At the ground of West Ham United, recently reinstated to the FA Premier League, Challenge, The Kent took a first goal for Kent. Shortly after this there was a mix up in the Essex defence allowing Kevin Morris to intervene and nod the ball on for Lee Austin put Kent two goals up. Early in the second half Kent had plenty of possession, but against the run of play and after an error by the keeper, Mark Turner scored for Essex to make it 1-2. Frequent substitutions were now being made by both sides to rest tired legs. After a succession of corners Stewart Rogers latched on to a shot from 30 yards to level the score 2-2.

Plenty of action followed with the Kent keeper tipping a shot over the bar and Adam Marmable having a good game in the Kent midfield. The winner came from a powerful shot from just inside the box by the great ‘Zaffa’ to make the Score 3-2 to the Kent Section. In the end after a hard fought and thoroughly entertaining game the Kent team held on to win the game.

Final Score Essex 2 v Kent 3.

After some good football and missed shots by both teams Mark Todd beat the Essex official trap on the left passing to Lee Austin to cross a great ball beating keeper Essex offside trap on the left passing to Lee Rogers latched on to a shot from 30 yards to level the score 2-2.

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After the match players and supporters enjoyed the hospitality in the Billy Bonds Lounge where Larry Pearson of Lely presented the Trophy to the winning Kent Team and Roger Lupton from Toro Irrigation awarded the Man of the Match Trophy to Ben Adams from the London Club.

Special thanks to Larry Pearson helped by Richard Freeman for making all the arrangements and organising the day so well. All commented on the immaculate condition of the pitch, after a long hard season. Hopefully this event will take place again next year with more Sections being involved.

Calculation your savings from the Ultimate Fairway Programme

Greenkeepers and golf club managers can now find out exactly how much money they could save on their course from taking advantage of the Primo Maxx Ultimate Fairway Programme. A new interactive calculator on the GreenCast website enables them to enter their current costs and routine of fairway mowing, and gives an instant answer on the cost savings.

A recent independent survey of fairways on a range of golf courses revealed the average area was 14 hectares - taking just under 11 hours for each cut. For courses cutting fairways three times a week, the use of Primo Maxx to eliminate one cut per week through the season would see a cost saving of over £3650 per year.

The calculation takes into account details of the individual club’s costs including mower operator and mechanic’s wages, machinery repairs, fuel and depreciation, along with their replacement policy for fairway mowers. Fuel costs at the time of the survey averaged 74p/litre, but a 20% rise in the intervening time now equates to an additional £51 a year saving from Primo Maxx use on the fairways alone, reports Syngenta Business Manager, Rod Burler. “We did notice a thicker sward and better water utilisation during the dry periods, which I can only attribute to the Primo Maxx.”

Rod Burler believes that the turf quality enhancements that greenkeepers have seen will be equally as important as the cost savings. “Our survey identified that having their ball sit proud on a consistent fairway surface was the single most important factor that they want.”

Elmwood College, Cuper, Scotland, through a licence agreement with The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC), is extending its greenkeeper training provision by embracing the latest eportfolio technology.

The college will be offering students the opportunity to use the eportfolio recording option and this will include the highly acclaimed GTC Greenkeeping Training Manual.

Rick Bond, Head of Faculty, Golf, Land & Environment at the college says, “the eportfolio provision is already available for students studying for a management qualification and we see the new additions supporting learners such as apprentices and students across the world looking to be part of the Elmwood College Sports Turf Learning experience.”

Carol Borthwick, Director of Golf and International Affairs at Elmwood adds, “the college has for many years been involved with the GTC and we see this moment as an opportunity to expand our provision beyond our traditional methods of delivering greenkeeper and groundsmanship education and training.”

David Golding, of the GTC, says, “Elmwood College, as a GTC Quality Assured Centre, has for many years been a major provider of sports turf education, training provision offering the range of qualifications from work based to Higher Education. The licence agreement between Elmwood College and the GTC will certainly embrace the technology now available to allow employers and students to consider if this option may be better suited to their needs, while the traditional delivery of courses will still be available”. Elmwood College can be contacted via email mclarke@elmwood.ac.uk or phone: 01334 658969

For a catalogue please contact the number below. Tel. 01949 898088 www.amtechlimited.com

BIGGA EVENT UPDATE

This year’s BIGGA Midland and Northern Region Golf Management events, sponsored by Tweddell Golf UK for the second year, will take place at the venues below:

MIDLAND REGION
North of the Region: Gay Hill Golf Club on Thursday 25th July, South of the Region: Verulam Golf Club on Thursday 9th August.

NORTHERN REGION
East of the Region: Bingley St Ives Golf Club on Wednesday 25th July, West of the Region: Hinckley Golf Club on Wednesday 22nd August 2012.

This 4-man team event must include a member of the Green Staff, who must be a member of BIGGA. The other team members may be chosen from the Golf Club Secretary or Manager, Captain or Vice-Captain, Chairman of Green or Golf Club Committee Member. Entry forms will be sent to golf clubs in the appropriate part of each Region.

If you wish to enter a team please contact: Until 31 May 2012 - the BIGGA Midland/Northern Regional Administrator Peter Larter on 01476 550115; 079866 366966 or email petelarter972@aol.com.

Thereafter, contact Rachael Duffy on 01347 833800 ext 522 or email rachaelb@bigga.co.uk