



This month, Ken Richardson, BIGGA's Education and Training Manager, updates you on a number of Association initiatives

Get the most from your education

Continuing Professional Development

BIGGA's Continuing Professional Development Scheme is now in its second year. The Scheme is open to all members of BIGGA who hold a minimum qualification of N/SVQ Level 2 Sportsurf or equivalent and, thanks to contributors to the Education and Development Fund, it is free.



The scheme has several benefits as it allows greenkeepers to:

- Adapt outdated skills.
- Keep in touch with changes in legislation.
- Show current and prospective employers their commitment to education and training.
- Promote greenkeeping as a profession.
- Cope with change.

A certificate is awarded to all members registered on the scheme who accumulate 10 credits between 1 July and 30 June each year. Credits are awarded for a range of courses, seminars and conferences.

Contact BIGGA and ask for an application form.

Regional Courses Autumn 2001

Thanks to the continued support of company and individual members of the BIGGA Education and Development Fund, we can bring you Education and Training Courses at minimum costs whilst ensuring high quality training. The Education and Development Fund is providing a subsidy of £15,000 for this Autumn's courses which means that we can provide the following courses at the very low price of £35.25 for a one day course and £70.50 for a two day course (both inclusive of VAT).

- October**
- TBD Woodland Management Aberdeen
 - 23 Risk Assessment & COSHH Awareness Aberdeen
 - 25 Abrasive Wheels Bristol
 - 30 & 31 Basic Computer Skills North West
 - 31 Risk Assessment & COSHH Awareness North London

- November**
- 1 & 2 Health & Safety Awareness Mid Anglia
 - 8 Soil Science South Wales
 - 12 Soil Science North West
 - 13 & 14 Basic Computer Skills Ramsdale Park GC
 - 15 & 16 Essential Management Skills Manchester
 - 20 & 21 Basic Computer Skills (Full) The Burstead GC
 - 22 Soil Science Staffordshire
 - 26 & 27 Essential Management Skills Luton
 - 29 Mower Maintenance and Operation Lincs/Notts

- December**
- 3 & 4 Health & Safety Awareness Bristol
 - 5 & 6 Health & Safety Awareness South Wales
 - TBD Basic Computer Skills Ireland

Remember to apply early as places are going very quickly.

Minimum Qualification

The BIGGA Board of Management has agreed to introduce a minimum qualification of N/SVQ Level 2 Sportsurf or equivalent for greenkeeper membership of the Association for all NEW applications received after 1 February 2002.

All current members will retain their current level of membership.

Any applications for greenkeeper membership received after 1 February 2002 will have to include proof of competence in greenkeeping eg. a copy of an NVQ certificate.

Non greenkeepers ie. those who have not proved competence, will be offered a lower level of membership until such time as they become qualified.

BIGGA Essay Competition

The closing date for the BIGGA Essay Competition is rapidly approaching. However, you still have time to write and submit your essay on the subject of Pba Annua Friend or Foe by 26 October.

Thanks to contributions to the BIGGA Education and Development Fund, we can, once again offer 3 First Prizes of £500 for the winners in the 3 categories of Golf Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper, Assistant Greenkeepers and Students over 25 and Assistant Greenkeepers and Students under 25. With runners up prizes of £100 in each category, this is a chance not to be missed.



You've got m@il!

If you've got an email account why not send an email to the education department, where we can place you into our exclusive education email address book. We can then keep you up-to-date with education news and events as they happen.

Send an email to:
ken@bigga.co.uk
sami@bigga.co.uk

Standing Committee on Greenkeepers Salaries and Conditions of Employment 2002 Recommendations

Following the publication of the Standing Committee on Greenkeepers Salaries and Conditions of Employment 2002 Recommendations in last month's Greenkeeper International, there seems to be some confusion on how to use the scales for Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers and their deputies.



The recommendations give a range of salaries and include the words depending on experience, range of duties, qualifications and size of course.

This means that a Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper at a 9-hole course, who has a minimum level of experience, is not qualified and has only a limited range of duties should be paid a salary near to the bottom of the scale. Whereas a Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper on a 36-hole course who has several years of experience, is fully qualified and has a wide range of managerial duties, should be paid a salary near or at the top of the scale. Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers on an 18-hole course, who are qualified, have several years of experience and a reasonable range of managerial duties should be paid a salary near the middle of the scale.

Any greenkeeper being paid a salary based on the 2001 Recommendations should, as a minimum, be paid an extra 4.9% for 2002 (the annual rate of wage inflation for June 2001).



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 Neil Thomas, Executive Director on 01347 833800 or via admin@bigga.co.uk



Golden Key Circle Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
Amazon 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
Massey Ferguson (AGCO Ltd)	02476 851292
PGA European Tour	01344 842881
Rain Bird	01273 891326
Rigby Taylor Ltd	01204 377777
Scotts UK Professional	01473 830492
Stoke Park Club	01753 717171
Textron Turf Care	01473 270000
The Toro Company/Lely UK	01202 319987

Individual Members

Mike Eastwood, J H Fry, J H Greasley, WJ Rogers, David S Robinson, Stuart Townsend, Douglas Smith



Silver Key Circle Company Members

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

Individual Members

Clive A Archer, John Crawford, Bruce Cruickshank, Douglas G Duguid, Alan Holmes, Kenneth Jones, Iain A MacLeod, Robert Maibusch MG, Richard S Mullen, Elliott R Small, Steven Tierney, CJ Yeaman

Keep checking www.btme.org.uk for the latest news on the various education and training options available at BTME2002