



This month, BIGGA'S Education and Training Manager, Ken Richardson, outlines some major changes planned for the provision of Education and Training needs for members

Education: Have your say...

Part of BIGGA's Mission Statement is concerned with the development of members through Education and Training. The Association has a long history of Education and Training provision and has committed almost £2 million pounds since 1987.

Thanks to contributors to the BIGGA Education and Development Fund, BIGGA has provided training courses, in the Regions and at BIGGA HOUSE and it has helped to produce videos, books, field guides, posters and leaflets.

It has helped greenkeepers to attend training courses by giving refunds of fees, set up a technical lending library and organised an annual Essay Competition.

More recently, BIGGA has introduced its Continuing Professional Development Scheme which encourages greenkeepers to keep their skills and knowledge current.

Finally, BIGGA has influenced National Training Standards by using its place on the Greenkeepers Training Committee.

All of this is provided for the benefit of all greenkeepers but especially BIGGA members.

To try to keep education and training relevant to the needs of members I am going to conduct a Major Training Needs Analysis in the early part of 2001.

Although you may think that it has nothing to do with you, you would be wrong. I can provide the education and training that you need, only if you tell me what that need is. Consequently, you need to consider:

Should BIGGA be involved in Greenkeeper Education and Training?

What Education and Training do I need? eg. Supervisory/Management training, First Aid training, Health and Safety training, Soil Science, Spraying, Grinding and Blade Setting, Computing, Maths for greenkeepers, tractor driving, chain saw operation etc.

Where should that Education and Training take place? eg. At BIGGA HOUSE, in Regions, in Sections, in Hotels, at Golf Courses, at Colleges.

When should it take place? eg. Autumn, Winter, Spring, Summer, Weekdays, Weekends.

How much should it cost? eg. Nothing, £50 per day etc.

Who should pay? eg. Individuals, Golf Clubs, BIGGA, Government, R&A, Home Unions.

We sometimes concentrate on failure in this country, but BIGGA's involvement in greenkeeper Education and Training is a success story unmatched within the Fine Turf Industry nor by few other industries.

Last year alone saw almost 300 greenkeepers attend courses presented by BIGGA with a further 200 attending the first two days of the Learning Experience at Harrogate and almost 500 attending BTME Seminars.

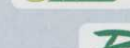
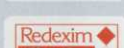
Let's work together to ensure that this century's greenkeepers continue to have access to the high quality education and training that they need and deserve.

You can have your say by either contacting your Section Secretary/Regional Administrator prior to their meeting at BIGGA HOUSE on 26 and 27 March or by contacting myself or Sami at BIGGA HOUSE.



Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund

The Fund provides the key to the future for greenkeeper, golf club and game. Individuals and companies can join the Golden Key Circle and Silver Key Circle. For details, please contact BIGGA on 01347 833800

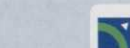
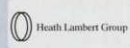


Golden Key Circle Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
Amazone Ground Care	01579 351155
Bernhard and Company Ltd	01788 811600
Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd	01428 661222
Gem Professional	01254 356611
John Deere Ltd	01949 860491
Hayter Ltd	01279 723444
Kubota UK Ltd	01844 214500
PGA European Tour	01344 842881
Rain Bird	01273 891326
Rigby Taylor Ltd	01204 394888
Scotts UK Professional	01473 830492
Textron Turf Care	01473 270000
The Toro Company/Lely UK	01202 319987

Individual Members

Mike Eastwood, J H Fry, J H Greasley, David S Robinson, Stuart Townsend



Silver Key Circle Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
Ernest Doe & Sons	01254 380311
Heath Lambert Ltd	0113 246 1313
Ocmis Irrigation	01460 241939
Sisis Equipment Ltd	01625 503030
Weed Free	07000 481011

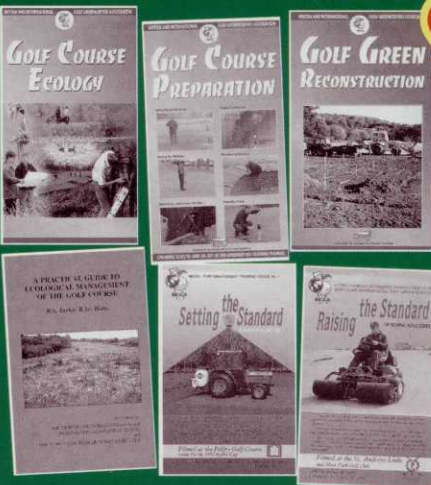
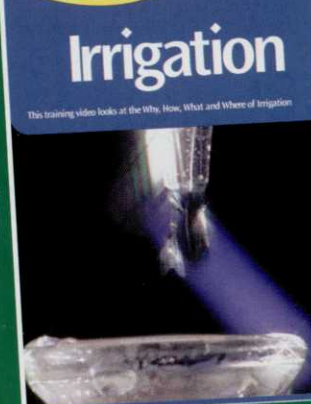
Individual Members

Clive A Archer, John Crawford, Bruce Cruickshank, Douglas G Duguid, Alan Holmes, Iain A MacLeod, Robert Malbusch M/G, Richard S Mullen, Elliott R Small, Steven Tierney, Raymond J Warrender, WJ Rogers

GET ON COURSE WITH BIGGA EDUCATION



NEW Training resource video 5



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

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