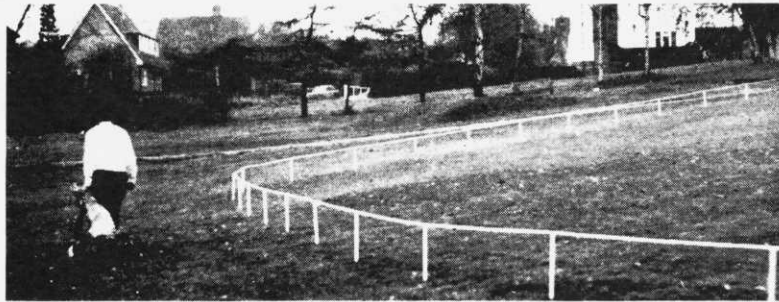


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BY the time you read these notes, Sections will have nominated representatives to the regional boards and indeed the first official meetings of those boards will have taken place during January. I think it fair to say therefore that the Association's section/regional structure is now established. The final regional administrator will be Arnold Phipps-Jones. I held a meeting with the regional Administrators in Mid-December and there should have been a consistency of approach subsequently at the regional board meetings. I have a further meeting planned for the first week of February to report back on those meetings and this should prove an effective means of communication with myself at a regional level.

Obviously it would be impossible and not necessarily desirable for me to attend all regional board meetings, although I will of course attempt to be present on any particular occasion where my presence is considered necessary.

With the structure established I am looking for strong section and regional development during 1988. Decisions from the meetings of the Board of Management and magazine sub-committee on 19th January will be conveyed to regional administrators and section secretaries, thus keeping members briefed on developments within the Association.



UPDATE

Members need to note some particular points:-

VAT

This is NOT payable on 1988 subscriptions. The Association's exemption came through after publication of the November/December issue of 'the Golf Course' and therefore VAT inclusive rates were included in that issue. However, all application forms including those in this issue now exclude VAT.

UNIFORM

Orders are now coming in and members need to bear in mind that delivery dates are some 12 - 15 weeks from placing of order. Orders with size, quantity, fitting and colour as appropriate should be placed via your section secretary and it should be noted that payment is not required at this stage.

NATIONAL TOURNAMENT 1988

This is confirmed for week commencing 25th September 1988 in Ayrshire and preliminary details appear on page 7 of this issue.

1988 MEMBERSHIP

Application forms appear elsewhere in this issue. Members should note that section secretaries have been provided with supplies of forms for both FULL and ASSOCIATE/TRADE membership and potential new members should be directed to the appropriate secretary for an

