

This month, **BIGGA's Education and Training Manager, Ken Richardson**, gives details on new-look competitions

# EDUCATION UPDATE

## The BIGGA Golf Environment Competition



Following the success of the 1999 Golf Environment Competition, when Temple Golf Club were the worthy winners, Amazone Ground Care have agreed to sponsor the Competition for 2000, with additional support coming from the R&A.

Information on the Competition is included with this magazine and requests for entry forms need to be returned to BIGGA HOUSE by 21 April. You should be thinking about your entry NOW.

The competition is designed to reward those clubs that integrate ecological management with normal golf course management practices to ensure that golf and the environment are compatible.

Why not enter and your club could win the first prize of £4000, a runners up prize of £500 or, new for this year, a special prize for the best environmental project. All clubs visited by the judges will be offered the chance to purchase a copy of the detailed report on their course, which will also include an action plan.

If you have not received your form, with this magazine, then contact the education department at BIGGA HOUSE.

## The TORO Award for Excellence in Greenkeeping



The New Look TORO Award for Excellence in Greenkeeping Competition was launched at BTME. The competition is now open to Head Greenkeepers/Course Managers/Superintendents in the whole of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. With prizes like a TORO Workman 2100 Utility Vehicle and a two week trip to the USA, plus TORO Reelmaster 1000 for Runners up plus £250 for the winner's greenkeeping team this competition should be more popular than ever. Winners in 1999 were Brian Turner from Sunningdale and Michael Murphy from Waterville, County Kerry who have just returned from New Orleans, where they visited the GCSAA Show and Conference and the TORO factories. This year could be your turn. Nomination forms have been sent out to golf clubs and head greenkeepers/course manager/superintendents but if you need a copy then contact BIGGA HQ. Get your nominations off as soon as possible and we will send out entry forms to all nominees. All entry forms must be returned to BIGGA HQ by 31 May 2000. The National Final will take place, in Harrogate, on 29 and 30 October.

## The TORO Student of the Year Competition



Now in its eleventh year, the search to find the TORO Student of the Year has begun. Competition details and entry forms have been sent to colleges and training providers and all entries should reach BIGGA HQ by 2 June 2000. The main points of the competition are:

1. The winner receives the TORO scholarship to the USA and visits to the TORO factories and to the GCSAA conference and show in Dallas.
2. The winner's greenkeeping lecturer wins a visit to the GCSAA conference and show in Dallas.
3. The two runners - up win an all expenses paid visit to the Learning Experience 2001 at Harrogate.
4. Regional finals will be held in six locations during late July and, up to eight students will be selected for the National Final which will take place on 29 and 30 October 2000.

## Refund of education/training fees

Funds are still available for those wishing to claim a refund of education/training fees. To be eligible for a refund, you must meet the following criteria:

- a. You must be a member of BIGGA and have been a member for at least two years.
- b. You must have paid your own fees and be able to provide proof of payment eg receipt/credit card slip or statement.
- c. You must have completed a course or component part of a course and be able to provide evidence of completion eg certificate/end of course report etc.
- d. If you are starting a course in 2000, you may apply for a refund to be paid on course completion as in c.
- e. The Course must not be subsidised, already, by BIGGA.
- f. The Course must be relevant to your job as a greenkeeper.

Members will be able to claim 80% of fees paid up to a maximum of £250. Contact BIGGA HQ for an application form.

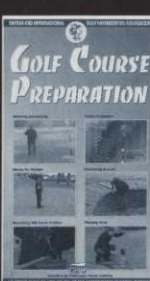
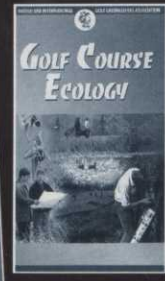
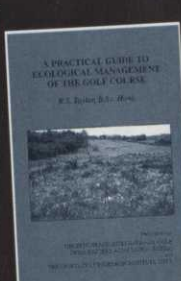
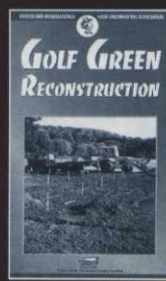
## Part Time Workers

Part time workers are to be given the same rights as full time workers from April 2000. The Part Time Employers (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) Regulations 2000 will require employers to:

- Not exclude part timers from training.
- Provide part timers with access to the same career break schemes as full time workers.

Copies of Part Time Work/Public Consultation can be obtained from DTI Publications on 0870 1502500 or [www.dti.gov.uk/ir/consult.htm](http://www.dti.gov.uk/ir/consult.htm)

# 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