



RUFFORD TOP DRESS SUPPLIES



Britain's newest and largest producer of
Top-Dress, with a distribution network
throughout the United Kingdom and Europe

AN INVITATION

We cordially invite all Golf Course Managers, Greenkeepers, Recreation
Managers and Landscape Architects, Distributors, Wholesalers,
Retailers or anyone who might be interested to come and visit our Quarry at
Rufford Nr. Southport, Lancs,
to see for yourselves why we are able to offer you the customer:

UNRIVALLED CONSISTENCY OF QUALITY AND SERVICE

We dearly wish to demonstrate our claim to be considered as
BRITAIN'S NO: 1 PRODUCER OF TOP-DRESS

We could make it a family day out as you can also visit the
world famous MARTIN MERE WILDFOWL TRUST, which is literally next
door to our Quarry. We are even happy to see you at Weekends, and if you
arrive at lunchtime we might even treat you to a Pub Lunch!

**Q
U
A
L
I
T
Y**

**S
E
R
V
I
C
E**

If you would like to inspect before you buy, please contact us or your nearest distributor or simply
receive our latest prices and brochure. Just clip the coupon, return it to us and we will do the rest...

✂-----✂
Name
Company
Address
.....
Postcode Tel:.....

Britain's No. 1 for quality and service

**RUFFORD TOP-DRESS SUPPLIES · HAMBRO HOUSE · BRADFIELD ROAD
URMSTON · MANCHESTER M31 1PA · TELEPHONE: 061 747 4333**

Rufford Top-Dress

Fine soil and silica sand in
the mix ratio of your choice.
In bulk and in 25kg bags.

Rufford Screened Soil

Free draining.
Ideal for green & tee
construction & repairs.

Rufford Sedge Peat

Mixed with soil, sand and/
or fertiliser, makes ideal
planting compost.

Unique Quality Guarantee

All Rufford products
made from our own
quarry reserves.

Fast delivery Nationwide

Large distributor
network. Delivery within,
24 hours normal.



**BIGGA 1984
UPDATE**

JANUARY and February proved to be exceptionally busy months at Headquarters, with large amounts of mail to be processed each day in terms of membership applications/renewals. Particularly encouraging is the number of new applications for membership.

It remains essential for section secretaries to ensure that their sections are giving priority to increasing their local membership as strength lies in numbers, and on a national basis the impact of the Association will be that much greater with a strong and growing membership.

Annual General Meeting

Apologies to members for the change of location. However, it is a positive decision based on an anticipated attendance far in excess of that originally envisaged. The interest shown in the meeting and the members prepared to travel long distances to attend is all very encouraging for the future. Although they do not have voting rights, we would welcome the attendance of associate and trade members at the meeting.

Section Secretaries

Members should note that Jim Russell has departed to pastures new in Surrey whilst Bill Pile will step down at the end of April in Devon and Cornwall. Their replacements are Mr D C Johnson (Surrey), The Flat, New Zealand Golf Club, Woodham Lane, Surrey. KY15 3QD tel: 09323 48818 and Mr J H Wood (Devon and Cornwall), Morwenna, New Road, Cornwall.

Telephone 0736 63232.

Thanks are due to Jim and Bill for all their hard work. We hope that David and Jim will

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CHANGE OF VENUE

The Annual General Meeting will now be held on 23rd March, 1988 at 2.00pm in the Ainsty Suite at York Racecourse and NOT at the Royal York Hotel.

Trade and Associate Members as well as Greenkeeper Members are invited to attend.

**Neil Thomas
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

Continued on page 9

the Golf Course

MARCH 1988

Publisher: Fore Golf Publications Ltd.
Managing Director: Michael Coffey

All advertising matter, editorial copy and correspondence should be sent to:
the Golf Course, 121-123 High Street, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex. CO12 3AP
Tel: 0255 507526

Subscription rates:
UK - £18. USA - \$45. Continent - £30.
Eire - IR£23.