Continued on page 6

the Golf Course

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1988

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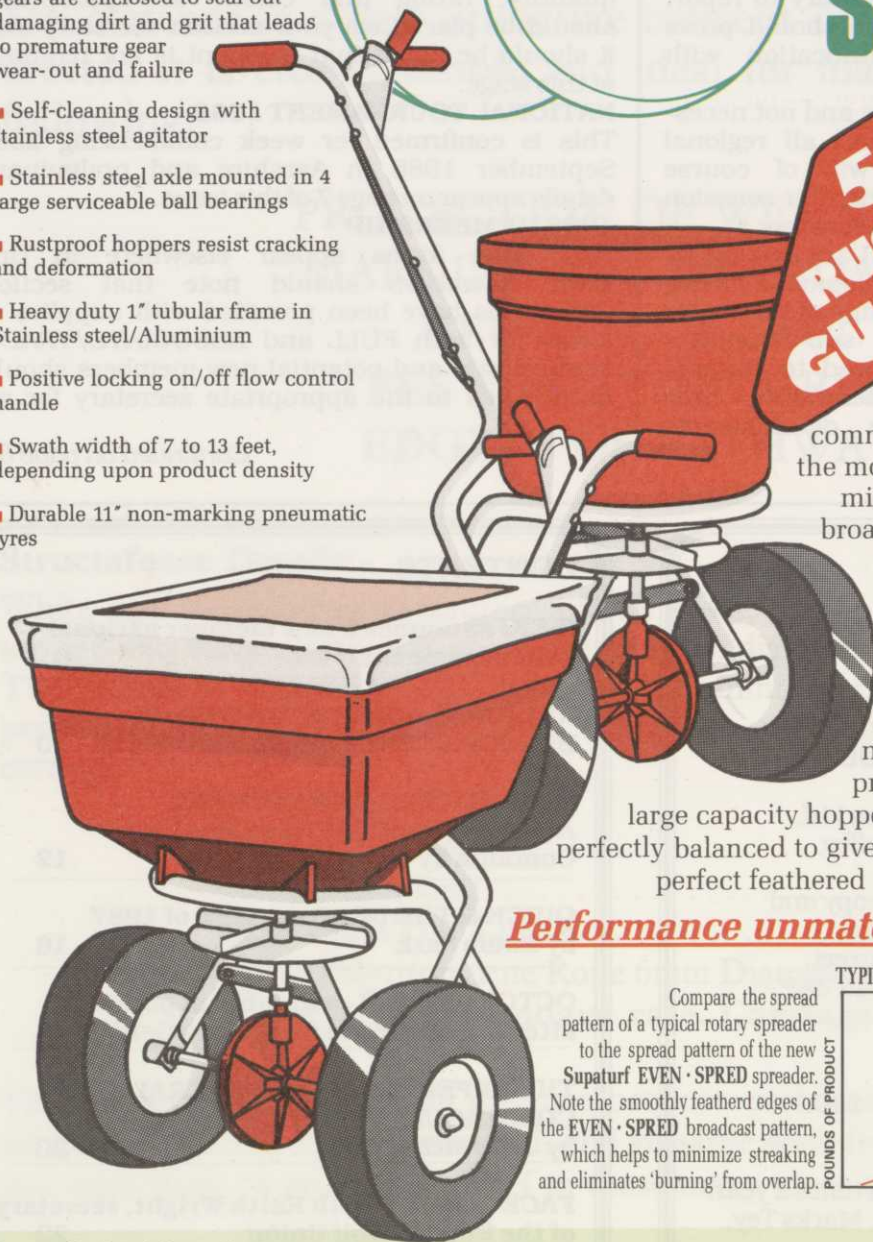
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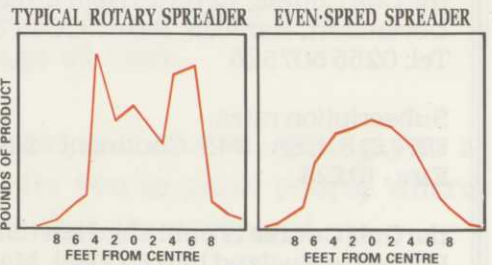


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REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR/SECTION SECRETARIES

A list of names and addresses is included in this issue for general information. This will be regularly updated when changes in personnel occur. Individuals concerned should advise me of any incorrect details.

Finally some thoughts for 1988. Whilst there is much cause for optimism, there is a need for a concerted effort by all members to fully project the Association on a national basis as the professional body for greenkeepers. Not everything can be done from headquarters - there is a need for a real impact to be made at local level. Reflecting on the last six months, I would hope for a greater sense of urgency from greenkeepers in 1988 in responding to Association needs and requests - it is after all YOUR Association. Too often there is much chasing to be done to elicit responses on various matters. Again greenkeeper contributions to

the magazine have been rather disappointing. The magazine sub-committee will welcome all ideas and contributions - what about letters to the editor for example - either commenting on greenkeeping matters or seeking advice? This would make for good reading.

To end on a positive note, I have met many greenkeepers and been involved in numerous discussions. The enthusiasm for BIGGA and the future is heartening and there are many ideas and aspirations from members for the years ahead. I need to know the views of members and these can be forwarded to my office as well as conveyed to me at the various meetings around the country. We are in an evolving situation and each month of 1988 will bring new developments.

I can rely on members to provide the positive support and backing BIGGA will need to become a pre-eminent force within the world of golf.

Neil Thomas
Executive Director.

JOIN BIGGA IN '88

BIGGA is the professional body for greenkeepers in this country and also offers membership benefits to greenkeepers on an international basis. Already the Association has members in America, France, Sweden, Germany, Holland, Spain, Portugal and as far afield as Japan. BIGGA aims to promote and advance all aspects of greenkeeping, as well as assisting and encouraging the proficiency of members.

For 1988, a wide range of member benefits have been made available, particularly in terms of legal and insurance cover, designed to protect the greenkeeper both in his employment and in his life in general. As well as full members, associate and trade members will be welcomed and they will be encouraged to play a constructive part in the Association's future.

As far as the growth of BIGGA is concerned, there will be strength in numbers and new

members will assist in establishing a sound base for the ongoing development of the Association. As a priority, BIGGA will be concentrating on the future education and training needs of greenkeepers. Plans are underway for national events in 1989.

Greenkeepers can now identify with their own National Association and Headquarters office. With its own uniform, logo, and personalised member benefits, there is already an increasing awareness of BIGGA within the golfing world where the views and aspirations of greenkeepers can now be projected.

Now is the time to join BIGGA and be a part of the exciting developments which lie ahead as the Association establishes an organised, professional approach to greenkeeping in all its many aspects.

