

BIGGA's Education and Training Manager, Ken Richardson provides information on up-coming training courses and BIGGA's agreement to sell Epani's OnCourse course management software

EDUCATION UPDATE

BIGGA House Training Courses 2000

The BIGGA HOUSE Training Courses have been revamped for the New Millennium to give all greenkeepers greater choice of training at very low costs, thanks to a generous subsidy from the Education and Development Fund, with a choice of residential or non-residential options. Learn to drive your computer and gain a European Computer Driving Licence, learn to manage yourself, manage your team, manage finance and budgets, manage resources, how to give briefings, reports and presentations and gain evidence towards N/SVQ. You will find full details of the BIGGA HOUSE Training Courses 2000 in the leaflet enclosed in this magazine and on the BIGGA website (www.bigga.org.uk) If you do not receive a copy of the leaflet or need further information then contact Ken or Sami at BIGGA House.



Regional Training Courses 2000/2001

We have tried to provide courses and locations requested by previous delegates on our Regional Training Programmes. Full details are given in the leaflet enclosed with this magazine and on our website (www.bigga.org.uk)



New for 2000/01, are courses cover-

ing Computer Skills which will give the chance to obtain a European Computer Driving Licence, a one day course on general horticulture, a one day course on risk assessment and manual handling. Make sure that you book early to make sure of your place.

If the course that you want is not being presented in your Region then contact myself, Sami or your Regional Administrator and we may be able to run further courses.

OnCourse

BIGGA and Epani Systems have now entered an agreement to sell OnCourse™ Golf Course Management Software in the United Kingdom. OnCourse™ gives golf course managers the tools to organise work schedules, keep track of machinery, calculate time and resources needed and monitor supplies and suppliers. Presented in modules, OnCourse™ is user friendly and requires only limited hardware resources and is very easy to use. It was developed by Epani after consulting Golf Course Managers all over the world and this British version was written following extensive consultation with BIGGA members.



OnCourse™ is constantly being modified to meet the demands of golf course managers and regular updates are issued, free, to licence holders, making OnCourse™ a valuable investment for your club.

The OnCourse™ package costs, a

very competitive, £800 + VAT which includes all software, documentation, one year telephone support and one year update contract. Installation and training can be arranged and costs £150 +VAT.

With the cost of hardware falling, you could have a state of the art office management system comprising computer, printer, scanner, MS Windows, MS Office and OnCourse™ for under £1600.

To order your copy, or to request further details and/or a demonstration disk contact the Education and Training Department at BIGGA HOUSE.

The BIGGA Essay Competition

There are just four months left to the closing date for the BIGGA Essay Competition 2000.

The subject is 'Managing Without Chemicals' Is it Possible? What are the Consequences? How would you Cope?

The winners in each category ie. Golf Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers, Assistant Greenkeepers aged 25 years and over and Assistant Greenkeepers aged 25 years and under each receive £500 and have their essay published in Greenkeeper International. Two runners up in each category will receive £100.



Get your thinking caps on sharpen those pencils and get writing your 1500 to 2000 word essay and send it to BIGGA HQ before the closing date of October 27 2000.

Success follows success

Only months after returning from his TORO Student of the Year trip to Massachusetts, New Orleans, Minneapolis and California, Tommy Givnan, Head Greenkeeper at Bowring Municipal Golf Club on Merseyside was present when the twelve members of the Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council Greenkeepers Academy were presented with their NVQ Level 2 certificates by the Mayor of Knowsley, Councillor Bob Maguire.

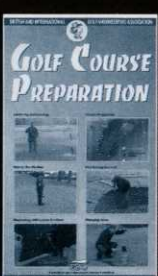
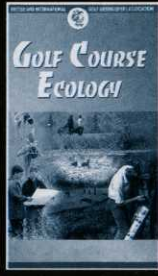
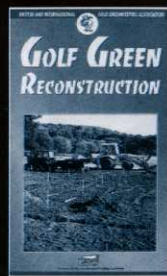
The Academy is based at Bowring and Tommy and his team have been involved in on the job training and assessment.

Academic training has been provided by Myerscough College lecturers Paul Morton and Paul McGrail. Readers of this magazine will remember that the Academy was set up in 1999, using funds obtained from the EC, to offer 12 youngsters the chance to be trained as greenkeepers and, hopefully move into full time posts at golf clubs.

Thanks to Myerscough's links with the Belfry, Academy students have gained valuable work experience on the Brabazon Course, working on the preparations for the Benson and Hedges International Open.

The twelve apprentices now move on to NVQ Level 3 and Knowsley are looking forward to having the Open Champion of the future as they are soon to open a golf academy. At their rate of progress, the Open venue Course Manager could well be a graduate of their Greenkeeping Academy.

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