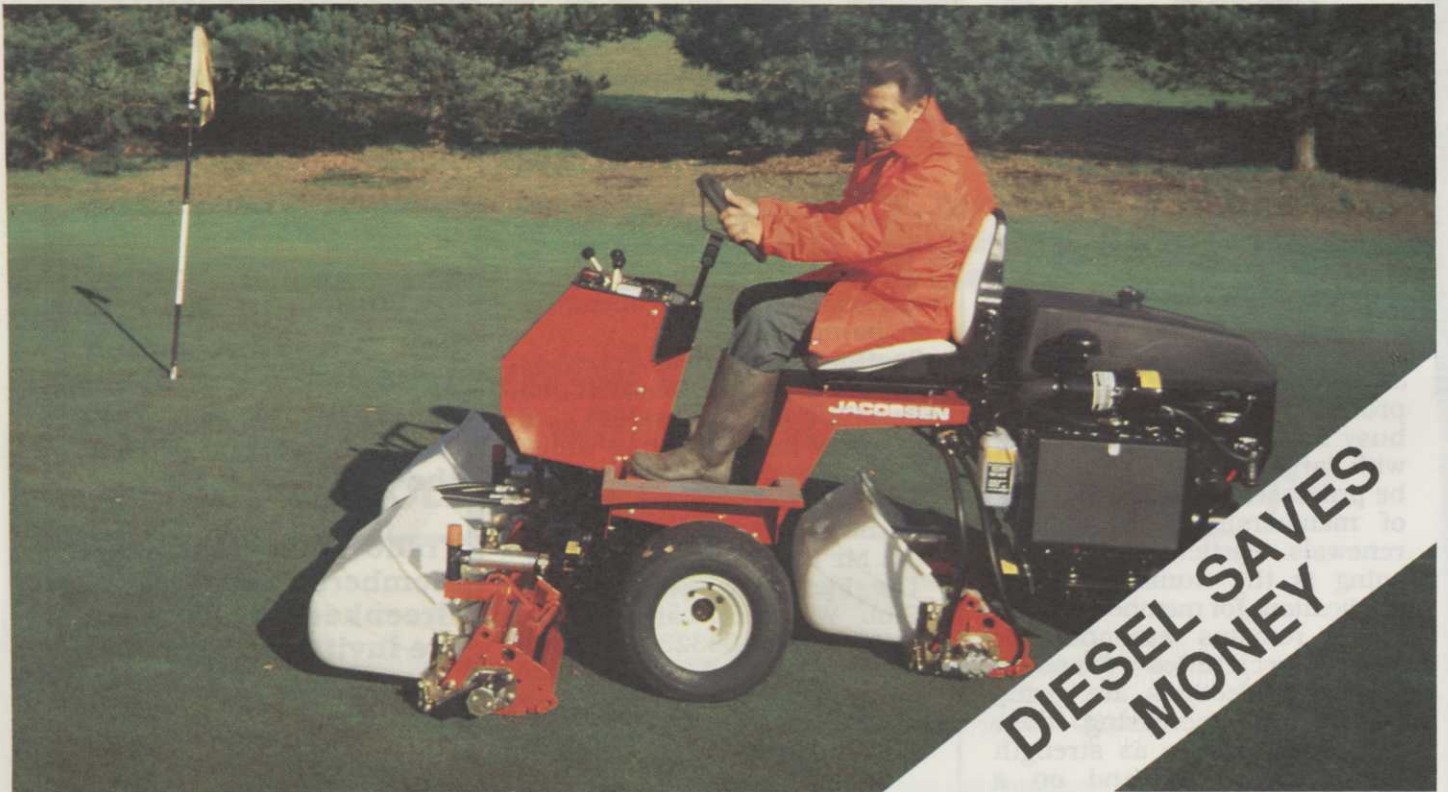
the Golf Course is published ten times a year.
Printed in England by J B Offset, Marks Tey, Colchester, Essex.
Copyright: Fore Golf Publications Ltd 1988

Front Cover: George R. Brown, Convention centre, Houston, Texas.

CONTENTS

COMPANY REVIEW - John Campbell talks to Chris Smith of Jacobsen	16
OUT ON THE COURSE - The RAC Club's Bob Wiles by John Campbell	20
OUT AND ABOUT IN TEXAS - Michael Coffey's review of the GCSAA conference and show in Houston	24
MANAGING A SURREY HEATHLAND COURSE by Ian McMillan	28
NOTEBOOK - all that's new in the industry today	34
APPOINTMENTS -	36, 46, 47, 49, 54
BUYERS GUIDE - THE industry's directory	55