Neil Thomas, Executive Director

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NATIONAL TOURNAMENT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 1988

THIS first major event for the new Association will take place in Ayrshire, week commencing 25th September, 1988.

There will be three days of tournament golf followed by a two day International Conference. A Sub-Committee of the Scottish Region has been formed to organise the event and is working closely in conjunction with myself.

There will be full and varied entertainment each evening and, for the ladies, an interesting programme of excursions and visits is being arranged. Full details will appear, together with a registration form in a brochure currently being prepared. Registrations and bookings will be co-ordinated through the Scottish Regional Office and members wishing to make early reservations should contact Mr. C. Kennedy, Regional Administrator, BIGGA, 82 Dumbreck Road, Glasgow, G41 9DW - tel. 041-427-4242.

The cost for the week will be £170 per person (£320 for a couple), to include six nights hotel accommodation with breakfast, entrance to the competitions and attendance at the conference. The price also covers evening entertainment as well as, for the ladies, coach excursions and

visits. There will be an extra charge of £10 for those wishing to attend the banquet and prize-giving on the last evening. Tickets for the banquet will be limited and early reservations are essential. For those wishing to participate in the tournament and the conference but making their own accommodation arrangements or attending on a daily basis, the cost will be £50 for five days. For those wishing to attend the conference alone, the cost will be £10 per day.

I would ask members to give their full support to this inaugural event. It is important for the Association that it is successful and that those participating will wish to attend again in the future. It will be an occasion for establishing international contacts and projecting the Association at home and abroad. The choice of speakers for the conference will most certainly reflect the international aspect of the event. Chris Kennedy will be pleased to deal with any individual queries and members will be kept informed through 'the Golf Course' as details of the event are finalised.

Neil Thomas

HEAD GREENKEEPER

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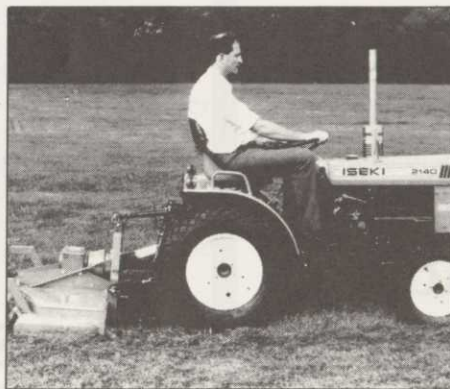
Applications are invited for the above post to commence in April 1988. Apply stating age, experience, and qualifications to:-

**The Head Greenkeeper,
St. Neots Golf Club,
Crosshall Road,
St. Neots,
Cams.
PE19 4AE**

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Look out for more details in the March issue.



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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'*.

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS AND SECTION SECRETARIES

**SCOTISH REGION
ADMINISTRATOR:**
Mr. C. Kennedy
82 Dumbreck Road
GLASGOW
Scotland
G41 9DW
Tel: 041-427-4242

SECRETARIES:
Ayrshire
Mr. J. Paton
Glenhaven
1 North Road
WEST KILBRIDE
Ayrshire
KA23 9AQ
Tel: 0294-823210

Central
Mr. J. Crawford
1 Katrine Drive
Crossford
DUNFERMLINE
Scotland
KY12 8XR
Tel: 0383-737753

East
Mr. W. Blair
13 Redhall Avenue
EDINBURGH
Scotland
EH14 2HP
Tel: 031-443-3214

North
Mr. G. Moir
31 Blantyre Crescent
FRASERBURGH
Aberdeenshire
Tel: 0346-26931

West
Mr. R. Brewer
Flat 1
10 Viewfield Street
STIRLING
Scotland
FK8 1UA
Tel: 0786-64098

**NORTHERN REGION
ADMINISTRATOR:**
Mr. D. Golding
38 The Grove
Flixton
MANCHESTER
M31 3UH
Tel: 061-928-0761
061-748-8680/8592

SECRETARIES:
North East
Mr. J. F. Richardson
20 Aston Way
Clavering Park
WHICKHAM
Tyne & Wear
Tel: 091-4886765

North West
Mr. M. Lewis
35 Haddon Drive
Pensby
WIRRAL
Merseyside
L61 8TF
Tel: 051-648-1084

Northern
Mr. D. Hannam
12 Morfield Avenue
MENSTON
Nr. Ilkley
West Yorkshire
LS29 6HB
Tel: 0943-72008

Cleveland
Mr. T. A. Naisbitt
35 Jesmond Road
DARLINGTON
Co. Durham
DL1 2TT
Tel: 0325-489297/55738

