Recruitment

Deeside Golf Club

require

2 FULL-TIME GREENKEEPERS

Applicants will be qualified to NVQ level 2 and hold current spraying certificates. A competitive salary is offered dependent on qualifications and experience.

Please forward your CV to:
Club Manager, Deeside Golf Club, Golf Road, Bieldside, ABERDEEN AB15 9DL or email to admin@deesidegolfclub.com

THE DUNNERHOLME GOLF CLUB

Applications for the position of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Founded in 1905, this is a members club with over 450 members. It is a Par 72 links course, which has 10 greens and 18 tees. Dunnerholme Golf Course is part of the European Marine Conservation area and Site of Specific Scientific Interest.

Applicants should be technically qualified in all aspects of greenkeeping and have the necessary management skills to direct existing green staff.

The ability to manage resources and budgetary controls are required and also has a sound knowledge of Health & Safety Regulations.

Salary by negotiation according to qualifications, knowledge and experience.

Applications closing date Monday 18th June 2007
Applications in writing including full CV sent to:

The Honorary Secretary
Dunnerholme Golf, Club, Duddon Road, Askham-in-Furness Cumbria LA16 7AW.

PROFESSIONAL GRASS MACHINERY SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Ernest Doe has a vacancy for a Sales Representative at its Benington near Stevenage, Herts Branch. The suitable applicant needs to have a wide knowledge of professional grass machinery and be committed to the sale of turf machinery to golf courses, local authorities and other users of professional grass equipment promoting the Ransomes Jacobsen franchise.

The successful candidate will be offered a good basic salary plus commission on sales and receive the benefit of a company vehicle.

GROUND CARE SERVICE TECHNICIAN

A skilled technician with a proven record of several years working on a wide range of professional grass machinery. The successful applicant must have the ability to work alone and as part of a team.

Both positions offer good prospects within a family owned, multi branch company.

Please apply in writing with full CV to:
Peter Williams
Branch Manager
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd
Whempstead Road
Benington, Herts SG2 7BZ
Chairman’s Column

Greenkeeping in the Spring

Who would be a Greenkeeper in the spring? Well we all are and have to contend the elements. As I sit here in early April in the sun, with the temperature in the low 70s I’m sure we will break yet another record, either it will be too dry or cold and, if not that, then too wet for our course to be at its best. They’re all just weather, you know, and I’m sure our courses will survive what the weather has to throw at them. Surely greenkeeping is all about maximising your course’s potential in any season or space in time. So why do we suffer an onslaught of criticism, especially at this time of the year when we should in fact be buoyed with winter going and spring springing? It is, in my opinion, impatience on the part of our friends, the golfers. They have just gone through the winter months of low daylight hours and mixed with, yes, some weather not best suited to the playing of golf. They can be a frustrated lot and, yes, it has to be said, hard to please.

Then The Masters was on the way and we started to be the focus of their frustrations. Why is our course not like that? I was looking through web pages and reading of tales of woe about spring greens the other day. I had an email from one of my officials just after the Easter break – The course was good and the members were happy... “But the greens could do with some water. Of course, Billy, you should decide when to water subject to the nightly frost we have been having.”

We can all, I’m sure, quote some special comments by our customer, the golfer, that would bring weight to the argument that the spring is a rocky, hellish bridge we would all like to cross as soon as possible, and get on with our business in the main playing part of the golfing season. So what are we to do to make it an easier transition from the depths of winter to something better? Well I take strength from those cleverer than I in the art of greenkeeping. The first tip for success that springs to mind is good communications. They will always stand you in good stead and I’m sure help you through what could best be described as the crustacean period we all suffer from in the spring, before active growth starts on our courses. A great place to start is, of course, with your course officials. Explain to them what, in fact, you have done to minimise the effects of a slow, cold start up to the growing season. Ask them for their support to ward off those ill-informed comments from your members or paying customers, but, most importantly, get their full support for any on course renovations that you have planned for the spring because once on board you are halfway there, with them as a fantastic communication link between yourself and your members.

Next on the communication list would be a form of newsletter to the members. Now I’m sure you’re familiar with the old doctrine of if you want to keep a secret at your golf club then publish it on a notice board, because no bugger ever reads those. So you could explore the realms of online communications they have been, for the better part, a much more effective means of getting information across and have been, I would think, the best way forward in this modern age. Something we have used at Tyrrells Wood is a phone line message system that members can call on everyday and get an update on course conditions, weather reports and on course works for the day. It has been well received and been a valued communication channel both for my members, my staff and I to keeping everyone informed.

Our course information line has been so successful I’m often told that even if they are not in fact coming to the course to play, they still give it a call most mornings – with some lady members it’s the first thing they do, even before getting out of bed.

I think the biggest problem I see when others are in conflict over spring golf, is one of poor communications at the club, it’s not the course condition per say, as in most cases the courses are in fairly good nick, really it’s just not what they think we can aspire to at this time of the year. So be brave, explain your plans and most of all share your passion with members and I’m sure the transition from spring to summer will pass in a much more pleasant fashion.

