



Education Update

BY KEN RICHARDSON

Life has become very hectic in the Education and Training Department with Regional Courses, Aldwark Manor Courses and three competition finals taking place this month.

Bookings have started to arrive for the National Education Conference, Workshops and BTME Seminars and you need to send in your application as soon as possible to ensure that you reserve your place.

Despite all this activity, I managed to find time to visit Elmwood College, in Scotland, together with Janet Adamson, to talk to a group of full time students about the benefits of BIGGA membership. Hopefully, the information that we gave, together with a strong input from Ian MacMillan, Course Manager at Balbirnie Golf Club, will help to recruit many of these future greenkeepers.

The findings of the Standing Committee on Greenkeepers' Pay and Conditions of Service have now been published and will be

sent to all golf clubs soon. The main details are published on Page 22 and I thought that it would be useful to include a copy of the Greenkeepers Career Pattern in this column - see right.

The Standing Committee felt that a career in greenkeeping should be linked to qualifications and experience, with appropriate recognition in the form of enhanced pay. Further information on Contracts of Employment, Job Specifications and Greenkeeping Qualifications is available from BIGGA HQ.

Field Guides

The long awaited Grass Identification Field Guide is being printed and will be distributed later this month. Linked to the Greenkeepers' Training Manual, the guide gives information on the identification of ten common grasses found on golf courses. Further field guides on Trees and Shrubs, Control of Mammals and Machinery Maintenance will follow later in the year.

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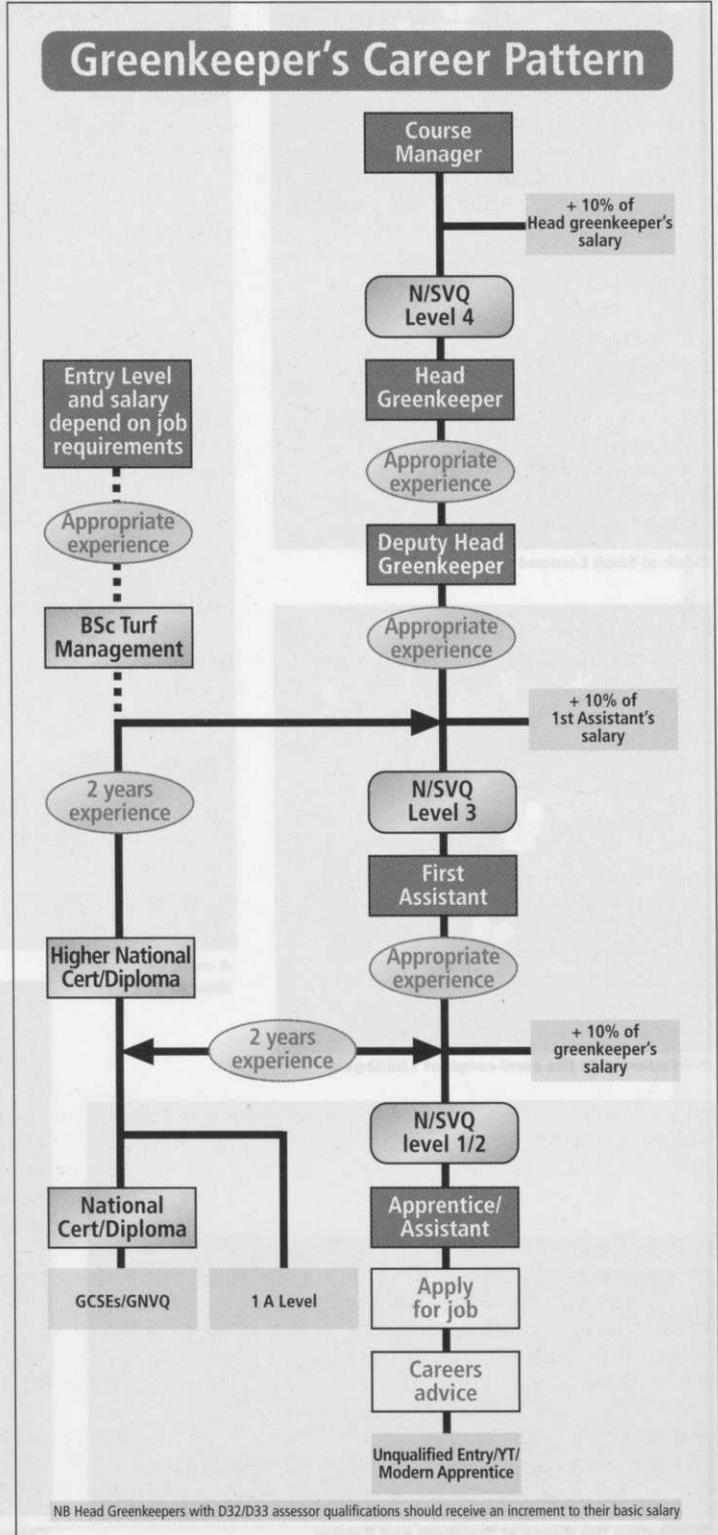
Keep those conference and workshop bookings rolling in

TRIMS 97

Copies of TRIMS 97 are available to colleges and other training providers for £350. This price represents a very substantial discount on the normal price for this latest edition of TRIMS course management software. Any training provider wishing to purchase a copy should contact me at HQ.

Turfgrass Pests and Diseases Compact Disk

Copies of the Turfgrass Pests and Diseases Compact Disk are now available from BIGGA HQ priced at £175. Designed to help Course Managers, Greenkeepers, Lecturers and Students discover the facts about turfgrass problems and how to manage them.



NB Head Greenkeepers with D32/D33 assessor qualifications should receive an increment to their basic salary