

ISEKI

SPONSOR NEW BIGGA TOURNAMENT

ISEKI UK are to sponsor a National Greenkeepers Golf Tournament in 1988, in conjunction with the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association.

The Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Tournament will be open to all Greenkeepers who are members of the BIGGA and who hold an official handicap card. The Tournament will be played over 5 regional rounds, 1 in each of the five regions and will be played over 18 holes of Medal Play with qualifiers going forward to a National Final.

The Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Tournament is open to three categories of player, in order to encourage both established and new players alike, with the three categories being:

Category 1:
Players with an official handicap from 0 - 9

Category 2:
Players with an official handicap from 10 - 19

Category 3:
Players with an official handicap from 20 - 28

Once the regional finals have taken place, the first four players from each category will then be invited to play in the National Final which will be held over 27 holes of Medal Play in September 1988.

Iseki and British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association are putting up prizes, not only for the overall winners, but for the winners of each category and for veteran and young players too, whilst at each round there will be spot prizes on certain holes to enliven the competition.

At the moment, arrangements are being made to finalise dates and venues for each aspect of the competition, but it is anticipated that the regional finals will take place in May/June and the National Final in September.

All players will have to register for the regional rounds with their Regional Administrator **by the end of March 1988**, and an application form for the Tournament will be published in the March issue of the *'the Golf*

Course'. Sections will run qualifying events to determine the Regional finalists who will be limited to sixty with twenty in each category.

For both Iseki and the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, this new Tournament promises to be an exciting and innovative competition for the Greenkeepers.

Speaking briefly to *'the Golf Course'* at the Tournament launch, BIGGA executive director, **Neil Thomas**, said *"The Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Tournament looks to be a very interesting addition to the BIGGA calendar, not only proving some very enjoyable golf, but for the Association, also a way of meeting even more of our members during the season. We feel that Iseki's professional participation in the Championship, this can only go from strength to strength providing good competition and we hope Tournaments in Europe too at some future date. This competition is particularly appropriate as we seek to establish strong regional bases within the Association with which our members can identify"*.

For Iseki, their managing director, **John Hawkins**, added *"Since we started Iseki UK just under two years ago, we have done an increasing amount of business with golf clubs around the country. We felt that with the formation of BIGGA, we had an opportunity to put something back in for the greenkeeper with a professionally run tournament we could all enjoy. Our range of tractors has quickly been taken up by the greenkeeper all over the country and with the new **Turfblazer** and **Coremaster** ranges about to be introduced, **Iseki Greenkeepers Golf** couldn't happen at a better time. Both Iseki and our friends at the BIGGA look forward to some great golf days in the **Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Tournament** this year and to an interesting National Final in September"*.

A more comprehensive diary and application form for the **Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Tournament** will be published in the March issue of *'the Golf Course'*.