

**THE SPORTS TURF RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE  
BINGLEY, YORKSHIRE**

The 18th A.G.M. of the SPORTS TURF RESEARCH INSTITUTE was held at Bingley, Yorkshire, on Monday, 28th April, under the Chairmanship of Mr Alan Sowden.

(1) In the Annual Report for 1968, which was adopted, reference was made to:—

(a) **Research**

The appointment of an Assistant Director with special responsibility for research coupled with the building of a new Biology Laboratory have paved the way for a boost in research. Much of the experiment ground will continue to be taken up with the blocks of experiment plots arranged to assess new and old varieties of the common turf grasses. Other work includes trials designed to assess the value of different proportions of physical soil ameliorants in producing free draining, hard wearing turf with further work on the production of clean seed beds, with particular reference to annual meadow grass studies.

(b) **Advisory**

The advisory service on playing field construction and maintenance was in constant demand by private sports clubs, parks departments of local authorities and local education authorities. There was an increase in the number of visits made to L.E.A. school playing fields. As the report says, the aim is "to help subscribers get the best possible playing conditions with their budget".

(c) **Education**

Five instructional courses for greenkeepers and grounds-men employed by subscribers

were held in 1968, each being of one week's duration. All were attended to capacity. Enthusiasm for these courses has continued unabated over the years. Other educational activities included lectures at centres throughout the country, publication of the *Journal, Sports Turf Bulletin* and other articles for the sports press.

(d) **Finance**

The financial problems of running a voluntary, non-profit organisation are considerable and were increased by the general economic difficulties during 1968. The end result, a small deficit, was not in itself serious and served to underline the need for full support from all concerned with sports and amenity turf.

(2) A message of loyal greetings was sent to H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Institute.

(3) The following elections were made:—

President, The Duke of Norfolk; Vice-Presidents, Carl Bretherton, Esq., Sir William Worsley; Chairman, Alan Sowden, Esq., M.I.C.E.; Vice-Chairman, Carl Bretherton.

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Two Courses of Instruction were held at the Institute as usual this spring, 14th to 18th and 21st to 25th April respectively. A total of 51 students attended both courses.

Further courses will be held at Bingley during the periods 7th to 11th July, 13th to 17th October, 20th to 24th October and 27th to 31st October. All these courses are fully booked apart from the last one on which there still remain a few vacancies.



## THE SPORTS TURF RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Course of Instruction—21st to 25th April 1969

Left to right:—

Back Row:—R. S. Howlett (Ferndown G.C.), A. H. F. Jiggins (Chester G.C.), J. Wilson (Brodick G.C.), G. Arnold (Erewash Valley G.C.), R. Wiltshire (Port of Bristol Authority), H. J. Hurford (Royal Guernsey G.C.), D. J. Rawlins (Denham G.C.), B. Fish (Ralston G.C.), F. Porter (Portishead U.D.C.).

Middle Row:—T. R. Rawson (Kent County Council), B. T. Govett (Kent County Council), J. Walker (Doncaster Town Moor G.C.), R. F. Buchanan (Wollaton Park G.C.), R. Hughes (Whittington Barracks G.C.), J. W. Bossley (Orsett G.C.), D. J. Webster (Orsett G.C.), B. Hill (Milnrow U.D.C.).

Front Row:—K. Wilson (Alderley Edge G.C.), R. Baldwin (Burnley G.C.), S. Hobson (Abbeydale G.C.), D. H. McQuilkin (Corby U.D.C.), J. D. Lowery (Ringway G.C.), J. Cousin (Hayling G.C.), A. C. Hack (North Cliff G.C.), D. W. Smerdin (East Devon G.C.).

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