

Education update

BY KEN RICHARDSON



A timely reminder for those greenkeepers considering attending this year's supervisory and management courses, an update on the Master Greenkeeper Certificate and the Toro/PGA European Tour Student of the Year Award.

Book now for management courses

BIGGA SUPERVISORY AND MANAGEMENT COURSES

BIGGA Supervisory and Management Courses provide the ideal opportunity to help head greenkeepers bridge the gap to course manager. Head greenkeepers who have not received any formal supervisory or management training should advise their clubs that grants of £150 are available from the GTC to help with the cost of sending their greenkeepers on one or more GTC endorsed management courses.

The 1994 series of BIGGA Supervisory and Management Courses has been designed to meet the underpinning knowledge requirements of S/NVQ Level 3 Units. BIGGA courses are open to all greenkeepers who need to improve their supervisory and management skills. Courses cover:

- **Week 1, Managing People – Module 1.**

This week deals with team building skills, interpersonal skills, time management and staff appraisal, planning, problem solving, decision making, assisting staff to solve problems, computers in greenkeeping, which includes operating systems, word processing, databases and spreadsheets, and a presentation by a top course manager.

- **Week 2, Managing People – Module 2.**

This week deals with assertive communication, building relationships, influencing skills, communications, dealing with disagreements and conflict, listening skills, giving advice, grievance and discipline, computers in greenkeeping and a presentation by a top course manager.

- **Week 3, Managing Operations and Resources**

This week deals with planning and organising, communicating with others, dealing with accidents, maintaining a safe and healthy environment, suggesting improvements, solving problems and relating costs to employer's objectives and golfers' requirements, planning, monitoring and controlling the use of resources, handling disruptions, computers in greenkeeping and a presentation by a top course manager.

- **Week 4, Managing Information**

This week deals with collecting

and recording information, checking information for accuracy, recording information, using information to inform others about organisations objectives and policy, giving advice, presenting information to others, communicating clearly, computers in greenkeeping and a presentation by a top course manager.

All course delegates and employers will receive an end of course summary. This could be used to provide evidence for NVQ/SVQ assessors.

Attendance at each year's course qualifies for eight credits towards the Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

The cost per week, including accommodation, all meals and tuition fees is £420+VAT for BIGGA members and £475+VAT for non-members (prior to the grant allowance).

This year's courses are filling up fast, make sure of your place by returning the card in this magazine together with a deposit of £100+VAT (total £117.50). If you need advice on which week to attend or have any other queries call me on 0347 838581.

Master Greenkeeper Certificate

At the last BIGGA education sub-committee meeting, it was decided that the Master Greenkeeper Certificate scheme needed to be reviewed to reflect changes in greenkeeper education and training and to incorporate changes to the rules and administration of the award. A working party has been set up to conduct the review, which will take place in the autumn, however, one change that can take place is the timing of the stage 3 examinations. As from November 1994, Stage 3 examinations will be set, if required, in November and March of each year. This will allow candidates to sit an examination and, if necessary, two resits within a 12-month period. Additionally, candidates may choose to attend a 1 day examination technique workshop at Aldwark Manor. These workshops will cover basic examination techniques, group discussions and a briefing by a

member of the examiners panel.

Toro/PGA European Tour Student of the Year

The regional finals of the Toro/PGA European Tour Student of the Year awards take

place at Oaklands, Cannington, Pencoed, Warwickshire, Askham Bryan and Elmwood Colleges between September 10 and 11. The seven finalists will attend the National Final at Aldwark Manor, on October 2 and 3 1994.

COLLEGES



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For further details contact:

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Full time courses are also available, including an HND in Golf Course Management, and Sports Turf Options on BTEC First and National Diplomas, and Short Courses for Industry include FEPA Chemical Safety, Chainsaws, Safe Lifting and Manual Handling, and First Aid.

Reaseheath College facilities include a nine-hole golf course, bowling green and outdoor sports pitches, and excellent residential and social facilities complete the package – so find out more by contacting Dennis Mortram or Geoff Brereton.

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