Sheffield
Mr. G. Brammah
302 Redmires Road
Lodgemore
SHEFFIELD
South Yorkshire
S10 4LD
Tel: 0742-302526

**MIDLAND AND NORTH WALES
ADMINISTRATOR:**
Mr. A. Phipps-Jones
1 Devonshire Place
Priors Park
TEWKESBURY
Glos
Tel: 0684-292892/29540

SECRETARIES:
East Midland
Mr. R. W. Willars
27 Condor Close
Broughton Astley
LEICESTER
Leics.
LE9 6RR
Tel: 053-431795

Mid Anglia
Mr. L. Wakorall
26 Loxley Road
BERKHAMSTEAD
Herts
HP4 3PS
Tel: No Telephone

Berks/Bucks/Oxon
Mr. R. P. Kates
6 Honey Hill
HILLINGDON
Middlesex
UB10 9NP
Tel: 0895-53581

Midland
Mr. I. R. Toon
31 Worcester Lane
Four Oaks
SUTTON COLDFIELD
West Midlands
B75 5NA
Tel: 021-308-6684

East of England
Mr. C. C. Swingle
Greenwell Cottage
Church Street
Barrowby
GRANTHAM
Lincs
Tel: 0476-68656/63355

**SOUTH EAST REGION
ADMINISTRATOR:**
Mr. N. Exley
1 The Farmhouse
Hills Lane
NORTHWOOD
Middlesex
HA6 2QL
Tel: 09274-24737

SECRETARIES:
Surrey
Mr. J. Russell
Hnakey Common
Golf Club
Tilford
FARNHAM
Surrey
GU10 2DD
Tel: 025-125-4287

Sussex
Mr. D. Coomber
1 Friars Oak Cottages
HASSOCKS
Sussex
BN6 9NA
Tel: 07918-5084

Kent
Mr. J. Millen
Canterbury Golf Club
Scotland Hills
CANTERBURY
Kent
CT1 1TW
Tel: 0227-470025

London
Mr. M. Peters
10 Hills Lane
NORTHWOOD
Middlesex
Tel: 09274-28167

East Anglia
Mr. S. J. Noye
2 Golf Cottages
Purdis Heath
Bucklesham Road
IPSWICH
Suffolk
IP3 8UG
Tel: 0273-723101

**SOUTH WEST & SOUTH WALES
ADMINISTRATOR:**
Mr. G. Chil
Archways
Churston Road
CHURSTON FERRERS
South Devon
Tel: 0803-844056/845274

SECRETARIES:
South Coast
Mr. J. R. Dennis
The Bungalow Hampshire
Sparsholt
WINCHESTER
Hampshire
SO12 2NF
Tel: 096-272-441 Ext. 288

South West
Mr. P. Worster
17 Chesterton Grove
CIRENCESTER
Glos
Tel: 0285-61908

Devon & Cornwall
Mr. W. Pii
33 Knowle Drive
Exwick
EXETER
Devon
Tel: 0392-214053

South Wales
Mr. P. J. Swain
7 Elm Close
Underwood Estate
Llanmartin
NEWPORT Gwent NP6 2HT
Tel: 0633-413227

GREENKEEPER TRAINING COMMITTEE

Members should note that the administration of the Greenkeeper Training Committee is now in the process of being transferred to Mr. Neil Thomas who will become the General Administrator to the Committee. All matters relating to Greenkeeper training should henceforth be directed to the General Administrator, Greenkeeper Training Committee at the Sports Turf Research Institute, BINGLEY, West Yorkshire. BD16 1AU - Telephone (0274) 560556.

For members' benefit, the Greenkeeper Training Committee has recommended that the following Colleges be the approved establishments for Greenkeeper training:-

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Cheshire College of Agriculture
Peaseheath
NANTWICH
Cheshire
Tel: 0270-625131

Askham Bryan College of Agriculture
and Horticulture
Askham Bryan
YORK

Tel: 0904-702121

Somerset College of Agriculture
and Horticulture
Cannington
BRIDGWATER
Somerset
Tel: 0278-652226

Hampshire College of Agriculture
Sparsholt
WINCHESTER
Hampshire
Tel: 096 272 4411

IRELAND
The Botanic Gardens
Glasnevin
DUBLIN
Republic of Ireland
Tel: 0001 377596

SCOTLAND
Elmwood Agricultural and Tech College
Carslogie Road
CUPAR, Fife

Tel: 0334-52781

Langside College
Woodburn House
Horticulture Dept
Buchanan Drive
Rutherglen
GLASGOW
Tel: 041-649-4991

Oatridge Agricultural College
Ecclesmachan
BROXBURN
West Lothian

Tel: 0506-854387