**Greenkeepers Training Committee**

David Golding, Director of Studies

While there appears to be an ever increasing number of organisations and individuals looking to offer greenkeeper training courses, the GTC continues to promote only those colleges, private companies and individuals who have chosen to become GTC Quality Assured.

The GTC introduced the Quality Assured Scheme in the Autumn of 2010, having introduced a new criteria aimed at ensuring golf club employers and greenkeepers have a level of satisfaction when choosing a GTC accredited Centre or Training Provider. So what is the difference between a Quality Assured Centre and Training Provider?

Quality Assured Centres offer education and training courses all designed to underpin Government accredited certificates and qualifications including the Greenkeeping Apprenticeship Scheme.

So if it is a formal greenkeeping qualification or apprenticeship you are looking for, look no further than the following Centres. They all meet the GTC Quality Assured Centre criteria.

**England**

- **Bridge Water College**: Contact: Jake Waites Tel: 01272 678 000
- **Duchy College**: Contact: Ron Skinner Tel: 01579 372220

**Scotland**

- **Reaseheath College**: Contact: Andy Wight Tel: 01777 737735
- **Plumpton College**: Contact: David Blackmur Tel: 01273 890454

**Wales**

- **Bridgend College**: Tel: 01652 678 000
- **Dyfed College, Flintridge**: Contact: Paul Gordon Tel: 01244 831531

The above Centres are constantly regulated by the Government Inspectors, Assuring Bodies and the GTC to ensure all students achieve the aims of the business, and support their Course Manager and Course Management as well as offer employers and greenkeepers a level of satisfaction when choosing a GTC Quality Assured Centre.

All of the above Training Providers have specialist knowledge to share and all their training is designed to compliment the formal qualifications for greenkeeping and Course Management as well as help employers and greenkeepers understand and support their Course Manager achieves the aims of the business, hopefully to a Course or Companies Business Plan.

The GTC believes in Continual Professional Development for all and that includes employers, volunteers as well as greenkeepers, Golf Course Managers, and through the various courses and workshops offered by GTC Quality Assured Centres and Training Providers there is something for everybody.

GTC QA Training Providers offer information and training courses all designed to give added value to the courses and qualifications offered by Quality Assured Centres.

Short courses, seminars, workshops and bespoke training and assessment from the following companies and individuals, and the GTC encourages its QA Centres and Training Providers to liaise to ensure the sectors employers, greenkeepers and Course Managers are having their education and training requirements met.

The vast range of subjects involved in maintaining and managing golf courses can be offered by QA Training Providers and Centres. For up to date information please visit the Quality Assured link on: www.the-gtc.co.uk, www.greenkeepertraining.com or call the GTC.

The GTC, in addition to ensuring the quality of greenkeeping education and training provision is delivered to an agreed criteria, has introduced a series of workshops for golf club employers and volunteers all supported by the Home Unions, EGU, SGU and GGU.

Chairman of Green workshops have proved very successful and following feedback by delegates attended the workshops, the GTC has added workshops on Health & Safety, Communication within the golf club, Renovation and Design.

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