



## Education Update

BY KEN RICHARDSON

A timely reminder for greenkeepers considering attending the supervisory and management courses; an update on the TORO/PGA European Tour Student of the Year Award, information on the Zeneca Premier Greenkeeper of the Year Competition, news of a new training course on the Ecological Management of Mammals and Birds and news about BIGGA's latest training booklet.

### BIGGA SUPERVISORY AND MANAGEMENT COURSES

This year's BIGGA Supervisory and Management Courses are filling up fast. Be sure to reserve your place by returning the card in this magazine, together with a cheque for £117.50 to BIGGA HQ at Aldwark Manor. These courses provide the ideal opportunity to help head greenkeepers bridge the gap to course manager and to prepare all greenkeepers for management roles. Head greenkeepers who have not received any formal supervisory or management training should advise their

clubs that grants of £150 may be available from the GTC to help with the cost of sending their greenkeepers on one or more GTC endorsed management courses.

The 1995 series of BIGGA Supervisory and Management Courses has been designed not only to meet the underpinning knowledge requirements of NVQ/SVQ Level 3 Units but also to introduce elements of NVQ/SVQ Level 4. BIGGA courses are open to all greenkeepers who need to improve their supervisory and management skills. The courses are:

**Module 1: Managing People 1.** October 16 - October 20. Covering team building, interpersonal skills, leadership, time management and computers in greenkeeping.

**Module 2: Managing People 2.** October 30 - November 3. Covering assertive communication, influencing skills, grievance and discipline and computers in greenkeeping.

**Module 3: Managing Operations**

**and Resources.** November 6 - November 10. Covering planning and organising, estimating cost, budgets and project management.

**Module 4: Managing Information.** November 13 - November 17. Covering writing memos, letters and reports, communication skills, collecting and recording information.

**Module 5: Management Techniques.** November 20 - November 24. Covering level 4 management techniques. Topics include maintenance and improvement of service and operations, project management, negotiation skills and quality assurance.

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 BIGGA non-members.

If you need advice on which week to attend or have any other queries call me on 01347 838581.

### Regional Supervisory and Management Courses

Places on the Scottish Region two-day supervisory and management course are going fast. These residential courses, which will be held on October 16/17 and October 18/19, have been introduced to make management training more accessible to all BIGGA members. Each course costs £50 for BIGGA members and £150 for non-members. Reserve your place by sending a deposit of £10 to BIGGA HQ.

Planning is being finalised to hold two two-day courses in the Northern Region, the Midland Region and the South Eastern Region, three two-day courses in the South West Region and one two-day course in Killarney, Southern Ireland. All these courses will be held in late February/early March 1996.

### TORO/PGA European Tour Student of the Year

Congratulations to all the students who have been selected to take part in this year's Student of the Year Competition. All entrants

will, shortly, be receiving news of the locations of the Regional Finals which will take place between September 11-18. The National Final will take place at Aldwark Manor on October 8/9.

### Zeneca (Miracle Care Professional Products) Premier Greenkeeper of the Year

Congratulations to the 15 regional finalists who have now been selected, three by each BIGGA region. Regional judging is currently taking place. The National Final will take place, at Aldwark Manor, on December 3/4.

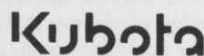
### The Ecological Management of Mammals and Birds

This one-day BIGGA training course/workshop, run by the Central Science Laboratory, is designed to enable greenkeepers to plan and conduct cost effective mammal and bird management programmes and determine the appropriateness and cost effectiveness of management programmes undertaken by pest control companies. Completion of the course can be used to provide evidence of competence in Task 117 (Pest Control) of the GTC Training Manual. The first course will be held at Walton Heath Golf Club, Surrey on October 23. The course, which is limited to 25 delegates costs £60 per person which includes all course materials, lunch and tea/coffee. CSL will be sending full details to all golf clubs in Surrey. To reserve your place, call me at BIGGA HQ.

### A Practical Guide to Ecological Management of the Golf Course

As pressures increase on greenkeepers to practise environmentally friendly maintenance procedures, it is timely that BIGGA, in co-operation with the STRI has commissioned this very readable practical guide. Thanks to a subsidy from the BIGGA Education and Development Fund, the book can be obtained for the extremely low price of £3 for members and £10 for non-members. BIGGA members can obtain their copy by sending £3, made payable to BIGGA, to BIGGA HQ at Aldwark Manor. Non-members can obtain copies from either BIGGA or from the STRI. Orders are being dispatched, currently, so be sure of obtaining your copy. Order now.

# MEETINGS



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