



Name: Stuart Hogg
GC: Fortrose & Rosemarkie
Age: 27

Stuart has been at the north of Scotland course for seven years, four as Head Greenkeeper, and in that time has produced both a Health and Safety Policy and Management Plan for the club. With a staff of four Stuart is a hand's on greenkeeper and he overhauls and services all greenkeeping machinery himself in the winter. He is a key member of the Greens Committee and in that role recommends what machinery is in need of replacement and when. He also has full control of the working budget. All staff attend BIGGA functions and Stuart is a regular attendee at BTME. He also invests in books and videos for his staff. Should he win he feels it would be a great boost to the profession in the north of Scotland.

Name: Andy Campbell
GC: Carden Park Resort
Age: 38

This is the second successive year that Andy has won his way to the National Final of the Toro Award for Excellence in Greenkeeping. Andy manages a staff of 33 who maintain Carden Park's two courses - Cheshire and Nicklaus each of which requires different maintenance practices to retain their distinctive styles. He advises of all agronomic, management, training and recruitment matters and sits on the monthly management committee meetings. The club is registered with the EGA Committed to Green Programme and also has close links with the RSPB.

Name: Barrie Lee
GC: Chester le Street GC
Age: 33

Barrie has been at the County Durham club for 11 years and has been Course Manager for five. His role within the golf club covers everything from risk assessment, working policy, all training, machinery maintenance and replacement, planning, instruction while he prides himself on being a working greenkeeper and carries out all the regular chores. In addition he carried out the building of six complete holes on the course. Becoming Toro Excellence in Greenkeeping winner would make his club extremely proud.



Excellence in Greenkeeping finalists



Name: Kim Blake
GC: Fulford Heath GC
Age: 40

Kim has been at the club for ten and a half years as Head Greenkeeper and he has control of all expenditure outside the clubhouse and the management of the course is left to him and the Greens Committee which meets every three months. He has been operating on a natural "back to basics" approach for the last two and a half years and last year introduced bacteria on to his greens on a five year programme. They have developed conservation areas and bought machines for the upkeep of these areas. Kim feels that winning the award would be a great way of thanking the club for all the support they have shown him over the last 10 years. He also says the award would belong as much to his Greens Committee of Graham Pillase and Ivor Cooper as himself as they have been the same for 12 years.



Name: Brian Turner
GC: Sunningdale GC
Age: 53

Brian has been at the prestigious Berkshire club as Head Greenkeeper for three years and manages the 18 staff who maintain the Old and New Courses. He lists his responsibilities as ensuring that the courses, and surrounding areas are kept in a first class condition; maintaining all records, that equipment is maintained correctly and that all staff are familiar with Health and Safety requirements. Part of the club is a SSSI and the management programme involves minimum spraying of chemicals and fertilisers. Brian, who is also an excellent golfer playing to a handicap of 3, says that winning the Award would be a feather in the cap of the club as well as his own.



Name: Matthew Maryon
GC: Yeovil GC
Age: 30

Matt has been at the 27 hole club for just over two years and in that time he has produced a Health and Safety Plan which was used as a template for the rest of the golf club and a five year development plan including irrigation renewal, tree plan, bunker renovation, tee construction, car park improvements and a machinery purchase plan. He is currently working on an Environmental policy for the club but they have already signed up to the EGA's Committed to Green Programme. Winning the Award would, says Matt, show the greenkeeping staff at Yeovil what is achievable in the industry and increase their motivation to do well.