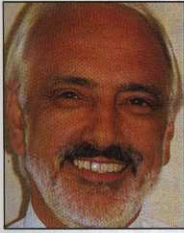




Membership joins with industry to boost Fund

NEW MEMBERS



René Orban



Roy Kates



Howard Evans

Jacobsens are the latest company to join the Golden Key Circle.

René Orban, Managing Director, Jacobsen Ltd commented, "We think the Education and Development Fund is ideal for companies wishing to contribute to the future development of greenkeeper education and training.

"Membership of the Golden Key Circle is a natural path for Jacobsens to follow as a company with a long tradition of supporting the greenkeeping profession.

Contributions from the industry, the game and BIGGA members are now being channelled into one central fund, which will provide substantial future training benefits for greenkeepers."

Neil Thomas, Executive Director, BIGGA, welcomed Jacobsens' contribution pointing out that they are the tenth company to join the Golden Key Circle since its inception in January.

Donations to the new fund in the last month signify the impact of the fund on the BIGGA membership. The South East region board donated a sum of £790.65 whilst the Surrey section committee has contributed £1,000. In welcoming these initiatives at both region and section level, Neil Thomas said: "It is particularly pleasing that BIGGA's own membership is recognising the importance of the new fund in terms of enhancing future greenkeeper education and training.

These are significant contributions and give a further boost to the fund which to date has met with an encouraging response. In the months ahead I am hopeful that increasing publicity will generate further interest within the game, the industry and our own membership and thereby

provide a sound base for future educational developments."

The growth and success of the Westurf Exhibition has been reflected in a donation of £1,000 to the Education and Development Fund by its organising committee. The committee says it considers it "very important that monies raised from the exhibition are utilised towards new and improved training programmes for greenkeepers." Those companies supporting the exhibition are therefore contributing to the continued growth of the new fund and BIGGA is much appreciative both of their support and the donation of the Westurf committee.

BIGGA will be presenting plaques to Jacobsens, the South East region, Surrey section and the Westurf committee to mark their donations.

■ Association Chairman Roy Kates has joined the Golden Key Circle on an individual basis.

"I consider it most important that members of the Association support the new fund," he said. "I am sure it will have a significant impact on the future of greenkeeper education and I would urge all members to offer their support in this inaugural year - and thereby ensure the fund is soundly established and will offer lasting benefits for the future training of greenkeepers."

■ Howard Evans, Special Financial Advisor to BIGGA on pensions and mortgages, has also joined the Golden Key Circle.

"I am in regular contact with greenkeepers all over the UK on a personal basis and I am only too well aware of the need to offer increased educational and training opportunities to those working in the profession," he said.

"It gives me great pleasure therefore to contribute to the Education and Development Fund."

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