

Ken Richardson, BIGGA's Education and Training Manager, examines the new law governing the payment of study time taken by 16-18 year-olds.

TIME out

Young people aged 16 and 17 will be given the right to take time off, during their working hours, to undertake study or training, according to the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998, which has been confirmed by the Government as coming into force as from 1 September 1999.

The Act states that 16 and 17-year-old employees are entitled to take paid time off work to study for a qualification which would contribute to the attainment of, for example, a National/Scottish Vocational Qualification, which would be likely to enhance the employees employment prospects (whether with the current employer or otherwise). The amount of time of which an employee is allowed to take depends on the requirements of the study or training.

An employee aged 18 who is undertaking a course of study and began such study before attaining the age of eighteen is also covered by the Act.

The Act also states that an employee who is permitted to take time off, is entitled to be paid at the appropriate hourly rate.

The Learning Experience 2000

The Learning Experience 2000, in association with Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products, will take place, in Harrogate, from January 16 to January 21. Planning is almost complete and full details will be published in September.

Details already agreed are a new style National Education Conference, which will take a detailed look at Grasses for Golf Courses, Water Management, Golf Green Construction and Performance Management. The extended Workshop Programme introduces Golf Design II, the next step for those delegates who have attended a Golf Course Design I workshop, Golf Course Presentation which is aimed at Assistant and First Assistant Greenkeepers, presented by Walter Woods and George Brown, Written and Verbal Communication presented by Brin Bendon and Frank Newberry, Machinery Maintenance, presented by Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products and Computing for Greenkeepers.

The BTME Seminars, taking place in the Royal Hall on 19, 20 and 21 January look at the Past, Present and Future of Golf Greenkeeping with confirmed speakers from the USA, including Dr Joe Vargas, Canada and Europe.

The National Education Conference Dinner, on Monday January 17, at the Majestic Hotel, features after dinner speaker Dusty Young. The BTME Banquet will be held once again in Hall D of the Harrogate International Centre, on Thursday 20 January.

Further details of The Learning Experience 2000 will appear in this column in August.

Continuing Professional Development

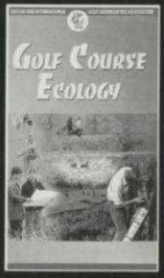
BIGGA's commitment to ongoing education and training is well known. Thanks to contributors to the Education and Development Fund, BIGGA has shown this commitment by spending £1,000,000 on education and training since 1994.

October 11 sees the start of this year's BIGGA House Supervisory and Management Courses, which cover Managing People, Managing Operations and Resources, Managing Information and Managing Golf Course Development. A leaflet containing full details of these courses was included in the June Edition of this magazine. Further copies are available from BIGGA House.

This year's programme of Regional Training Courses, covers Essential Supervisory Management Skills, Health and Safety, Soil Science, Golf Course Design, Budgeting and Finance. A leaflet containing detailed information on all of these courses is included in this magazine. For further copies please contact BIGGA HOUSE.

Please note: The booking form for the BIGGA HOUSE training courses contained an error. The date for the Managing Operations and Resources should have read 25-29 October and not 22-29 October.

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 £14.95 to BIGGA members
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