

ASSESSORS

WHO?
WHAT?
WHEN?

Ken Richardson, BIGGA's Education Officer and David Golding, Education Director for the GTC continue this series of articles with a closer look at assessors

1. What is an assessor?

An assessor is a person qualified to judge if a person is competent at his or her job.

2. Who can become greenkeeper assessors?

Any golf club with an N/SVQ candidate registered on the scheme, either through the GTC or one of its approved training providers, eg a college, may nominate a work based supervisor (normally a Course Manger/ Head Greenkeeper) for assessor training.

3. How are assessors trained?

Assessors trained by the GTC, attend an intensive one day of training at regional venues. Fol-



Sue Gudgeon: the GTC's N/SVQ National Coordinator

lowing this training day, the trainee assessors spend time practising assessment techniques before returning, approximately six weeks later, to be assessed, by the GTC, as assessors to national standards.

4. What exactly is the assessor qualification?

The assessor qualification is two units of a Level 3 N/SVQ in Training and Development, which is the National Standard of assessors in all industries.

However, to become an assessor of golf greenkeepers you must also prove industry competence, through qualification and/or experience.

5. Who pays for assessor training?

The GTC pays for all registration, training and certification costs.

6. How are assessors used?

The GTC, currently, has trained in excess of 200 greenkeepers as its industry assessors. Many are now assessing both GTC and college registered N/SVQ candidates on golf courses. Many are also assessing candidates at GTC approved colleges. These assessors are also available to golf clubs who, currently, do not have a trained assessor on their staff.

7. Who controls N/SVQ standards?

Awarding bodies such as City and Guilds, BTEC and SCOTVEC ensure that national standards are maintained by the use of internal and external verifiers and assessors.

8. What does my club get out of me becoming an assessor?

Becoming an assessor means that all greenkeeping staff can be assessed to national standards, on the golf course, so ensuring higher standards of greenkeeper and better staff motivation which in turn means better golf courses leading to improved image and greater profitability.

9. How do I find out more about assessor training?

Contact the GTC N/SVQ National Coordinator, Sue Gudgeon, on 01347 838640.

Next Month Ken and David will look at the role of training providers.

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