

Hon. Secretary's Report of the Progress of the Standing Conference for Golf Greenkeeping.

The First Annual General Meeting of the Standing Conference for Golf Greenkeeping was held at the Sports Council Offices, 70, Brompton Road, London on December 10th, 1975.

It will be remembered that the Golf Development Council called together the Organisations interested in Golf Greenkeeping problems and following a few meetings The Standing Conference for Golf Greenkeeping was formed.

The following organisations form the Conference:

The English, Scottish, Welsh & Irish Golf Unions.

The British & Scottish Greenkeepers' Association.

The Association of Golf Club Secretaries.

The Golf Development Council.

The Aspects of the Conference were as follows:

(1) To initiate, improve and promote the education and training of Golf Greenkeepers.

(2) To act as a link between bodies having similar aspects.

(3) To collaborate with educational and scientific establishments.

(4) To receive, hold and disperse monies in the pursuit of these objects.

Although the organisation is still in its infancy a considerable amount of progress has been made.

1. Agreement has been reached regarding the training of golf greenkeepers.

2. A Training Co-ordinator has been appointed. We can congratulate ourselves in finding someone with such drive and enthusiasm. Since taking up his appointment in August 1975 he has already covered a great deal of ground, and is now implementing recommendations that have been adopted.

None of the progress made could be possible without the support of the various bodies.

By now the Training Co-ordinator, Mr. G.R. Richards and Mrs. Richards

will be nearing the end of their mammoth task of visiting the Sections to outline the roll of the Standing Conference on the training and education of trainee greenkeepers, and the relationship between the Head Greenkeeper and the Training Colleges that is required if the scheme is going to succeed.

It is in the interest of Greenkeepers that the best of training is given as this should surely lead to a better working knowledge, thus, the ultimate end must be a better status, better conditions and better kept golf courses.

Looking to the future it is hoped that within the next two years the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association will be in the position to carry out the running of this scheme.

DIARY DATES—

Mar. 26	Southern Section Annual Dinner Walton Heath.
Apr. 2	Midland Section Dinner Dance, Elms Hotel, Aldridge.
Apr. 6	Winter Lecture, Alresford G.C. Mr. Jack Roffey.
Apr. 7	Welsh Section, Spring Meeting, Radyr G.C.
Apr. 27	N.W. Section Sisis Tournament, Macclesfield G.C., 12.30.
May 11	Southern Section Spring Tournament, Little Aston G.C.
May 17	N.W. Section. Spring Tournament. 8.15.
June 15	Welsh Section. Summer Meeting, Southerndown G.C.
Aug. 16/ 17/18	Southern Section, Annual Tournament, Walton
Sep. 21	Autumn Meeting. Swansea Bay G.C.
Sep. 22	Southern Section. Autumn Tournament, Berkshire.
Oct. 8	B.G.G.A. International Tournament, Walton Heath.
Oct. 12	Southern Section. Greenkeepers v. Secretaries. West Byfleet.