

# the Golf Course

SEPTEMBER 1987

Front cover: David Crawley in action in Corfu

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# BIGGA UPDATE

THE office base at the Sports Turf Research Institute in Bingley is now operational and all correspondence in connection with the Association's affairs should be forwarded to me there. The first few weeks have been an exceptionally busy period and priority has been given to processing the membership applications, whilst not neglecting to attend to other matters of urgent concern to the Association.

The membership response has been encouraging, with over 1500 membership applications already received. A number of members have requested membership cards and naturally these are of priority concern. However it is essential both for the Association and the magazine's purpose that an accurate membership list is compiled. It has become clear that the membership lists of the three merging Associations, on which circulation of the magazine is based, were substantially inaccurate in terms of members' correct address. It is therefore a considerable task to make the necessary amendments and of great importance that this is accomplished before membership cards are sent out - otherwise many members will not receive their cards. I would ask for patience therefore, but if any member is experiencing particular difficulties through the lack of a card, he should contact me personally and I will let him have a confirmatory letter to membership. Please ensure that all future changes of address are notified to me.

Members will be interested to know that the Board of Management has now established a sub-committee structure to process the Association's affairs. There will be three sub-committees:-

(1) **General Purposes.** This sub-committee will have a wide ambit and, as well as dealing with finance and staffing matters, will consider such matters as membership categories, subscription levels, uniform and Association logo.

(2) **Magazine.** This sub-committee is charged with planning the magazine's future development and the production of a high quality Journal.

(3) **Regions.** This sub-committee will be particularly important in the initial period of the Association. It will be responsible for establishing a strong, effective regional/branch structure and taking account of members' views. A map indicating the present situation is included in the magazine and the sub-committee will be reviewing the current position and making recommendations to the Board.

The magazine sub-committee has already met whilst the other two sub-committees are meeting in early September.

I am currently looking at benefits for members of the Association and you will find details elsewhere in the magazine of a Legal Advisory Service available to paid-up members as at 30th September and funded from the current year's subscriptions. This is the first step in the provision of a comprehensive benefits package which I will be working on in the next few months.

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