

CLIPPINGS

By The Mower

Jolly Jaunt to Louisville

The Garden Machinery Association, together with the organisers of their forthcoming exhibition at Kempton Park in September are inviting members to visit an international Expo in Kentucky.

The cost of this three night extravaganza to Louisville in July - just a few quid short of £900!

P-I-Y Training

Nick Bisset, the principal lecturer for greenkeeper training at Yorkshire's Askham Bryan College, told a gathering of Green Committee Chairman that some young trainees had to pay their own fees and use annual holidays to attend courses, because the clubs would not cover the costs or give time off.

Golf Club Committees who adopt this attitude towards their staff should be thrown out of their county union.

"A rose by any other name . . ."

French greenkeepers are being asked by their Association to vote on a title for themselves. Among the proposals are Gardien du Vert (Guardian of Green); Gardien de la Pelouse (Guardian of the Greensward); Capitains du Parcours (Captain of the Course); Marguillier du Golf (Warden of Golf); Intendant de Parcours (Steward of the Course); Intendant de Golf (Steward of Golf); GK, or just plain Greenkeeper.

Whilst we are still battling over the decision to elevate our head greenkeeper to the status of course manager, the French, with such a descriptive language, will be able to debate this issue for months to come.

New Kubota Mower costs just a pound !

Burnley Golf Club made a shrewd investment of a £1 when they added this amount to top the minimum donation of £200 in order to be eligible for the Kubota Draw.

A total of 79 golf clubs making a donation of £200 plus to the Golf Foundation Annual Appeal last year, had their names into a hat to win a Kubota G1900S Diesel Mower, worth £5,000 and the Burnley Club's name was drawn out by Peter McEvoy after they raised £201 on Captain's Day.

As a result of the annual appeal and the Kubota prize, £56,436 was given to the Golf Foundation, by clubs in Britain, to support junior golf.

Illegal use of the wedge

John Huston a professional on the US tour circuit was made to change his shoes, before competing in the Florida Honda Classic, because they were built up on the right side so that his weight would be thrown on the front foot when playing the shot.

The shoe was deemed to be in contravention of Rule 14-3b by the US Golf Association, under the heading of Artificial Devices and Unusual Equipment, which might assist him in making a stroke.

The sequel to the ruling, resulted in Huston winning the event by two shots, wearing conventional shoes, over Mark Calcavecchia, but that is far from the end of the affair.

The manufacturers of "Weight Rites", the shoes in question, have now taken out an injunction against the USGA saying that they don't see anything in the Rules of Golf governing shoes. Not another Ping-Eye saga we hope!

Roy prepares for Britain's first tour event

St. Mellion, head greenkeeper, Roy Battishill is hard at work getting the Jack Nicklaus designed course ready for the £350,000 Benson & Hedges International Open on May 3.

Fierce gales and torrential rain last month has made the job difficult and to add to his troubles, contractors putting up the tented village, sliced through the drains and electric cables.

Roy has however, assured "The Mower", that everything will be right on the day.