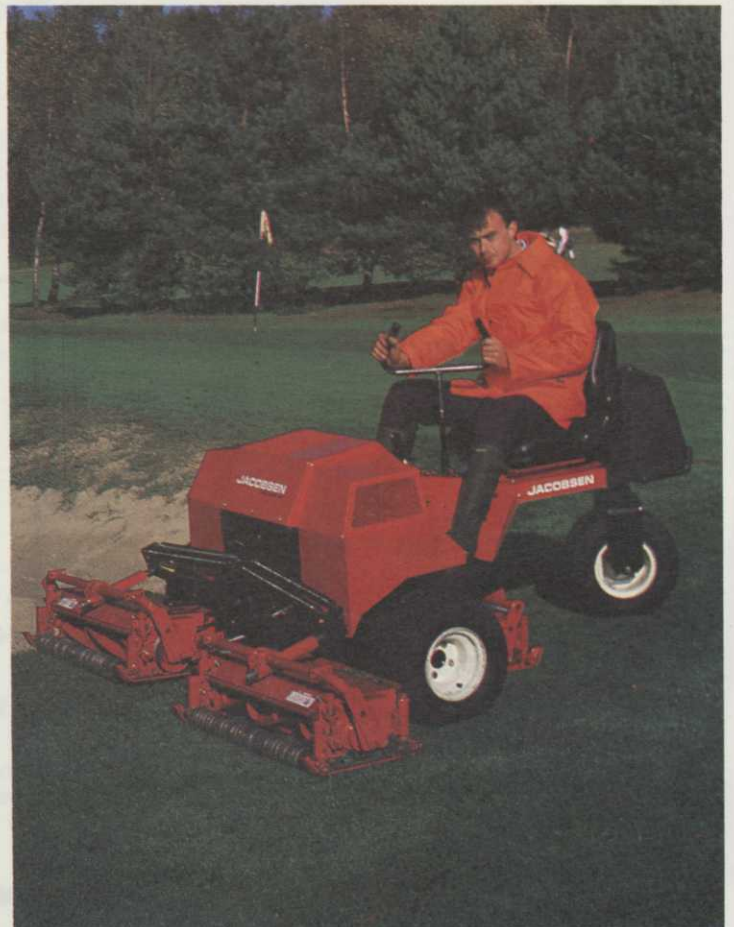
JACOBSEN®



KINGS ON YOUR COURSE

- Compare our price
- Quality & reliability
- Running costs & maintenance
- Greens King - Turf Groomer
- Tri-King - unrivalled stability with fixed or floating heads

*For full details of the
Jacobsen range
phone Chris Smith on 0553 763333*



WHEN IT COMES TO FEEDING TURF DIDIN* MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.

THE SPRING RANGE

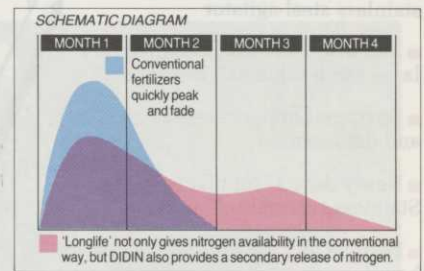
'Longlife' is an established range of fertilizers for all types of professionally managed turf. Whether it is to improve the quality of fine turf such as golf greens and bowling greens or to feed the grass of outfields and other amenity areas, the 'Longlife' range has the answer.

The spring fertilizers shown here will encourage good colour and healthy growth and all contain DIDIN, giving a unique form of

phased release nitrogen for long term feeding. They are all organic based and being mini-granules are easy and economical to apply.

THE DIFFERENCE

DIDIN is a unique ingredient to 'Longlife' fertilizers which provides phased release nitrogen for more even growth from fewer applications. By controlling the release of nitrogen over the long-



term DIDIN reduces the flush of growth experienced with conventional fertilizers.

DIDIN also reduces leaching to a minimum giving a more efficient use of the applied nitrogen.



Longlife

Fine Turf Fertilizers
 'Longlife' Finegreen 'N' 15:0:1 + 2% Mg
 'Longlife' Fine Turf Spring & Summer 14:3:7 + 2% Mg
Outfield Fertilizers
 'Longlife' Groundsman Spring & Summer 11:6:9 + 1% Mg
 'Longlife' Groundsman Nitrogen 25:0:1: + 1.5% Mg
Fertilizer With Herbicides
 'Longlife' Plus 14:3:7 + 2% Mg and 2,4-D + dicamba



**Professional
Products**

TEL: (0252) 724525

'Longlife' Plus contains 2,4-D and dicamba. *DIDIN* is a trade mark of SKW Trostberg AG. 'Longlife' is a trade mark of Imperial Chemical Industries PLC.
 READ THE LABEL BEFORE YOU BUY; USE PESTICIDES SAFELY.