Another area that will help is, of course, a tidy golf course. So I work hard to make everything as tidy as possible and it’s a fact that it has made my transition a better one, I read an article last week written by a clever man. He said he was proactive, trim those bunkers to a high standard and tidy everything up before The Masters starts, then they don’t have a leg to stand on - good advice I thought.

Next on the list is ill-fated operations on the course that are seen in the eyes of the golfer to be offensive and do in fact only compound our problems in the spring, so working with any prevailing weather conditions and with modern equipment and systems these days, we can still do any required works in keeping with the golfing calendar even in the spring. All that has to be agreed is when these works will, in fact, take place, keeping everyone’s interests in mind for them to be more palatable, therefore achievable, with the net result of it being a win win situation. A master in my opinion is Chris Kennedy, at Wentworth, which has not only a major tournament in the spring but also in the autumn, and he and his team seem almost without exception to beat the weather and season’s variables, maximising their potential and providing a first class golfing experience every time.

A timely lesson I think in the art of good greenkeeping and if you think it’s good luck, well I’m minded to remember that old comment when a famous golfer was told he was lucky having won a tournament. “Yes” he said, the more I “practice” the luckier I seem to get. I’m sure we all wish Chris and his team lots of luck in the run up to the BMW and I can assure you all, they will be planning on securing lots of luck for themselves.

So, if we can master the art of communication I’m sure we will all have time to celebrate, rather than dread, this special time of year that makes up only part of the wonderful golfing experience we have to offer in the world of golf, here in the British Isles and around the world. You all do a great job. Have a great spring and summer, should be a piece of cake shouldn’t it.

Billy McMillan
Chairman

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Recruitment

The only place to find perfect balance.

The Marriott Forest of Arden Golf & Country Club is set within the Packington Estate on an ancient Deer Park and Fishing Lake. The Arden Course has hosted the British Masters and English Open. The Aylesford course also hosted the Westabx UK National J unior Championship.

We are currently recruiting for Assistant Greenkeeper
First Assistant
To join our full time team.
You should be NVQ 2/3 qualified with previous Greenkeeping experience. Please apply to the HR Department, Marriott Forest of Arden Hotel, Maxstoke Lane, Meriden, Warwickshire CV7 7HR.
Or apply online at www.marriottcareers.net.
To learn more about the hotel visit www.marriott.com/cvgs.

Now hiring. Apply today!

SALES DEMONSTRATION INSTRUCTOR

John Deere Limited, the UK subsidiary of Deere & Company, has a vacancy for a Groundscare Sales Demonstration Instructor for the UK and Ireland.

The responsibilities will be to plan and undertake an extensive demonstration programme of technical products, to instruct dealer personnel on demonstration techniques and be able to present at customer and dealer meetings. Additionally, you will be required to provide instruction and training to the Dealer Organisation on the John Deere range of groundscare equipment.

The successful candidate will have a qualification in horticulture, agriculture, engineering or marketing, preferably to degree level. It will be necessary for the candidate to live in close proximity to the Company's UK headquarters at Langar, Nottinghamshire. This position entails travel and will suit someone who is prepared to be away from home on a regular basis and, at times, to travel abroad.

The salary and benefits are those expected of a successful global organisation and include a vehicle, contributory pension scheme, free life assurance and permanent health insurance, etc.

Applications forms may be obtained from:
Yvette Wakefield
J ohn Deere Limited
Harby Road
Langar
Nottingham, NG13 9HT

Tel: 01159 863239
Email: WakefieldYvette@JohnDeere.com

The closing date is the 31st May 2007

GREENKEEPER

A forward thinking private members club, par 71 parkland course maintained to a high standard require a Greenkeeper.

The successful applicant will possess NVQ level 2 or equivalent, PA1-PA2-PA6 spraying certificates. They will be self motivated and have an enthusiasm to learn. No accommodation is provided and the remuneration will be relevant.

Closing date - 30th May

Please apply in writing with full CV to:
The Greens Chairman, Wheatley Golf Club, Arnhemorpe road Doncaster, DN2 5QB, South York’s

ELSHAM GOLF CLUB

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

The successful candidate must be hardworking, enthusiastic, motivated and have good communication skills.

Qualified to NVQ Level 3, PA1, PA2 & PA6 Would be an advantage

Applications in writing by 25th May 2007 with full CV to:
The Manager, Esham Golf Club, Barton Road, Esham, Brigg, North Lincolnshire DN20 0LS
email:manager@eshamgolfclub.co.uk Tel: 01652 680291

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Norwood Park Golf Course, Southwell, Nottinghamshire

18 holes Parkland Course designed by Clyde Johnston, Past President of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, with Par 3 Academy Course opening June 2008.

This is an opportunity to participate in a developing Golf Centre of Excellence.

We need a professional with all relevant qualifications.

Energy
Motivation
A good track record

Please have a look at our web-site www.norwoodpark.co.uk

Send letter of application and C.V. to:

Henry Starkey
General Manager
Norwood Park Golf Course Ltd
Southwell
Nottinghamshire
NG25 0PF

Or email CV to golf@norwoodpark.co.uk

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