of Management following Regional Board nomination and the election shall be by the Association in General Meeting).

4. **Retired Member**
   Any Full Member who has been a member for a minimum of five consecutive years and has retired from work.
   (Incorporating Retired Member (full) and Retired Member (limited benefits).

5. **Student Member**
   Any person studying full-time towards an appropriate qualification in turf management.
   (Incorporating full-time Students)

6. **International Member**
   Any person employed in the keeping of the green at a golfing establishment outside the UK.
   (Incorporating International Course Manager and International Member).

7. **Affiliate Member**
   Any person who does not come within the provisions of categories 1-6 above.
   (Incorporating Associate and Corporate categories of membership).

8. **Honorary Member**
   At the discretion of the Board of Management any persons recognized as having contributed in an outstanding manner to the Association or profession.

   NOTE: The notes in italics are to clarify the changes to the present structure.

**Winners of the Magazine Gift Subscription offer at Harrogate Week**

Congratulations to Clive Walton, Calverley Golf Club, Anthony McGeough Richmond Golf Club and Ian Noble, Moors Valley GC, who are the winners of the magazine gift subscription for introducing a member at Harrogate Week.

**CONTACT US**

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Other useful telephone numbers (for greenkeeper members only)

Personal Accident Helpline 02075 603013
Greenkeepers Legal Assistance 0800 177 7891
Greenkeepers Support Services 0800 174 319

**NORTHERN**

Tim Pearson ................. Cleveland
Matthew Thompson ......... Cleveland
Euan Little .................. North
Shaun Collier ............... North East
Peter Wroe ................. North West
Robert Mann ............... North West
Daniel Hall ................. North West
Kevin Sweeney ............. North West
Tim Mason .................. North West
Peter Moore ............... North West
Alan Martin ............... Northern
Steve Gott ................. Northern
Roy Haywood .............. Northern
Lee Carpenter ............. Northern

**MIDLAND**

Greig Easton .......... Central
Leigh Carter .......... Midland
Nicholas Fallowes ...... Midland
Mark Cole ................. Midland

**EAST**

Nicola Townend .......... East
Marc Gentles .............. East
Ross Ovens ............... East
Brian Hunter ............. East
Gloria Dean ............... East Anglia
Craig Judge .............. East Anglia
Simon Jackson .......... East Anglia
Stephen Wilmot ........ East Midland
Matthew Farrant ........ East Midland

**SOUTHERN**

Paul Wilding ............. Essex
Chris Clements .......... Essex
Luke Fitz-John .......... Essex
Richard Gooding ........ Surrey
David Cox ................. Surrey
Arthur Howel ............. Sussex
Paul Kennedy .......... Kent
Keith Rogers ............. Kent
Alien Smith .............. South Coast
Christopher Marshall .... South Coast
Daniel Griffiths ......... South Coast
David Taylor .......... South West
Leigh Mordy ............. South West
Robert Cleisham .......... West
Clive Selby .............. South Wales

**NORTHERN IRELAND**

Jamie McCune .......... Northern Ireland