Spread the word!
 "Supaturf have launched a new range of fertilisers"

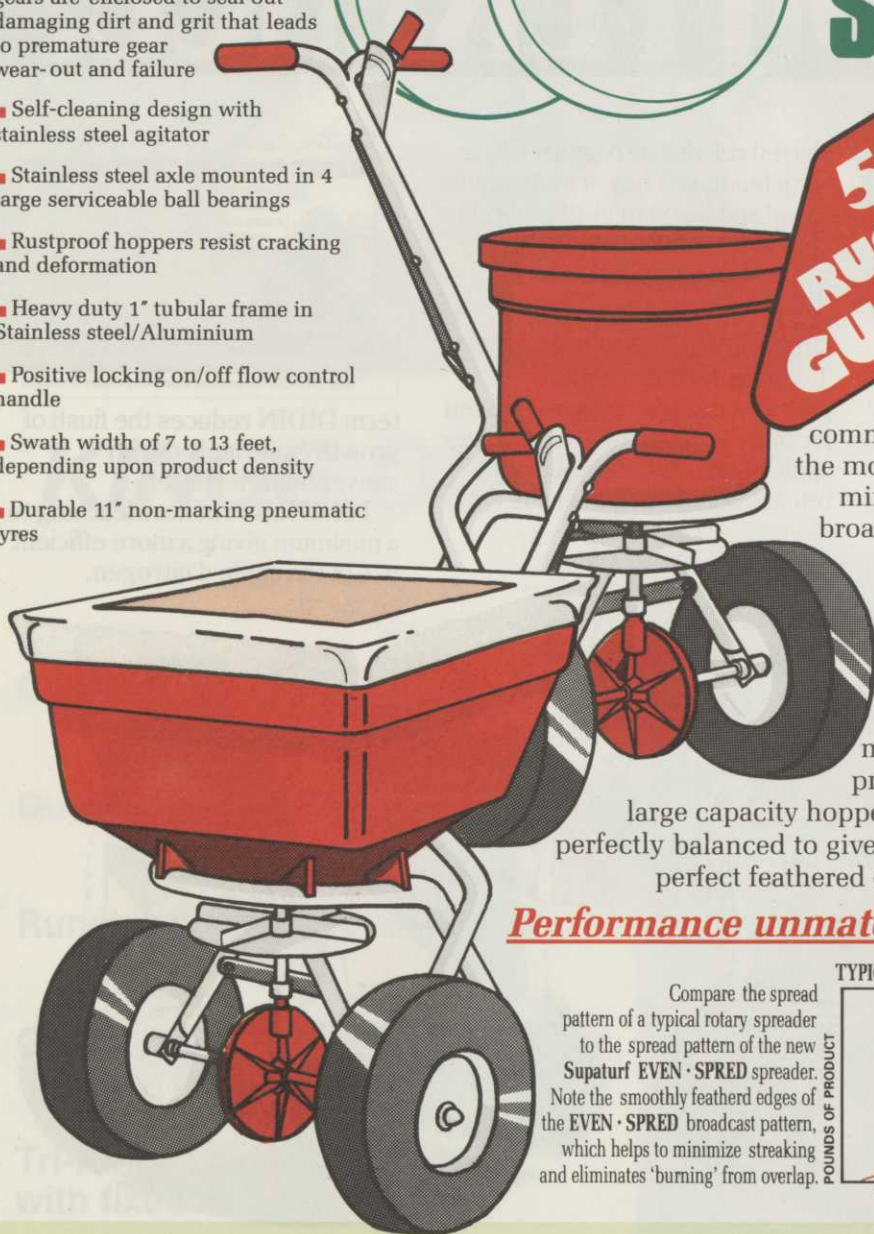
NOW a commercial spreader built to last

EVEN • SPRED

SPREADERS

- Permanently lubricated 5" gears are enclosed to seal out damaging dirt and grit that leads to premature gear wear-out and failure
- Self-cleaning design with stainless steel agitator
- Stainless steel axle mounted in 4 large serviceable ball bearings
- Rustproof hoppers resist cracking and deformation
- Heavy duty 1" tubular frame in Stainless steel/Aluminium
- Positive locking on/off flow control handle
- Swath width of 7 to 13 feet, depending upon product density
- Durable 11" non-marking pneumatic tyres

