



**BIGGA HOUSE and Local Training Courses are filling up fast!
BIGGA's Education & Training Manager, Ken Richardson gives details of the last few available places.**

EDUCATION UPDATE

The BIGGA Golf Course Environment Competition in Association with Amaze Ground Care and Grass Roots Trading Company

Bob Taylor, from STRI, and Dr Keith Duff, from English Nature, are reaching the final stages of judging for this Competition. The Regional Winners and the National Winner will be informed as soon as possible.

The Learning Experience 2000 sponsored by Textron Turfcare and Speciality Products

The Programme and booking form for the Learning Experience 2000 are included with this magazine. The National Education Conference, which is structured differently for 2000, will run alongside five Workshops followed by the BTME Seminars. We will also be running a course for Chairman of Green and Golf Club Secretaries, jointly, with the STRI, on Running Golf Courses in the 21st Century. Places are selling out fast with many delegates booking their place before the brochure was printed. To be sure of your place at Harrogate in January 2000, ensure that you complete and return your booking form as soon as possible. For further information on the Learning Experience or for advice on completing your booking form, please contact Sami on the Learning Experience Hot Line 01347 833833.

BIGGA HOUSE and Local Training Courses

Applications for both Regional Training Courses and BIGGA House Courses are arriving at HQ at a steady rate, with two courses almost full. Contact either Ken Richardson or Sami on 01347 833800 to check current availability.

Education courses Full or nearly full

Budgeting, Bournemouth 11-12 October	Full
Budgeting, Maidstone 3-4 November	1 place left
Health & Safety 1, Cambridge 9 November	1 place left
Health & Safety 2, Crawley 10 November	Full
Soil Science, Hatfield 23 November	3 places left
Essential Management Skills Leicester, 24-25 Nov	Full
Soil Science Bigga House 30 November	1 place left
Health & Safety 2, Crawley 3 February	2 places left
Essential Management, Falkirk 7-8 February	4 places left
Essential management, Brighton 28-29 Feb	Full
Essential Management, Brighton, 1-2 March	Full

The Scottish Golf Course Advisory Group Golf Bag Project

The Scottish Golf Course Advisory Group has been working hard over a number of years to improve the environmental quality of Scottish Golf Courses. This important objective has been supported by the introduction of 'Golf Bags' to more than 50 sites throughout Scotland. The Golf Bags do not contain clubs, balls or clothing, rather, they contain a wealth of information on environmental management and environmentally aware golf course design, including books, videos, leaflets and case studies.

Each Golf Bag is looked after by a Bag Manager who is responsible for the dispatch and return of all items in the bag. Golf Clubs may borrow items from the bag or may buy items if they wish to hold onto them permanently. Golf Bags contain information on birds, bird boxes, nests, bracken, walls, hedges, dunes, heathland, moorland, lowlands, woodlands and waterways, to name but a few, giving information that greenkeepers, club officials, golf club members, architects and constructors could all find useful.

In his foreword to the Golf Bag Handbook, Colin Montgomerie says that a golf course that has been sensitively designed and managed in a way that works with nature is normally more interesting and challenging. The information provided in the Golf Bag

proves that golf and the environment can work together providing a respite from outside pressures and ensuring that golf courses and the areas that surround them will be available for our descendants to enjoy.

The Golf Bag is an excellent idea giving a mass of easy to follow information on golf course ecological management. It would be pleasing to see such Golf Bags available to all golf clubs in Britain and throughout Europe.

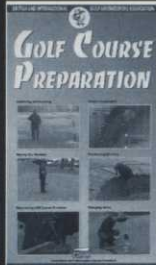
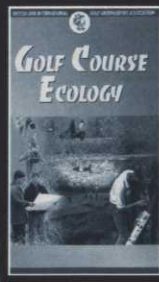
More information on the Golf Bags, including the location of your nearest Golf Bag Manager and general advice on all aspects of conservation on golf courses can be obtained from the Scottish Golf Course Wildlife Advisor, c/o Scottish Natural Heritage, 2 Anderson Place, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 5NP, 0131 5549797.

Full details of the education and training options available at BTME2000 are included in 'The Learning Experience' brochure, distributed free with this edition of Greenkeeper International.



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TEL: 01347 833833**

ON COURSE WITH BIGGA EDUCATION



Golf Course Preparation Video
£14.95 to BIGGA members
£29.95 to non-members

Golf Course Reconstruction Video
£14.95 to BIGGA members
£29.95 to non-members

Ecology Book
£3.00 to BIGGA members
£7.00 to non-members

Ecology Video
£14.95 to BIGGA members
£29.95 to non-members

Raising the Standards of Mowing Management Video
£14.95 to BIGGA members
£29.95 to non-members

Setting the Standard in Spraying Application Video
£14.95 to BIGGA members
£29.95 to non-members