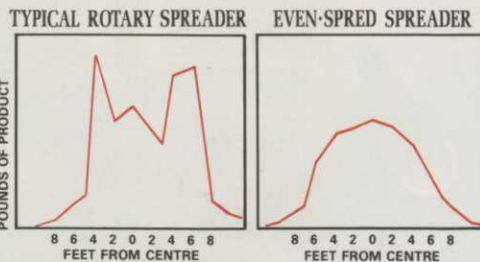
5 year RUST PROOF GUARANTEE



The **EVEN • SPRED** built by professionals for professionals • Designed to withstand the rigours of tough commercial turf care applications using the most modern materials and up to the minute technology • **EVEN • SPRED's** broadcast system is totally self cleaning and rustproof to ensure years of dependable service • **EVEN • SPRED's** huge 5" enclosed gears seal out damaging dirt and grit to help eliminate premature gear wear • All **EVEN • SPRED** models are manufactured with rust-proof heavy duty tubular frames and large capacity hoppers. The **EVEN • SPRED** is light and perfectly balanced to give a smooth efficient operation and a perfect feathered edge for even broadcast every time.

Performance unmatched by the competition

Compare the spread pattern of a typical rotary spreader to the spread pattern of the new Supaturf **EVEN • SPRED** spreader. Note the smoothly feathered edges of the **EVEN • SPRED** broadcast pattern, which helps to minimize streaking and eliminates 'burning' from overlap.



For any further information contact one of the following branches.

Head Office Oxney Road, Peterborough Cambridgeshire PE1 5YZ Tel: (0733) 68384

Branches

North
 Unit 2
 Ripley Close
 Normanton
 Wakefield
 West Yorkshire
 WF6 1TB
 Tel: (0924) 891000

South
 Dromenagh Farm
 Seven Hills Road
 Iver Heath
 Buckinghamshire
 Tel: (0895) 832626/834198

South West
 D.O. Hunt Limited
 14 Fairfax Road
 Heathfield
 Newton Abbot
 Devon
 TQ12 6UD
 Tel: (0626) 834499

Midland & South Wales
 Unit 104B
 Hartlebury Trading Estate
 Kidderminster
 Worcestershire
 Tel: (0299) 250087

Supaturf

Toro

the name you can trust

... and to guarantee that your club members have a course in 'tip-top' condition, you can do no better than get behind the wheel of a TORO! There are models to suit the needs of all Greenkeepers and the odd peculiarities of undulating ground contours. The GREENSMASTER 3000 together with the new 'groomer reels' can produce the finest greens on any course. Take a trial run at anytime and you will immediately see the value of TORO's unequalled technology in manufacturing the right machine for the right task. Fairways and Aprons are efficiently cut whatever the weather, complimented by the GREENS AERATOR which assists with that previously slow task of turf aeration. The popular SAND-PRO is also No. 1 choice for those important bunkers.

UK DISTRIBUTORS
LELY (UK) LIMITED STATION ROAD
 ST. NEOTS · HUNTINGDON · CAMBS · PE19 1QH
 Telephone: (0480) 76971
 Telex: 32523



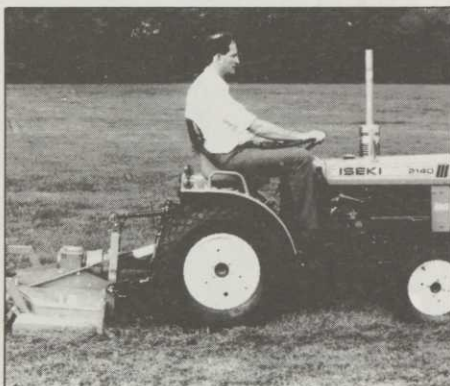
TORO Groomer Reels can be fitted to most GREENSMASTERS



Literature Please send details as ticked
 Name Nearest Dealer Trial/Demo
 Address _____
 Post Code _____
 Tel _____
 Student
 GC/88

Play around with

ISEKI



This year you can play a round with Iseki in the Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Tournament, in association with the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association.

Five regional finals of 18 holes medal play lead to qualification for the National Final - to

be played over 27 holes medal play this September.

There's some great prizes on offer and, we hope, excellent golf too.

Look out for more details in the March issue.



Iseki U.K. Limited, Bydand Lane, Little Paxton, Cambs. PE19 4ES. Telephone (0480) 218100. Telex 32528

ISEKI
Par Excellence

Continued from page 3

soon settle in and enjoy the challenges which lie ahead. An amendment to last month's list - Arnold Phipps-Jones can be contacted at 1 Devonshire Place, Priors Park, Glos. GL20 5ES Tel: 0684 850129/295405.

Uniform

There has been some confusion in relation to the Association's badge. An embroidered badge has now been considered and rejected.

The badge will therefore definitely be a wire one and samples are awaited. It is appreciated that the delay is frustrating but it is essential that the Association exercises caution in its choice of uniform as the end result must create a professional image. Supply times on all items have been lengthy in terms of the initial deliveries but future turn-round times should prove acceptable. Once again, I would stress that all orders should be submitted via your section

secretary and NOT direct to headquarters.

Diary

Section secretaries, please ensure that all section dates are forwarded to your regional administrators who should liaise with each other and co-ordinate dates for submission to myself. This will prevent clashes within regions/sections and ensure an organised approach throughout the country.

Neil Thomas
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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: 0346-26631

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 3JH
Tel: 061-928-0761
061-748-8680/8562

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 Jeamond Road
DARLINGTON
Co. Durham
DL1 2TT
Tel: 0325-489287/55738

Sheffield
Mr. G. Brammah
302 Redmires Road
Lodgemoore
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
LE9 6RR
Tel: 053-431795

Mid Anglia
Mr. L. Wakerall
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: 021-308-6694

East of England
Mr. C. C. Swinger
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. D. C. Johnson
The Flat
New Zealand Golf Club
Woodham Lane
Weybridge Surrey.
KY15 3QD
Tel: 09323 48818

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: 09274-26167

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

SOUTH WEST & SOUTH WALES

ADMINISTRATOR:
Mr. G. Child
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: 086 272 441 Ext.288

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

Devon & Cornwall
Mr. H. J. Wood
Morwenna
New Road
PENZANCE
Cornwall
Tel: 0736 63232

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:-

ENGLAND AND WALES
Cheshire College of Agriculture
Reaseheath
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

Plumpton Agricultural College
LEWES
East Sussex
Tel: 0273 890454

Hampshire College of Agriculture
Sparsholt
WINCHESTER
Hampshire
Tel: 086 272 4411

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

SCOTLAND
Elmwood Agricultural and Tech College
Caralgie Road
CUPAR, Fife

Tel: 0334-52781
Langaide College
Woodburn House
Horticulture Dept
Buchanan Drive
Rutherglen
GLASGOW
Tel: 041-649-4901

Oatridge Agricultural College
Ecclesmachan
BROXBURN
West Lothian
Tel: 0506-854387

ISEKI

GREENKEEPERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

PLANS for the BIGGA/Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Championship are now well advanced with dates for the regional finals now allocated as follows:-

Northern England: 24th May, Moor Allerton Golf Club, Leeds.

Scottish: 2nd June, Hilton Park Golf Club, Glasgow.

South Western: 15th June, Long Ashton Golf Club, Bristol.

Midlands: 27th June, Tewkesbury Golf Club, Gloucestershire.

South Eastern: 29th June, Wentworth Golf Club, Surrey.

These regional finals will be played over 18 holes of medal play, with prizes on offer for all

three categories of handicap player plus spot prizes as well.

Category 1: Handicap 0 - 9 inclusive.

Category 2: 10 - 18 inclusive.

Category 3: Above 18.

The first four players from each category will then qualify for the national final which will be played in early September.

If you would like to play in the 1988 Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Tournament, please send the registration form to your regional administrator. Each regional final will be confined to 60 qualifiers apportioned equally between the sections in the region, ie. in a region with five sections, each section will provide twelve qualifiers, four from each category.

REGISTRATION FORM 1988 ISEKI GREENKEEPERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

I would like to be considered to play in the 1988 Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Tournament

NAME _____

GOLF CLUB _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

HOME TEL: NO: _____ WORK TEL: NO: _____

OFFICIAL HANDICAP _____

ISSUED BY GOLF CLUB _____

PLEASE SEND THIS FOR TO YOUR
REGIONAL BIGGA ADMINSTRATOR
AS INDICATED

BELOW:

Scottish Region

Mr C Kennedy,
82 Dumbreck Road, GLASGOW,
Scotland. G41 9DW Tel: 041 427 4242

Midland and North Wales Region

Mr A Phipps-Jones,
1 Devonshire Place,
Priors Park, Tewkesbury, Glos.
GL20 5ES. Tel: 0684 850129/295405

South West and South Wales Region

Mr G Child,
Archways, Churston Road,
Churston Ferrers, South Devon.
Tel: 0803 844056/845274

Northern Region

Mr D Golding,
38 The Greve, Flixton, Manchester.
M31 3JH Tel: 061 928 0761

South East Region

Mr N Exley,
1 The Farmhouse, Hills Lane,
Northwood, Middlesex. HA6 2QL
Tel: 09274 24737